**Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students Questionnaire
DSU 2019 Elections**

Candidate: Veer. Gandhi.

Running for: VPI, Vice President Internal.

1. What do you see as the top 3 issues for Dalhousie’s graduate and professional students?

As mentioned above, Dalhousie’s graduate and professional students needs have often been overlooked.

My platform prioritizes and empowers students to be able to create their own opportunities, my platform also focuses on societies and ensuring that they are not being suffocated and have access to resources, so that they are able to create opportunities for others.

I am not aware of specific issues faced by the DAGS but I am aware that many societies have problems with funding, ratification processes, and just communicating with the VPI. I am also aware that students are disengaged with the DSU and my goal is to simple create more opportunities for everyone on campus and address these issues.

I would also be happy to hear more about the issues that Dalhousie’s graduate students face and more importantly come up with ways to solve them.

1. How do you plan to engage graduate students to communicate information and get direct student feedback?

Direct student feedback and engagement is one of my biggest priorities.

I want to host fixed weekly office hours on all campuses so that students can drop in whenever they can. I am also open to using Social Media tools like Facebook for more immediate engagement.

In addition to this, I want to use posters, ads and many of the tools that we are currently using to get students to vote – to encourage students to get involved with the DSU.

1. How would you improve the DSU to better serve graduate students?

As VPI, my priorities would be focused on better serving all the students, including graduate students. As a DSU executive I would like to be honest to all of my colleagues, transparent about the policies and processes, available for all students to discuss their ideas and be there for support.

Additionally, I want to fasten the ratification and funding process by working closely with the VPFO. I think these are actions that will allow me (as a representative of the DSU) to better serve all our students.

1. How would you ensure graduate students are a priority for decision makers in Government, Dalhousie University, and the DSU?

Part of my platform is to also work with other executives to solve problems that our students face. This includes working closely with VPAE whose role is to advocate for student priorities. If there ever comes a moment, where I have say in choices affecting our students, I will always act in the students’ best interests. With this being said, I am also open to discussing any problems graduate students face in my office hours and see how best I can help eliminate them.

1. Is there anything else you want to share with Dalhousie’s graduate and professional students?

Just be rest assured that I will work to the best of my ability every single day for all the people in our community.