



**DAGS**  
Dalhousie Association  
of Graduate Students

## 2021 Election Nomination Form

**DEADLINE – June 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 – 11:59pm**

Electronic submissions are the only acceptable submission format. Send nomination form, emails of support, and all questions and concerns regarding DAGS elections to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca).

### Instructions:

Please fill out the following questionnaire and email in digital copy to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca) by June 21st 2021 at 11:59pm. DAGS will be posting your answers for students to get an idea of your campaign platform.

Please either direct or forward a minimum of two graduate student [DAGS members] emails to support your nomination (@dal.ca email required). These must have the senders' name, B00#, and articulate their support.

*An email attestation can only count as a signature from the student's Dalhousie email address.*

### Important Dates:

- Nomination forms due to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca) – June 21st 2021 at 11:59pm
- Campaigning – June 22nd 2021 to June 28th 2021
- Voting – June 29th to June 30th
- Results – July 2nd, to be declared on the [dags.ca](http://dags.ca) website

### Questions or Concerns?

Contact the CRO: [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca)

**Name: Mohammad Ramezani**

**B00 #: B00842706**

**Program: Ph.D. program at Faculty of Computer Science**

**Year of Study:** 2nd year – (Started on Jan 2020)

## QUESTIONS:

Please introduce yourself (100 words):

My name is Mohammad Ramezani. I am a 2nd year Ph.D. student in Computer Science. After graduating with a Master of Electrical Engineering, I continued my graduate program in Computer Science. It was because of my intrinsic interest in data and signal processing. It is funny to be interested in such challenging topics.

Another part of my life is covered by art, so that I am keen on arts, especially music. I have some experience of playing music. Yes, I play "Tar" sometimes. It is a traditional Persian musical Instrument. So, I like both challenging academic tasks and inspirational arts.

Please identify your top five (5) platform points:

### 1- Financial Concerns:

According to the position I will nominate for (Vice President (Finance and Operations)), the first and most crucial issue is students' financial concern. There is a bunch of reason that I have chosen the financial concerns as my first point. The university has increased the tuition for all students and even more for international students. It will cause a lot of concern and financial stress for them and might cause a lack of concentration for students to continue their program well.

2- In the following, the last point, making the financial aids is another point that is important for me. I believe during the COVID-19, and decreasing available job positions for students, the Dalhousie University has to cover students even more than before by bunch of financial supports. Financial supports are not supposed to help them only through their academic life, but alleviating the current stressful situation is another role of financial aids.

### 3- Entrepreneurship:

Looking for all available financial help for people who have creative ideas is another concern of mine. I am personally interested in entrepreneurship and like to support people on this issue.

### 4- Communication Facilities improvement:

Although there are several communication facilities available for students, there are still gaps between student societies and professional development organizations. Students need to have more connections with organizations and be aware of their rights and available opportunities.

There are some efforts in Killam library centers in which they try to alleviate the communication barriers.

### 5- Mental Health Awareness:

Regardless of what we are doing and busy with, mental health is the most critical issue in our living standards. There is a strong tie between students' mental health and their financial situations.

What are your qualifications and/or experience that relates to the position you're running for?

am going to apply for Vice President (Finance and Operations) position. I think this position fits me according to my earlier work experiences and my interest in financial matters and challenges. When I was the supervisor for a couple of companies responsible for designing and implementing some electrical equipment in cities, there were many financial invoices that I was responsible for checking, confirm, and issue them to my manager. It was more than three years of my job history with three companies in the form of five different contracts with a hundred million dollars' worth.

Before I got involved with work, I was in some social and scientific communities' positions in university during my Master of Science and Bachelor of science.

Why do you think you are a good candidate?

There are some general personal features of mine that I think could be helpful in this position. I generally have some working discipline and structure along with leadership, problem-solving, and teamwork abilities. In some cases, depending on how severe or strict the task is, I have a strong sense of responsibility. The details are important and noticeable to me.

Also, as a second-year Ph.D. student, I am pretty aware of graduate expectations and problems, especially during the COVID-19. I know how people deal with difficulties and concerns, and financial issues are the most considerable ones.

What are the top three (3) things you'd like to accomplish during a term at the DAGS?

There should not be a gap between any community and students. So, the first thing I am thinking about is reducing the gap and making it accessible for everybody to deal with the DAGS as efficiently as possible. To follow the first one, talking to some students directly would be great. It helps DAGS to understand the students' problems and concerns well.

Financial matters are the most noticeable issues for students, especially graduate students because they are independent guys responsible for all aspects of their lives. Talking to university officials and councils and discuss financial matters could eliminate/alleviate them.

What issues matter most to you?

In the case I am going to nominate for, the financial matters are my high priority, and I believe it directly affects people's mental health and stress level.

Fairness is another issue. Is the tuition at Dal comparable with other Universities in the province? If yes, how? And if not, why? And all other facilities that are available or should be available for students are my concern.

During COVID, emergencies are on the highest priority in case of financial matters, and supporting students is the best thing that the VP in the financial section can do.

Please List any Campaign Links (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Website):

<https://www.facebook.com/MHD.Ramezani/>

IG: mhdramezani

CONSTITUENT SUPPORT: TWO (2) EMAILS REQUIRED)

[ASAL.YANS@DAL.CA](mailto:ASAL.YANS@DAL.CA)

[ALIREZAGHASEMI@DAL.CA](mailto:ALIREZAGHASEMI@DAL.CA)

In light of COVID-19, the requirement for ten constituent signatures will be waived for this election. Nominees will instead require a minimum of two emails from Dalhousie graduate students who are DAGS members to support their prospect of governance. Emails should include the name and B# of graduate student emailing, and be sent from Dal email address [within the domain of @dal.ca] to [cro@dags.ca](mailto:cro@dags.ca).

*Thank you for your application*

