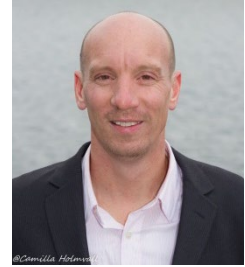


President's Message

Welcome to 2019! I hope you enjoyed some time away from work over the December break.

We have a number of priorities for the coming term, chief amongst them being preparing for the 2020 round of collective bargaining. Expect to be hearing from us in the near future as we develop and release surveys to gauge your priorities for our next contract. On a related note, we are keen to gather information on how some of the newly-negotiated provisions in the 2017-2020 contract are affecting your work, so we will be circulating surveys and we appreciate you taking the time to provide your thoughts and input.



You will no doubt have noticed that the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) has issued a document on the Context for the 2019-2020 University Budget, and discussion forums will take place very soon. Online surveys are also available. Perhaps needless to say, the DFA strongly encourages all members to take advantage of these opportunities to express your concerns around University budgeting practices and the impact of chronic cuts to unit budgets on your work and the quality of Dalhousie's Academic Mission. The DFA has struck a University Budget task force to prepare a submission to the BAC and to our new Vice-President Academic and Provost Dr. Teri Balser, which we will circulate widely.

Through the DFA Equity Committee we are gathering information on two matters related to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, first in relation to the use of Student Ratings of Instruction to evaluate teaching performance, and second in relation to how Affirmative Action policies are being implemented during searches and appointments. We are aware of several issues and concerns in both of these areas, and we will be issuing briefs on both topics as this work unfolds. If you have encountered issues in either of these areas we encourage you to reach out to us at dfa@dal.ca.

Each year around this time we look to recruit individuals to various roles and positions within the DFA, and with collective bargaining rapidly approaching there will be lots of opportunities to get involved. If you would like to learn more about the ways that you can contribute to the Association I would be more than happy to discuss with you in person or by email.

If you follow the local news you will have probably heard that our colleagues at Mount Saint Vincent University have ratified a new Collective Agreement following very long and difficult negotiations which required conciliation and a strong strike mandate from members. Our colleagues at Saint Mary's University have not reached agreement on a new contract, and are within days of a possible strike after conciliation failed earlier this month. As always I encourage to you reach out to colleagues to show your support, and if a strike is necessary to achieve a fair deal then I can assure you that the DFA will stand and march in solidarity.

I hope you have a wonderful winter semester!

David Westwood, DFA President

david.westwood@dal.ca

DFA Public Speaker Series Presentation ...

Frankenstein, Frankenfood, and the Forgotten Farmer

Public
Library
Coxchester - East Hants

DFA
Dalhousie Faculty Association

APPETIZER

In Mary Shelley's 1818 novel, Frankenstein, Victor Frankenstein's brother Ernest, appears early in the novel, but he disappears shortly thereafter. Once sickly, later hale and hearty, Ernest is encouraged to become a farmer and enjoy "a very healthy, happy life; and the least hurtful, or rather the most beneficial profession of any." (89)

MAIN COURSE

In her talk, Dr. Deborah Stiles, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture, will discuss the ethical dilemma involving farmers, food and GMOs, and show how Shelley's Frankenstein, written 200 years ago, contributes to the discussion on today's issues.

January 30th - Truro Public Library

6:30pm - 7:30pm

J. Harris Read Program Room

754 Prince Street, Truro NS

No registration required, All Ages



DFA's 40th Anniversary Booklet Now Online

Visit dfa.ns.ca to read our commemorative booklet "40 Years of Activism: Working for a Better Dalhousie". (You will need to log in to the Members Only section. Email Catherine.Wall@dal.ca if you need assistance.) Printed copies of the publication are available at the DFA office.

New DFA Videos Posted on YouTube

[DFA Academic Workplace Conference: Keynote Address](#) by Dr. Sue Sherwin as part of our 40th anniversary celebrations (Nov. 13, 2018)

[Math & Music: DFA Public Speaker Series](#) presentation and performance by Dr. Jason Brown and his band of academics (Nov. 28, 2018).

Message from the Queer Faculty Caucus

In 2017 a group of DFA members founded a Queer Faculty Caucus (QFC) to provide a venue for our LGBTQ2S+ members and allies to meet and discuss issues of importance to our communities. If you are interested in learning more about the QFC, email jgahagan@dal.ca

In solidarity,
Jacquie Gahagan

Workplace Wellness

Dalhousie is offering the following workshops in February for faculty and staff:

Caregiver Support Group. Feb 4 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2767>

Moving Gracefully Through Midlife. Feb 12 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2753>

Sexton Trek. Feb 13 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2769>

Tupper Trek. Feb 20 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2754>

Intro to Tai Chi. Feb 21 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2559>

LSC Trek. Feb 27 <https://events-tm.dal.ca/workshop.php?id=2755>

For more info, email healthy@dal.ca

Books You Can Use

The DFA office has added the following books to our collection. Please stop by for a look or to borrow:

Indigenous Research: Theories, Practices, and Relationships

Edited by Deborah McGregor, Jean-Paul Restoule, and Rochelle Johnson. Canadian Scholars, 2018, ISBN 978-1-77338-085-8.

Indigenous Methodologies: Characteristics, Conversations, and Contexts

Margaret Kovach. University of Toronto Press, 2009, ISBN 978-1-4426-4042-9.

Research You Can Use

[New Farming Technology](#) (Dalhousie)

[Quieter Ships Could Help Canada's Endangered Orcas Recover](#) (Dalhousie)

[Mutations differ in normal and cancer cells of the oesophagus](#) (King's College, London)

[Music and social bonding: "self-other" merging and neurohormonal mechanisms](#) (Oxford)

 dfa.ns.ca  [@dalfacultyassoc](https://twitter.com/dalfacultyassoc)  [dalfacultyassoc](https://www.facebook.com/dalfacultyassoc)

Feedback or news we can use?

Contact DFA Communications Officer Catherine.Wall@dal.ca

or

Dalhousie Faculty Association

dfa@dal.ca 902.494.3722

1443 Seymour Street

Halifax NS B3H 4R2