

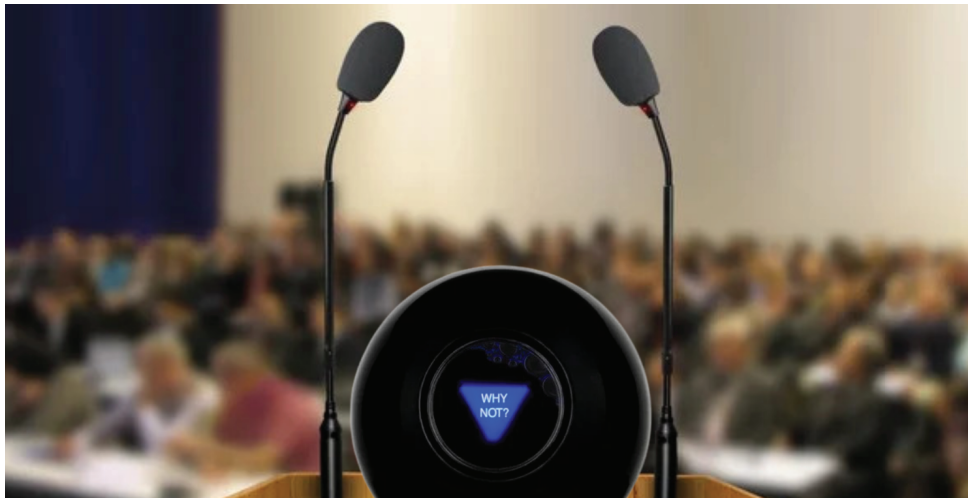
# THE MACKEREL

DALHOUSIE'S SATIRICAL NEWSPAPER

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## Dalhousie Appoints Magic Eight Ball As New President

BY SAM CUTCLIFFE AND CHUDLEY CHULKINS



THE MAGIC EIGHT BALL ADDRESSES THE DALHOUSIE COMMUNITY FOR THE FIRST TIME (IMAGE BY SAM CUTCLIFFE).

HALIFAX, NS — On December 31st, 2022, Deep Saini stepped down as President and Vice-Chancellor of Dalhousie University. Dr. Frank Harvey stepped in during the search for a permanent replacement. An extensive recruitment campaign has taken place to attract talent globally to apply for the role. With hundreds of applicants for the coveted position, competition was fierce. One applicant, however, amazed the hiring committee with its concise, faultless answers: a Magic Eight Ball, purchased from 'Twinkle Forest Toys and Collectibles' on Barrington Street.

*The Mackerel* was lucky enough to secure an interview with The Magic Eight Ball prior to its Presidency, set to begin February 1st. After the customary shaking of hands and balls, the most relevant questions and answers to the Dalhousie student body have been transcribed below.

**Chudley Chulkins:** You've been chosen as the next President and Vice-Chancellor of Dalhousie?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** It is decidedly so.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Do you have a plan to address all of the turmoil Dalhousie has experienced in the past few years?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** Reply hazy, try again later.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Dalhousie and the Dalhousie Faculty Association have reached an agreement, avoiding a strike — can this be attributed to your shrewd negotiation skills?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** You may rely on it.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Some critics claim that your decisions and choices are entirely randomized — is there any truth to this?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** It is certain.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Despite this, do you believe your chance decisions will produce more positive results than Saini's administration?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** Signs point to yes.

In an attempt to humanize the new President, Chulkins also asked a series of fun, get-to-know-you questions.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Do you have a favourite email service?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** Outlook not so good.

**Chudley Chulkins:** Would you like to share any fun facts about yourself?

**The Magic Eight Ball:** Very doubtful.

Insider sources claim that higher-level administration is concerned about the success of the unconventional choice for President. While Dalhousie is certainly on shaky ground, it is hoped that the new President will be able to work some magic.

## TAs Upset By Successful DFA Negotiations After Spending Christmas Break Preparing Picket Signs For Faculty

BY SAMUEL MACDONALD

HALIFAX, NS — Despite uncertainty leading up to the winter term, Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Faculty Association have come to an agreement, avoiding a faculty strike. While this turn of events has been a relief for greedy students hoping for a single uninterrupted semester, some TAs are bitter after their painstaking efforts to prepare picket signs for professors over the winter break.

Thomas Wilkins, an industrial engineering TA, was crushed to hear the change of plans. He returned to campus with bags full of cardboard signs beautifully accented with glitter glue. "Do you have any idea how much it cost to bring this many signs here?" He explained to us. "I live in Vermont, and picket signs filled not only my carry-on but three checked bags too. What am I supposed to wear? I don't even have my laptop — just signs, signs, signs."

Richard Fischer, a physics professor, was

quite relieved to have the whole ordeal resolved. "The stress of configuring a syllabus not knowing how much teaching time I'd have was stressful, but nowhere near as stressful as wrangling my damn TAs. Whenever I asked for pictures of their progress over winter break it was never even half of what I asked of them. I can't believe I was forced to call them on Christmas Eve, I shouldn't have had to tell them they should be working."

Students returning to campus can find the hard labour of the TAs scattered around campus garbage cans, with experimental slogans like "Dalhousie = Dal-lousy" and "Be Villainous And You'll Get No Syllabus".

Bianca Laurent, an aquaculture TA, largely resigned herself to her wasted resources and Christmas break. "After all the new felt pens and cardboard I had to buy, it's like I never got a pay raise to begin with. More ramen, yay."

## Committed To Recycling: Student Reuses Fall Semester Notebooks After Never Once Taking Notes

BY GRACE BROWN

HALIFAX, NS — Each new year, many are inspired to make changes in their lives, whether that be reaching fitness goals or giving back more to their community. For third-year student Marcus Hubert, that desire for change manifested as a newfound devotion to recycling. "My family's Christmas ski vacation really gave me a new appreciation for this beautiful planet. It was natural that my New Year's resolution would be centred around the environment. The first step I'm taking will be to minimize the waste I produce," explained Hubert.

Hubert's five Hilroy notebooks from last semester have sat — almost entirely untouched — on his desk since September tenth of last year. In fact, after brushing a layer of dust off of them, Hubert ripped the nearly blank first

pages — all titled "syllabus" — out of each one. In preparation for the new semester, he crossed out the subject name on the cover of each notebook with a black sharpie, then carefully re-titled each first-page "syllabus" in eager anticipation of the upcoming semester.

"It's just so incredibly important that we pivot away from our wasteful lifestyles in an attempt to heal the planet," Hubert said. "Honestly, I might not even write in these notebooks at all this semester either — that way I can save them for next year. I'm an auditory learner anyway." Academic advisor Liz MacLeod commented on the matter, saying, "While Marcus' environmentalism ought to inspire the rest of the Dalhousie community, his study habits really shouldn't — he's facing academic probation if his marks don't look up this semester."

