

## DALHOUSIE WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (WITS)

The Dalhousie Women in Technology Society (WiTS) welcomes students for another great semester here at Dalhousie. For those who don't already know about WiTS, our society consists of both female and male students who work to create a positive atmosphere for women enrolled in Dalhousie technological programs, such as Computer Science and Informatics.

### Our Goals:

- \* Support women pursuing degrees that heavily involve technical studies
- \* Raise awareness of issues faced by women in situations of academic minority
- \* Create opportunities for present and future students

### Meetings:

Friday **May 16th** @ 11a.m. - Computer Science Building, Room 311

Friday **May 30th** @ 11a.m. - Computer Science Building, Room 311

*Liz Legere, WiTS Chair*

## CS SOCIETY DESK

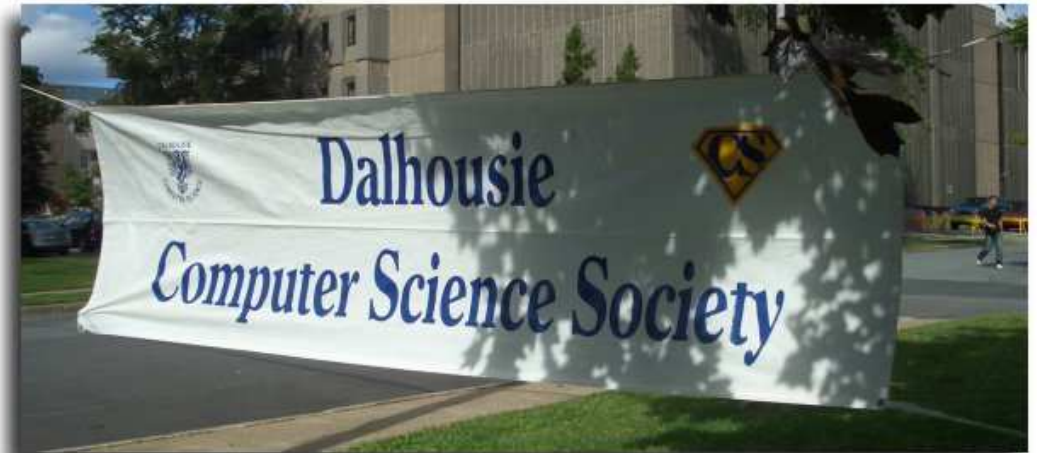
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, CS Building

Sales	and	Services
→ Paper (50 Sheets) \$1.00		→ <b>Lockers</b> (free for all CS students, just visit us)
→ Paper (500 Sheets) \$5.00		
→ Papermate Pens \$0.50		→ <b>Photocopy card:</b> \$2 (25 copies) & \$5 (63 copies)
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Make a grab for the summer T-shirts which are the highlights for this month .... coz....they are on SALE !!

*Manya Sivanandam, Society Desk Manager*

www.cssociety.ca | cssociety@cs.dal.ca



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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

As you may know, the outgoing editor of this newsletter, Timothy Mankowski, graduates this month and is moving on to the next adventure in his life. We at the Newsletter would like to extend our best wishes to Timothy and all 2008 graduating students.

As the new editor, I intend to do the best job I can. Each month a new newsletter will come out with information on the Computer Science Society (CSS) meetings and events, the Dalhousie Women in Technology Society (WiTS), the CS Society Desk, a Message from the Dean and more. If you have any questions, concerns, comments or have something you would like to see added to our newsletter, please feel free to contact me at [legere@cs.dal.ca](mailto:legere@cs.dal.ca) or the CSS at [cssociety@cs.dal.ca](mailto:cssociety@cs.dal.ca).

*Liz Legere, Editor*

## NEWS FROM OUR FACULTY DESK

### The FCS Strategic Plan

Strategic planning is the process of figuring out where you are, where you want to go, and how you are going to get there. The process is as important as the end result. The process makes one sit down and enter into dialog with all of the other stakeholders and really think about one's situation and where one wants to go with it. What I found was that while not everyone agreed on where we should go or how we should get there, I found that everyone **cared**.

After almost a year of working the process, the Faculty Council approved a 3-year strategic plan at its April 24 meeting. The plan has five strategic directions; Providing Students with an Excellent Educational Experience, Strengthening Our Research Culture, Enhancing Our External Profile and Relationships, Foster a Spirited, Cohesive and Inclusive Learning & Working Environment, and Matching Our Resources to Our Requirements. Each direction has a number of major initiatives associated with it.

We have chosen 2 primary focus areas to start on; Providing Students with an Excellent Educational Experience and Strengthening Our Research Culture. We have struck 3 ad hoc committees to address these areas, one for the research focus (chaired by Dr. Milios) and two for the education focus – one for graduate (chaired by Dr. Heywood) and one for undergraduate programs (chaired by Dr. McAllister and Dr. Phil Cox). The committees will define the tasks to be done, set objectives and metrics, and assign responsibilities for these. Please feel free to contact these committee chairs to continue to give input into the process.

We feel that within the 3 year frame of the strategic plan, we will have stronger undergraduate programs that are distinguishable from other CS programs in Canada, stronger graduate programs with a more focused curricula, and an increased research profile that will bring more research projects into the Faculty.

*Michael Shepherd, Dean*

## NEWS FROM SOCIETY – SOCIETY WIRE

Welcome to another semester of CS Society Wire, our monthly Computer Science Society Newsletter.

The Computer Science Society will be meeting weekly on Thursday evenings at 5:30 p.m. in Teaching Lab 3 of the Computer Science Building. The Society consists of a group of students, chosen by you, who meet to discuss everything from social events to CS constitution amendments. Every CS student is, as always, invited to attend meetings to either listen in and or to take a more active role in the CS community. We have added a Q&A section for any and all students to bring their questions, concerns and ideas on how to improve our society. So come on out and have your voice heard!

With this newsletter we hope to keep students more informed about upcoming events and decisions made by the council. For more information about the council and to see meeting minutes feel free to visit to the Computer Science Society website: [society.cs.dal.ca](http://society.cs.dal.ca)

The CSS goals for this semester are:

- \* Host more social events, such as barbeques, movie nights, sporting events, etc.
- \* Revise our constitution
- \* Continue to publish our society newsletter
- \* Improve/expand the merchandise sold at the CS Desk

Society Meeting Highlights:

1. Set goals for the semester
2. Discussion of CS Building hours

During the last semester we set up a CS peer-mentoring program similar to the Dalhousie science buddies program. If you are interested in finding a mentor or working as one, sign up by sending an email to [cssociety@cs.dal.ca](mailto:cssociety@cs.dal.ca).

*Liz Legere, CS Secretary*

[www.cssociety.ca](http://www.cssociety.ca) | [cssociety@cs.dal.ca](mailto:cssociety@cs.dal.ca)