

End of Term Report

**Eric Snow – Junior Bachelor of Informatics Representative
Dalhousie Computer Science Society**

Summary

Where this was the first year for the Bachelor of Informatics program, as well as the first year for the Bachelor of Informatics Representative position, there was and continues to be a certain adjustment phase to the existence of an undergraduate degree that incorporates few to none of the traditional Bachelor of Computer Science courses. Additionally, where the program is in its infancy, it is at this point that the flexibility of the program will allow it to most easily make changes in order for the program to benefit in the long term.

Major in Multidisciplinary Studies

One of the topics brought up by the Curriculum and Teaching Committee was the creation of a multidisciplinary major that would allow students to design their own major using a variety of other disciplines available at Dalhousie University. Where there is such a variety of backgrounds from which students come before entering the program, this option allows students to continue to explore their interests while adding the technological expertise to their arsenal. Additionally, the concept emphasizes the multidisciplinary features already seen in the degree. While the proposal has been approved in principle by the Faculty Council, it must be refined and passed along to the Dalhousie Senate. The successful and effective approval of this major is in the best interests of the Bachelor of Informatics program.

Bachelor of Informatics (Honours)

Discussion of an Informatics Honours program was conducted before my term, and has been approved in principle. However, the discussion was not raised again during my term. The exploration of this expansion to the program is, like the Major in Multidisciplinary Studies, in the best interests of the expansion and overall effectiveness of the Bachelor of Informatics program as a whole.

Student Feedback

As mentioned previously, at this point in the development of the program, there is a great deal of opportunity for student feedback, which thus far has been heeded extremely well by the Informatics professors, particularly the director of the program, Dr. Ernst Grundke. It is important that feedback of the students reaches the director and professors in order to affect change within the program for the benefit of the students not only currently in the program, but in the years to come. The feedback should help to ensure that the program is practical, academically challenging, and fun.