

This document shall serve as the report of the Dalhousie Computer Science Society (CSS) President for the Winter 2008 term, which was served by John A. Doucette.

During the winter term as President I focused on several key goals, namely focusing the executive on key initiatives, and endeavoring to improve the perception of the CSS among members who do not attend events where alcohol is present (i.e. Geekbeer). Key initiatives were improving communication with and involvement by the membership, diversifying event offerings, and being fiscally responsible. We realized the key initiatives as follows:

Communication & Involvement:

- As a result of a great deal of hard work by our VP Internal, Timothy Mankowski, we were able to implement the CSS Newsletter, produced once a month. The newsletter is paid for by the Dean, and features articles written by the Dean, the CSS Secretary (See below), the CSS Social Rep, the CSS President, and others.
- Our Secretary Melanie Tupper implemented the CS Society Wire, a concise summary of what society was doing each month so that students could keep up to date. The Wire was published in the newsletter and via email.
- Several executive members contributed to an overhaul of the CS Society website.
- A competition with the membership was held to design a new logo for the Society. Many good designs resulted.

Diversifying Event Offerings:

-As many members felt isolated by the society's event offerings (which have been mostly alcoholic in the past), while others greatly enjoyed them, we were presented with the problem of only having one social rep to organize them. As a result, we had our social rep focus on non-alcoholic events while a volunteer member acted as "Geekbeer manager", continuing to host alcoholic events each Friday. This system worked extremely well and I recommend using it in the future, or making Geekbeer manager a permanent council position or paid position. Unfortunately turnout at the non-alcoholic events was generally low. I maintain hope that hosting more events in the future may start to bring out larger crowds.

Fiscal Responsibility:

- We delivered a large surplus again this term, and put the emergency fund into a cashable GIC where it will earn some interest. I recommend having the society begin investing some small percentage of it's funds (i.e. 5%) each term in long term guaranteed investments, with the intention of reducing our reliance on student fees which are not a strong a source of revenue as they once were.