

## Senior Representative Report for Summer 2007 - Melanie Tupper

There are currently no previous reports for the Senior Representative position. However, according to the constitution, the Senior Representative's responsibilities include:

- Keeping third and fourth year FCS students informed of the issues discussed during meetings;
- Making known to Council any student concerns, suggestions, etc.;
- Encouraging participation in social events;
- Ensuring alternate representation when absent; and
- Attending Council functions.

I was not contacted with student concerns at any time during the term. I expect that the Senior Rep is rarely called upon by senior students to address Council, with less frequent occurrences in the summer term. I, therefore, encourage future Senior Representatives to make themselves visible and accessible to third and fourth year students.

I attended all but two Council meetings, having sent regrets in advance, and many Events Committee meetings. I attended many of the weekly barbecues and geekbeer events and volunteered at the first Starcraft tournament.

Although it is not a responsibility of the Senior Representative, I encourage future students holding this position to promote graduate studies in Computer Science at Dalhousie. To that end, I contacted Dr. Mike Shepherd, chair of the graduate committee, with suggestions on improving the web content concerning graduate studies on the main FCS site. I offered the following suggestions:

- Reorganize the site, possibly using sidebars with content menus for easier navigation.
- List the GPA requirements in numbers (as opposed to letter grades).
- Compare average salaries of undergrad vs masters for 1 year, 5 years, 10 years, etc.
- Feature facilities like EdgeLab and D-Drive on their own page.
- Compare the different degree options in a table.
- Suggest choices on the page that links to the degree details (...*"if you want to do this, then you should consider..."*).
- Promote the part-time Masters degree by acknowledging student's eagerness and desire to get out into the workforce. If courses are offered in the evening, reinforce this point; if not, perhaps this may be worth looking into.

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As encouraging a sense of belonging to the Dalhousie CS Community is paramount for every Council member, I initiated the design and purchase of some FCS T-shirts. They are currently being sold at the Society Desk, and I encourage reorders if the supply becomes depleted. I would also recommend the future purchase of FCS branded hoodies and coffee mugs; other Council members have also indicated interest in these items. The artwork and screens for three designs have already been produced; therefore, future purchases using these design will be less costly.

We purchased the merchandise from Advanced Screen Printing in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The contact person is Ged Downey; he can be contacted by email at [ged@advancedscreenprinting.ca](mailto:ged@advancedscreenprinting.ca) or by phone at (902) 454-2580.