

**Senate Appeals Committee (SAC)  
2023-2024 Annual Report**

The Senate Appeals Committee (SAC) submits the following Annual Report for 2023-2024.

**1. Membership**

The following individuals served on the SAC between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024:

Alex Brodsky	Faculty of Computer Science
Cassandra Hanrahan	Faculty of Health
Sergey Ponomarenko	Faculty of Science
Patrice Cote	Faculty of Science
Eric Rapaport	Faculty of Architecture & Planning
Phillip Saunders	Faculty of Law
Ruben Zaiotti	Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
Tanya Cook	Faculty of Dentistry
Rebecca Meagher	Faculty of Agriculture
Yassine El-Hiani	Faculty of Medicine

**Dalhousie Student Union members:**

Mariam Knakriah	DSU representative
Gaby Swanson	DSU representative

**2. Jurisdiction and Composition of the SAC**

The SAC has jurisdiction to hear appeals by students from decisions at the Faculty level regarding a variety of academic issues, provided the appeal process within the Faculty has been exhausted, when there has been either an alleged omission to make a decision on an academic matter, or when there are alleged irregularities or unfairness in the application of academic regulations. The SAC also hears appeals of decisions made by the Senate Discipline Committee, as well as appeals of findings made pursuant to the Hazing Policy.

The SAC is comprised of faculty members, one from each Faculty of the university, and two student members appointed by the Dalhousie Student Union. One faculty member serves as Chair.

**2. Caseload**

There were 12 appeals received and heard during this reporting period as explained below. There were 4 academic appeals, and 8 discipline appeals. There has been an increase in the number of appeals overall, and with discipline appeals in particular. The rise in discipline appeals corresponds with an increase in relatively more severe penalties being issued by the Senate Discipline Committee (ie. suspensions, expulsions), and in those cases students are availing themselves of their right to appeal to the SAC.

### Appeals by year

	<b>Academic Appeals</b>	<b>Discipline Appeals</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2023-24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>
2022-23	2	1	3
2021-22	1	0	1
2020-21	4	2	6

### Discipline Appeals by Faculty and Outcome

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Allowed</b>	<b>Denied</b>	<b>Remedies (where applicable)</b>
Computer Science	0	3	n/a
Management	0	1	n/a
Dentistry	0	1	n/a
Arts & Social Sciences	0	2	n/a
Science	0	1	n/a

### Academic Appeals by Faculty and Outcome

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Allowed</b>	<b>Denied</b>	<b>Remedies Granted (where applicable)</b>
Computer Science	1	0	Re-hearing by Faculty appeals committee
Dentistry	1	2	Re-hearing by Faculty appeals committee

## 5. Acknowledgements

I would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at the University Secretariat, and in particular Kara Miller and Bob Mann. The post-pandemic has seen a significant spike in the volume and seriousness of cases being handled by the Office of Senate Discipline and Appeals. Kara and Bob have managed the increased volume with characteristic responsiveness and efficiency. If the volume increase persists, additional resource and/or amendments to the SAC Jurisdiction and Procedures may be required. Appreciation as well to all the faculty and students who have served on the hearing panels.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Brodsky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Dr. Alex Brodsky  
(Chair, 2023-24)