

Masters of Information Student Council

Second Regular Meeting, 2009-10 Session

August 19th, 2009

7:00pm. – 9:08 pm

PRESENT: Kim Stymest, Amanda Leclerc, Catherine Dunn, Cathryn Ziefle, Stephanie Hughes-Naherne, Diana Lee, Armin Krauss, Tracy Manning, Margaret Lam, Erika Heesen and Patricia Ayala,

Recorder: Patricia Ayala

REGRETS: Rachel Isaac-Menard, Stella Palikarova, Courtney Fisher, Jacqueline Whyte-Appleby.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm, with quorum established.

1. Business arising from the Minutes:

One point was revised arising from last meeting's minutes. Amanda, Professional Development Co-Chair, asked to confirm minutes about deliverables for each student council meeting. **CARRIED**

2. Call to order and acceptance of Agenda

Patricia Ayala wanted to include elections and voting as part of her report. This was moved to the secretary's report in the agenda. **CARRIED**

3. President's report

Kim addressed the council asking for feedback on their transition meetings, ensuring that everyone had one and obtained the necessary information on how to perform their duties from their predecessor. Everyone at the present, who needed to be transitioned, had a successful transition meeting.

Kim brought the council up to date on the current state of plans for the upcoming year. Most of the discussion centred around updates on the renovation of the **student lounge**. So far Kim, the Student lounge committee and Glenn, a FIS staff member in charge of facilities, have reviewed the design. Final quotes on furniture prices are yet to be determined, since certain changes have not been finalized. Examples of furniture items include: new sofas, chairs and tables. Armin, Tech Fund Representative, inquires about quotes at which time Kim will

provide them to the rest of the council once the design has been finalized and approved. The room will not be closed during the remodelling. Kim also, expressed the concern of faculty members over students sleeping on the lounge, however the council discussed it's inevitable.

Additionally, as part of the student lounge maintenance, a brief discussion was held over keeping the space clean since it's a common area for students, who should be responsible for their own clean up. There were concerns regarding the Student Tech Fund bylaws due to the lounge being remodelled. A motion was made to allow a one time exception. The council voted, and the motion passed with 10Y out of 17 possible votes. **CARRIED**

Additional issues include tidiness. The most poignant problem is the refrigerator. While no action in particular was agreed upon, the council agreed that a policy needs to be established in order to keep things clean.

Kim presented a tentative **calendar** to be reviewed by the council in case of extraordinary circumstances in which members will not be able to attend. Amanda, PD Co-Chair, noted that the Job Fair for 2010 might be held January 29th as to avoid conflict with a MISC meeting.

Kim presented the current discussion around the **Student Conference Award** and the need for it to be discussed at the next meeting. The argument is that the award should be open to other associations and not be exclusive to CLA. The previous Treasurer, Max Dionisio, prepared an outline of the criteria. The problem of it being incomplete should be considered. Similarly, the special libraries practicum class was mentioned, as another source of spending on their presentations and Armin expressed that in the same manner as the Student Conference Award, it is only fair for money to also be given to presentations for other classes. The issue was not resolved, however it was agreed that these presentations are beneficial for students, individually and collectively, faculty and the school in general.

In order to keep excessive emailing at bay, a Weekly Digest was discussed in the last council's meeting. This would be the main form of mass communication between the MISC and the Student Body. It would be similar in format to the GSU's digest. In order for it to run successfully, there will be a cut off date for submissions. This is a pertinent matter; especially considering the school's administration is discouraging email and prefers blogging. However, the council has noted that a lot of information is missed by blogging since students don't check the website regularly. Moreover, there are additional technical problems: Kim has noted them while trying to post and Catherine, Social Committee Co-Chair, expressed her own difficulties trying to access online information pertaining to the welcome pack for incoming students.

Concerning the Student Tech Fund, Joe Cox, Inforum Director, asked the student council to 1/3 of the money to replace for computers in one of the computer labs. The issues with this petition are that these labs are not exclusive to MI students; they are open to PhD and Museum studies students as well. It was noted that PhD students don't typically use this lab. On the other hand, museum students don't contribute at all yet they enjoy equal access to these resources. Some of the suggested solutions included the collection of dues. A motion was put forth to write a letter to the Museum Studies Student Council, encouraging their monetary support to avoid these issues in the future. Motion was voted on and passed. Amanda volunteered to write the letter.

Motion for MISC to contribute 1/3 of the cost **CARRIED.**

Kim noted that the computer in the Student Council office needs replacement. No further details were discussed.

4. Treasurer's report. Courtney Fisher. Reported by Kim.

The main concern this year is collecting student council fees, particularly from second year students. The council suggested SC members to collect fees in the main lobby, since it's a high traffic area and in the BBQ.

An incentive for successful fee collection would be some kind of identification, like a sticker or card to be shown before SC funded events. This would also avoid complaints and discontent from students who have paid their fees. A call for volunteers will be sent out with times and dates for fee collection.

5. Secretary's Report. Patricia Ayala.

With elections coming up, Patricia wanted to suggest an alternative method of voting other than direct emailing. The reasons for this include: Privacy and impartiality. She is to report in the next student council meeting about the available programs to conduct anonymous voting. An option of a standard ballot/box was suggested; however it could prove to be unsuccessful with students.

4. Reports by Committees:

a. Social Committee. Cathryn Ziefle and Catherine Dunn.

A calendar of social events was handed out. The co-chairs informed the council about the creation of a MISC SC Facebook page. The Social Committee has put together a monthly calendar, intended to go on the MISC website. The calendar includes details of what the events are their location, time, as well general events taking place in Toronto. This was uploaded on MISC Facebook page. Events will also be generated on the twitter feed for extra coverage.

Due to the lack of RSVP notices and the short window of time given for the BBQ between mandatory workshops and registration, the event might be cancelled. A reminder has been sent to RSVP with little success. Only 30 students have replied so far and the Social Committee needs the number well in advance to ensure proper logistics, food quantity and payment. The person in charge of reserving the space, Glenn, has been emailed to make sure the space was booked for.

Several points discussing the benefits of keeping and eliminating the BBQ were noted. It is a big visibility event. It was decided the event would be open to 2nd year students and collect MISC fees in the process. Returning students would have to pay for lunch, but this would ensure enough people for the catering order to be successful. **CARRIED**

Loot bags are also being put together for new students; these include GSU freebies as mentioned by Stephanie. The SC Co-Chairs will send out information asking for volunteers during the BBQ event. As student council we should encourage and support the first Pub night of the year that Friday.

b. Student Tech Fund. Rachel Isaac-Menard and Jacqueline Whyte-Appleby.
Absent – No report.

c. Professional Development – Amanda Leclerc.

A job panel will take place the second week of school, like it did last year. Students get to share their experience and insight of their summer jobs as this is a valuable event for both incoming and returning students.

Amanda is happy to report there are more events than last year, the majority banking towards libraries. Some of the events include: Ulla de Stricker conducting a resume critique, Peter Copin, Rebecca Jones - speaking about "selling yourself", etc. Details to follow. Ulla de Stricker was suggested as a guest speaker in one of the iteas.

d. Merchandise Committee – Erika Heesen. Erika informed the council of the possibility of a free water bottle for incoming students provided by the faculty as discussed with Kathleen O'Brien. The council suggested the water bottles would be part of the loot bags. Others merchandise items for this year include: lanyards that say MI, beer mugs, laser engraved USB's to avoid disappearing engravings, decorative squares to put on iphone, book bags - only black ones are being ordered.

Erika noted that people have been asking for T-shirts, and they will be ordered in September. The fun new item on the agenda is the Joe Cox - Cite it

right t-shirt in Red, Navy and Royal Blue. There are no sweatshirts being ordered at this point. Nothing is over \$20, except for the 2 for \$25.

e. Academic Affairs Committee. Stella Palikarova

The most pressing matter in the agenda is a name change in the position. Class Reps will become "Academic Affair Reps". A meeting is set out to be arranged between Stella, Kim and the Dean. Furthermore, a meeting with Judy Dunn and Joan (last name never mentioned) needs to be arranged.

f. Alumni Association. Margaret Lam.

Margaret met once in May with the Alumni Committee. She commented on several mentoring programs being around putting effort to support new, current and ex-students. She is also coordinating with students who have their own initiatives to add to the mentoring experience. Paring 1st and 2nd years is also taking place- this is an internal type of networking in contrast with the Alumni Association's.

There are several programs which names need to be clarified due to their similar names and roles i.e. job shadowing, professional, faculty mentor-ship too.

g. Programs Committee. Amy Hoffmann – No report.

h. Admissions Committee. Tracy Manning – No report

i. Information Services Committee – No report.

j. GSU. Stephanie Hughes-Naherne – No report

k. Committee on Standing. Margaret Lam – No report

l. Life & Times Committees. Diana Lee – No report

5. New Business

10) Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.