



**Master of Information Student Council**

University of Toronto, Faculty of Information  
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Claude Bissell Building, 7th Floor, Student Lounge  
March 13th, 2014 at 4:00-6:00pm

## MISC Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Octavio Escalante, Laura DeVouge, Laura Chuang, Hilary Barlow, Sean Hayes (via Facebook chat), Alia Ahmad, Amanda Chernawski, Kyra Folk-Farber, Jessica Samuels, Matthew Gertler, Sonja Ljaskevic, Mary Gu, Lucy Szczesniak, Catherine Lamoureux, George Raine, Paul Weitzmann, Gillian Eguaras

**Official Regrets:** Ned Struthers, Hannah Loshak, Akash Venkat

**Absent:** Brooke Windsor, Karolina Grzeszczuk

**Recorder:** Laura DeVouge

**The meeting was called to order with quorum being established at 4:16 pm.**

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Reading and Approval of the Minutes - February

*Could not be approved - Tabled for next meeting*

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Motion to approve January Minutes

Second: Mari

Approved Unanimous

4. Reports by Executives:

- a. President (Octavio)

- i) Part-time studies policy update – Awaiting response from Dean: As of today we're still waiting a response. We'll be starting a draft of a follow-up letter.

- ii) MISC Student Experience Survey - Using last year's survey with minor changes. Octavio suggested these changes to the survey should be passed by council. Mari said that she didn't think that this is necessary. Kyra asked for help with analyzing last year's survey results. Mari thinks that there should be a standing committee to handle the administration of the survey and the analysis of the results each year. Octavio apologized for not having struck a committee beforehand. Laura D. asked if the survey could be sent to MISC members before it goes out to students. Octavio said that it could be sent out before hand.
- iii) Executive committee meeting: The student survey was discussed and Hannah said she will take lead on compiling this year's survey results.

b. Vice President (Hilary) - NO REPORT

c. Secretary (Laura)

- i) 2014 MISC Elections: Laura suggested dates for elections. The nominations are currently open, and close on the 20th. The elections will be held from the 25th to the 27th. The elections will close in time for the Faculty Council meeting.

d. Treasurer (Laura)

- i) March report: Things are still fine. Still waiting on the final installment of the GSU headgrant and the second installment of student fees will be added.
- ii) Audit exemption: We are exempt.

e. Webmaster (Hannah) - NO REPORT

## 5. Reports by Representatives:

a. Alumni Association (Catherine)

- i) Thanks to OLA reception attendees: The President thanked everyone who attended the OLA reception. - Repeated from last minutes, sorry
- ii) Job shadowing: record number of MMSt hosts, lower/slower student participation than other years: Record number of MMSt posts. Slower than usual. Laura D. said that the promotion was worse last year than this year. Mari said that several of the librarians she had spoken to had not heard anything from FIAA about recruiting job shadowing hosts.
- iii) Student grant recipients: Know who the recipients are for the student grants, Ben Walsh, Melissa Wawrzkievicz, Ellen Hlozan.
- iv) Next round of conference and research grants: deadline March 31st: Don't have to be accepted to the conference in order to be approved.
- v) Committee reviewing FIAA by-laws will have suggestions by March meeting: Going to have some suggested made by this week.

b. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sanja) – NO REPORT

c. Admissions Committee (Kyra) - NO REPORT

i) Kyra no longer goes to meetings because they are going through the admissions process.

d. Faculty Council (Karolina, Matthew, Amanda, Lucy et al.)

i) Forwarded information about new representatives: Hilary and Paul. Hilary was Faculty Council and Paul is Information Committee

ii) Mental health awareness workshop for faculty members - Feb 27th: Faculty members were invited to the workshop following up a discussion on the Mental Health iTea. Mari said that she and Jessica Samuels (as co-organizers of this year's Mental Health iTea) were very pleased to hear this, and commended the faculty for arranging this workshop. She also asked how many people went and who was running it. Octavio he will ask in the next meeting. Laura said that Jenna Hartel changed one of her assignments because of student mental health and that this was a positive change.

iii) Class representative issue from Fall 2013: One class rep did not get emailed, and this was too bad because they were active.

iv) PhD Day - invitation to all students: April 24-27. An opportunity for first year students who want to follow the PhD path. It will be in the MISC digest.

e. Graduate Students' Union (Sean, Hilary, Lucy) -

i) The petition was formally rejected by the CFS. We will have to wait and see what the next steps will be. Octavio said he saw flyers handed out and an event for international students announcing their advocacy labor for this group of students was organized, so they might be trying to be more active.

f. Student Tech Fund (Mari, Laura D, Akash)

i) Meeting will be next Monday. Paul asked whether or not the winning idea from the Ideas Party will be implemented soon. Mari replied that their hope is that the workshop will be offered in the summer.

g. Information Services (Paul, Laura C)

i) What kinds of preference do we have on the books being weeded. Members of MISC expressed concern. Mari suggested that Information Services should send out an e-mail or survey directly to students so they can provide feedback on this. Paul said that he will send the highlighted report out and comments will be sent out.

h. Life and Times Committee (Jessica) - NO REPORT

i. Programs Committee (Brooke, Jessie)

i) Outcomes from March 6th meeting (See appendix): Amanda said that some people were upset about Information Systems. There was a registration mess. A

required class should have more times when it was offered. Matthew said that the course has potential, but needs to change.

j. Committee on Standing (George) - NO REPORT

6. Reports by Committees:

a. Academic Affairs (Alia)

- i) Alia is arranging the meetup to decide what date to meet.
- ii) Some of the INF1006 might not have class reps. More than half the classes have reps.
- iii) There was a meeting with Nadia Caidi as to what steps can be taken to be with a problematic class. Laura D. wants a word/page limit on assignments. The law students have a measure for this. The class rep will speak to Nadia.

b. Professional Development (Kim, Jessie)

- i) Interview workshops: Wrapped up the the interview sessions. Jesse said that they would try and change the day of the week throughout the workshop.

c. Social (Mary & Jessica)

- i) Open Mic & Night: March open mic was cancelled, and they are planning the final party

d. Merchandise (Gillian)

- i) Hoodies Sale: They started this week, they end next Thursday. Come buy a Hoodie! Kyra asked said people asked if those were all the colours.

7. New business

N/A

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm

# Appendix

## Reports from representatives

### Programs Committee

This last meeting was mostly bureaucratic arrangements such as forms for the long term objectives being put together across the University of Toronto as a whole. There was also a move to make INF218o Archives, Advocacy, and Outreach to an elective in the ARM concentration and make INF1003: Information Systems, Services, and Design one of the five required courses for the concentration. This change allows the concentration to be more balanced between archives and records management rather than leaning heavily to archives. It was approved unanimously.

I also asked about the course/learning objectives on syllabi this semester like Octavio requested. The obligation of putting these on the syllabus is completely voluntary at the moment, but in the fall semester it will become mandatory due to a previously established administration arrangement at the iSchool. The committee pressed again that if students have a concern about this they need to speak directly to the instructor in question or speak through the class representative since individual instructor and class concerns are not the primary duties of the Programs Committee.