



Master of Information Student Council

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Claude Bissell Building, 7th Floor, Student Lounge
August 6th, 2014 at 6:00-8:00pm

MISC Meeting

Minutes

Present: Jessie Wionzek, Diana Kulpa, Carolyn Dineen, Mehreen Athar, Lucy Szczesniak, Matthew Gertler, Catherine Lamoureux, Leah Strudwick, Mari Vihuri, Hilary Barlow

Regrets: Hannah Saunders, Amanda Chernawski

Absent: Akash Venkat, George Raine, Hannah Loshak, Junoh Kim, Karolina Grzeszczuk, Kyra Folk-Farber, Laura Chuang, Marianne Williams

1. Approval of the agenda

- a. Second: Jessie; approved unanimously

2. Reading and approval of the minutes

- a. Second: Jessie; approved unanimously

3. Business arising from the minutes

4. Reports by Executives:

a. President (Hilary Barlow)

- i. Over the past few weeks Hilary, Lucy and the four committee chairs have been hammering out a 2014-2015 budget. This is the time to raise any questions or objections you might have about items in the budget.

- 1. Catherine asked about the iSchool Graduate Student Conference budget & Hilary adjusted it

- 2. Motion to approve the [MISC 2014-2015 Budget](#)

a. Second: Jessie; approved unanimously

- ii. Last meeting we discussed some constitutional amendments to create working groups focused on part-time students, mental health and student surveys. MISC solicited feedback on the amendments in two weekly digests and comments were added by Councillors and a member of the student body. This is the time to raise any additional questions you may have and any changes in language to the amendments.

1. Motion to approve [the constitution as amended](#)

a. Second: Jessie; approved unanimously

- iii. MISC has been in contact with both of the students who became ill during the Nelson Mandela internship in South Africa. Last we heard from them they were back in Canada and receiving medical care. Without going into detail and potentially violating their privacy, Hilary expressed MISC's willingness to advocate on their behalf if it becomes necessary. As of now, they are doing fine.

- 1. Mari clarified that the Safety Abroad office assisted with getting them back to Canada, so they have had some support from UofT already; the iSchool seems to be investigating the situation as well

- iv. TALINT updates: meeting with CUPE 1230 President and next steps

- 1. Mari noted that he said UTL will begin negotiating with Steelworkers at the beginning of January; Mari suggested to him that MISC can write a letter outlining our concerns with the program to make the issues clear & to make CUPE1230 care about them; Mari recommended that we try to get the letter to him in September & we should respond to Wendy Duff in September as well (before we message CUPE1230)
 - 2. Hilary noted that Mari created a document outlining our concerns; Mari added that last month's minutes also represent some concerns
 - 3. Mari also noted that we should be strategic about our approach to this, eg. in the way we discuss the issue with supervisors and the ways in which we represent supervisors' opinions
 - 4. Mari noted that it was apparently Larry Alford's decision to impose the part-time restriction

5. Matthew asked about the relationship between TALINT & the casual student agreement & if there's a chance of violation of the agreement on the part of CUPE
 6. Mari added that it's difficult to get information regarding the number of GSLA positions because HR is apparently unwilling to provide the data & it is challenging to find otherwise
- v. In light of the reduction of iTeas for the coming year, Hilary proposed to Nalini Singh (Chair of the Life and Times Committee) an arrangement where MISC takes care of all the on-the-ground work and cost of a clubs showcase in the fall and a mental health even in the winter semester, but the L&T Committee lists the events in their programming along with the iTeas. Nalini liked the idea but the details have not been finalized. She just returned from vacation and Hilary will keep communicating with her.
- vi. Hilary put together a [brainstorming document](#) for orientation swag bags and got in contact with GSU about promotional materials they can contribute. In addition to some physical samples, communications coordinator Michelle St Amour sent some digital samples, which are in the Projects-->Orientation folder.
- vii. Survey committee check-in: Mari does not have time to commit to this right now, would like someone else (returning committee member) to take this on
1. Diana volunteered to do it; she and Mari will communicate
- viii. Changes to IPS specialization
1. IPS = Identity, Privacy & Security specialization
 2. Diana noted that the iSchool website has been updated with new information regarding IPS prerequisites/background education
 3. Mari recommended that MISC email David Phillips to get more information
 4. Diana noted that the lack of communication on IPS' part is quite frustrating and leads to the feeling that they don't want students involved in the specialization
 5. It was noted that this should be brought to Programs Committee and potentially Faculty Council

ix. Notice about some staff departures from the faculty: Andrew Drummond and Areti Vourinaris

1. Hilary will email Andrew Drummond to try and gain access to any documents, information or advice to assist in our dealings with Faculty Council

b. Vice President (Vacant)

c. Secretary (Jessie Wionzek)

d. Treasurer (Lucy Szczesniak)

- i. Lucy updated our address with the bank to ensure that we receive our bank statements

e. Webmaster (Mari Vihuri)

- i. Reminder to provide your [suggestions for updating the Student Guide](#) via the working document in the Google Drive
- ii. Hilary suggested adding up-to-date information and removing dead links

5. Reports by Committee Chairs:

a. Academic Affairs (Carolyn Dineen)

- i. E-mail reminders to be sent out to S session class reps

b. Professional Development (Jessie Wionzek)

- i. iSchool Students Working Panel - to be held in late September, more info coming soon; keep an eye out for an email regarding involvement/soliciting panelists
- ii. Hilary & Mari will discuss the Clubs event with Jessie after the meeting; details to come

c. Social (Leah Strudwick & Hannah Saunders)

- i. Leah asked about how to promote the BBQ; Mari talked about posting things on the website (on the calendar) & on the Social Facebook page as well as the MISC Digest & Twitter (synergized promotion) as well as adding an image to the slider on the MISC homepage

d. Merchandise (Mehreen Athar)

- i. Mehreen would like feedback re: merch at some point, but there's no rush

6. Reports by Representatives:

a. Alumni Association (Catherine Lamoureux)

- i. Alumni All-Stars iTea (no date set yet)
 - 1. Mari asked if it would officially be called an iTea; Catherine responded that it seems that way as it's being called that in all communications thus far; Catherine will doublecheck
- ii. Job shadowing (possible follow-up; increasing student commitment)
 - 1. Mari noted that promotion didn't seem very effective this year
- iii. FIAA budget (same as last year, reduced from previous years)
 - 1. They got a commitment from Seamus to have no further budget reductions

b. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Marianne Williams)

c. Admissions Committee (Amanda Chernawski)

d. Faculty Council (Hilary Barlow et al.)

- i. The next FC meeting isn't until October.
- ii. Mari suggested asking Seamus about the status of the FC chair to keep tabs on it

e. Graduate Students' Union (Mehreen Athar)

f. Student Tech Fund (Akash Venkat & Junoh Kim) - NO REPORT

g. Information Services Committee (Mari Vihuri & Leah Strudwick) - NO REPORT

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

i. Programs Committee (Carolyn Dineen)

- i. Areti is gone, but there was no email/communication about it; nothing has been announced re: the status of her position or a possible replacement

j. Committee on Standing (Diana Kulpa)

7. New business

- a. Appointing working groups
 - i. Mari passed the role of chair of the survey ad-hoc committee to Diana; it is now a working group
 - 1. seconded by Jessie; one abstention (Diana); passed unanimously
 - ii. Mari noted that it's vital chairs be MISC members, as that was part of the reason this structure was invented. Constitution may need to be amended to address this.
 - iii. Hilary asked if anyone present was interested in chairing any of the other working groups; Leah volunteered to be chair of the Mental Health working group
 - 1. seconded by Jessie; abstention: Leah; passed unanimously

8. Adjourn

- a. seconded: Jessie; passed unanimously