



**Master of Information Student Council**  
University of Toronto, Faculty of Information  
[misc.ischool.utoronto.ca](http://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca) | [misc.ischool@utoronto.ca](mailto:misc.ischool@utoronto.ca)

Claude Bissell Building, 7th Floor, Student Lounge  
October 7th, 2014 at 4:00-6:00pm

# MISC Meeting

## Minutes

**Present:** Jessie Wionzek, Carolyn Dineen, Janel Cheng (left 4:30), Hannah Saunders, Peymon Montazeri, Maya Cruz, Christopher Piche, Lilly Rigling, Nuree Lee, Amanda Chernawski (left 5:00), Diana Kulpa, Karen Lees, Julia King, Catherine Lamoureux, Lucy Szczesniak (left 5:20), Chris Hogendoorn, Mari Vihuri, Hilary Barlow, Stephanie Abba, Mehreen Athar (left 5:30), Calvin Tennakoon, Junoh Kim, Haleigh Fox

**Regrets:** Leah Strudwick, Katrina Cohen-Palacios

**Absent:** Akash Venkat

1. **Approval of the agenda**
  - a. Seconded: Jessie, approved unanimously
2. **Reading and approval of the minutes**
  - a. **Motion to approve the minutes of the 16 September meeting.**
    - i. Seconded: Mari, approved unanimously
3. **Business arising from the minutes**
4. **Reports by Executives:**
  - a. **President (Hilary Barlow)**
    - i. Introductions
    - ii. Overview of meeting procedures, agenda items, regrets etc.

- iii. Thanks to everyone who made the elections happen! We had a voter turnout of 80, which is quite good compared to previous elections.
- iv. Nelly Cancilla, a UTL Copyright Outreach Librarian (and former MISC member) will be here to talk about Open Access Week.
  - 1. Nelly asked council members to get involved on their social media accounts to raise awareness for Open Access Week. There will also be physical outreach efforts where students can talk to Nancy & others involved with OAW about open access. Nancy handed out a signup sheet for the latter. She also took a photo of MISC to share on OAW social media channels.
- v. I'm getting FOB access to the MISC office for exec, committee chairs and GSU reps this year. If you are not one of those people, but you need access to the office, let me know today.
- vi. Hilary and Christopher H will be meeting with Dean Ross on 20 October to discuss part-time degree completion time.
  - 1. Carolyn asked whether or not Student Services will be open during the Fall Reading Week. Mari will check.
  - 2. Several council members brought forth complaints regarding Adriana's email policies and general absences.
- vii. MISC got an email from a student who was very happy to read the TALINT Q&A with Wendy Duff. The student described it as "really useful and informative." What are your thoughts on the Q&A? Were your questions answered?
  - 1. TALINT next steps: follow up with Wendy Duff and/or UTL about having a MISC representative on the TALINT committee going forward
  - 2. Draft an e-mail to CUPE1230
  - 3. Carolyn brought up her concerns regarding hours - some TALint students have more hours than GSLA students, despite Wendy saying that this wasn't necessarily true.

- a. Hannah asked about finding out more about funding for TALint. Mari responded that getting this information is quite difficult.
  - viii. Chair of the Part-time Students Working Group is still open. Is anyone interesting in chairing this group?
    - 1. Stephanie said she was interested in helping, but she is unable to be the chair (but she will be the ottoman or co-chair).
- b. Vice President (Christopher Hogendoorn)**
- i. Chris said that since the position of VP is relatively fluid, he would assist other councillors with projects as needed. He likened himself to cream cheese that can be spread, much to the other councillors' amusement.
- c. Secretary (Jessie Wionzek)**
- i. Motion to approve the results of the September 2014 election.
    - 1. Seconded: Mari, approved unanimously
  - ii. List of unclaimed positions: Second Year Programs Committee Representative, one Information Services Committee Representative seat, 2 Faculty Council Representatives
    - 1. Julia volunteered to be a Faculty Council Representative
      - a. Motion to approve Julia as Faculty Council Rep: Mari
        - i. Second: Catherine, passed unanimously
    - 2. Junoh volunteered to be Info Services Committee Representative
      - a. Motion to approve Junoh as ISC Rep: Carolyn
        - i. Second: Chris H, passed unanimously
    - 3. Catherine volunteered to be Second Year Programs Committee Representative
      - a. Motion to approve Catherine as Second Year Programs Committee Rep: Mari
        - i. Second: Jessie, approved unanimously

iii. Motion to appoint Nick Benko as a Faculty Council Representative.

1. Since Nick was not present at the meeting, he was not appointed.

**d. Treasurer (Lucy Szczesniak)**

i. Lucy reported that everything is going smoothly.

**e. Webmaster (Mari Vihuri)**

i. MISConnect mailing list (powered by Google Groups): All MISC members should be subscribed now. Hilary and the executive will be using this mailing list to contact all MISC members now. Unless you have changed your settings, you should be receiving every MISC e-mail to your preferred e-mail address (e.g. Hilary's e-mail about the agenda for this meeting). If you are having issues accessing the online archive of e-mails via the Google Group, or any files in the Google Drive, please make sure you followed the instructions for connecting your UofT mail to your Gmail account. If you're still having trouble, please contact Mari ASAP so she can fix it for you.

ii. MISConnect Shared Drive: Mari sent out an online card sorting exercise via MISConnect on Sunday. This exercise will give us insight into how MISC members think about the documents they use, and help us develop a good organizational folder structure for our internal shared Google Drive. All MISC members should complete this by Saturday October 11th at midnight. Thank you for your help!

**5. Reports by Committee Chairs:**

**a. Academic Affairs (Carolyn Dineen)**

**i. Course offerings from 2010-2015**

1. Following on last month's meeting, in which we discussed student complaints about the Fall 2014 timetable, I've compiled a [record of course offerings](#) for all terms from Fall 2010 to Summer 2015. I've tabulated the number of courses, as well as course offerings in different concentrations.

2. There appears to be a significant decrease in course offerings from last year to this year - from 107 sections to 87 (88 unique courses to 70). There also appears to be a gradual decrease over the past three

years, but due to changes in course requirements and concentration offerings, it is harder to compare.

- a. Mari pointed out that the number of students in each course will also affect how we interpret these numbers.
3. Any suggestions on what to do with this information or how to move forward with this issue?

**ii. Class representatives**

1. Great response so far, but the following courses do not yet have reps: INF1501; INF2124; INF2126; INF2169; INF2241; BKS1001; JIE1001/ECE1518. I have e-mailed the professors, but if you happen to be in any of these courses, please make a quick announcement to the class. We appreciate MISC volunteers, but prefer to have non-MISC students volunteer first if at all possible.
  - a. Hannah became the rep for INF2124 today.

**b. Professional Development (Jessie Wionzek & Julia King)**

**i. OLA Super Conference Job Fair & PD Employer Showcase**

1. The OLASC organizers contacted Isidora to ask if we'd like to combine our Employer Showcase with their job fair. We feel that this would lessen our ability to reach iSchool students, especially those in concentrations other than LIS, so we have decided to decline their offer. Jessie and Hilary are currently discussing this issue with the parties involved.
  - a. Hilary resolved this issue via email.

**c. Social (Leah Strudwick & Hannah Saunders)**

1. Some complications presently re: Hallowe'en event, i.e. want to piggyback it off the iTea (so peeps only have to dress up on the one day, if so inclined), but Sammy's already booked for Wed. They are hosting an Open Mic on Thu that we can advertise as MISC-adjacent. Pros: it would be free. Cons: Hannah and I can't attend. Plans under construction.
2. Leah purchased a small number of tickets to the Rocky Horror Picture Show (Oct 24, 11:30, Bloor Hot Docs, cocktails to start) - these

are not a MISC expense. This was not going to be our Hallowe'en event but maybe it should be? If we promote soon and the tickets sell, we could get more? Posters and digest announcements coming soon.

**d. Merchandise (Mehreen Athar)**

- i. Mehreen asked if there would be interest in a button-making party. This is clearly an amazing idea and many people were excited.

**6. Reports by Representatives:**

**a. Alumni Association (Catherine Lamoureux)**

- i. Alumni All-Stars event - October 9th
- ii. FIAA budget
- iii. Committee goals for 2014-2015

**b. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Haleigh Fox)**

- i. The meeting last week was a general meeting. Things discussed included increasing CRO student involvement in various events. The end-of-year party was also discussed; when more information becomes available, Haleigh will report back.

**c. Admissions Committee (Karen Lees)**

**d. Faculty Council (Hilary Barlow et al.)**

- i. First meeting is October 17.

**e. Graduate Students' Union (Lilly Rigling & Karen Lees)**

- i. The meeting was 4 hours long. Issues discussed included GSU funding; the litigation committee asked for information that was not yet available; one executive did not show up because she "did not feel safe in her team" and wrote a letter explaining such. There was a section in the agenda called "executive conflict," which involved a lot of drama. Several members wanted to impeach an executive who did not show up to the meeting. The GSU wants to call a special meeting to deal with this issue, but no details have arisen as of yet.

- ii. Karen reported that issues applying to us include head grant & Conference & Academic Engagement grant information. The GSU is also working on the Co-Curricular Record, but progress on this has been very slow.
- iii. Lilly volunteered to send out the GSU Digest.
- iv. Grad Minds (Mari): Mari, who is also the Communications Coordinator for Grad Minds, will be spearheading the creation of a new database for mental health resources for the Grad Minds website. She is looking for any iSchool students who would be interested in helping out. The project will offer some experience in developing taxonomies, cataloguing resources, using Drupal, as well as a chance to get to meet graduate students outside of the iSchool and build a useful resource for fellow students. If anyone is interested, please contact Mari at mari.vihuri@mail.utoronto.ca.

**f. Student Tech Fund (Akash Venkat, Junoh Kim & Nuree Lee)**

- i. Percy is resigning. Mari asked if anyone was hired to replace him. Haleigh reported that it was reported in the MUSSA meeting that Percy would not be replaced and that Tony would be taking on his responsibilities.
  - 1. Without Percy, we've lost a key member of Information Services & Tech Fund's procurement of new equipment on behalf of MISC is negatively affected.
- ii. Tech Fund is currently discussing several alternatives to pursue due to the situation with Percy.

**g. Information Services Committee (Janel Cheng)**

- i. Inforum hours: drafting an e-mail to the chair of the ISC

**h. Life and Times Committee (Amanda Chernawski)**

- i. No report

**i. Programs Committee (Christopher Piché)**

- i. There was a proposal for a co-op program in the Faculty of Information at that last Programs Committee meeting. There would be 2 co-ops, and there will be an application process. Part-time students are currently excluded. Christopher P will make the information available on the shared drive.

1. Haleigh asked if CRO students are also excluded; Christopher said he'd need to clarify.
  2. Mari asked how final this decision is. Christopher responded that they want it to be integrated in a single proposal with other issues included. Programs Committee wants to create a working group for this, but it hasn't been created yet. Chris H suggested that Christopher P be involved with this working group when it is created.
  3. Chris H asked if they discussed the impact this would have on the practicums. Hannah brought up the fact that that, since practicum positions are unpaid, these positions tend to be within organizations with little/no funding. Christopher P will look into how other institutions manage practicums and co-ops; Mari added that the iSchool also has TALint now.
  4. Chris H brought up a concern over the number of positions available (30). Hannah asked how the co-op would work fees-wise: why do an extra semester on top of your regular semesters instead of having your co-op in the summer? Other students brought up the idea that ending your degree with a co-op would make the most sense career-wise. Chris H suggested that getting hired in a co-op position would get rid of that position for future co-op students and so making students go back to school would make sense.
- ii. Haleigh reported that CRO students are paying full-time and part-time fees in their third year.

**j. Committee on Standing (Diana Kulpa)**

- i. The next meeting is in January.

**k. New business**

**l. IPS survey?**

- i. Hilary asked about the response rate for the IPS (Identity, Privacy and Security) specialty. Diana reported that so far about 7 people have responded.

**7. Adjourn**

- a. Seconded: Hannah, passed unanimously