MASTER OF INFORMATION STUDIES STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008
ROOM 212, CLAUDE BISSELL BUILDING
4:00-5:00

MINUTES

Present:

1. **Call to Order**
   Julia called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm

2. **Review, Corrections & Acceptance of last meeting's Minutes**
   Julia made a motion to accept the minutes.
   Seconded by Jonathan.
   Motion carried.

3. **Business arising from the Minutes**
   Jonathan: no update on CLA task force
   Stella: still looking into GSU regulations regarding class rep
   Julia: has set up email address for MISSC (misc.ischool@utoronto.ca)

4. **Reports by Executive Members**

   a. Present:

      Julia attended Faculty Council meeting. If you are not going to attend, you must let someone know. We count as quorum. Last meeting difficult to make quorum. Faculty has now decided that they want to rename the program MI.

      Judy needs people to represent students at iSchool open house nights in November. A few people volunteered. Details will follow.

   b. Webmaster:

      Marcia has been working on website for the last two weeks, made changes to organization and met with members of council. She would like to establish a committee to help her evaluate the website.

      Marcia put forth a motion to establish a website committee.

      Second: Julia

      Motion carried.

      The committee will review the current site and look at other technicalities, such as the Paypal functionality, etc.

      Julia clarified that members of the committee need only provide input on organizational structure and content, they need not have technical expertise.

Bill reminded the Webmaster that the F/IQ is now launched and will need to be integrated into the MISSC site; students are also starting a YouTube channel to publish videos created by students.

5. Reports by Committees

a. Professional Development:

Meg reported that the interview and resume clinics went well. Working to obtain the documentation from these workshops to put online.

Amanda reported that they are working to create a PD wiki, but priority is getting the PD webpage done.

Julia: is the wiki part of website? Amanda, no it's a link, part of PDwiki.

Meg informed committee that she needs input on who should be invited to the job fair?

b. Programs Committee Meeting:

Bill reported that there has been one PC meeting this year. Members need to finalize the core courses shortly. Need to finalize the core course in order to submit them to FC and then to SGS for approval and they are expediting. Want to get these in for 2009 curriculum revision.

One of these courses may be an extended group project wherein students would work together on a year-long project.

New courses going to be offered next year in critical information making 'stream' one theoretical and one practical, one in museum studies in history of photography Web 2.0 isn't the first time that technology has revolutionized the program.

David Phillips has a course in critical history of communication technologies.

Are these special topics or renewable? There was debate.

Bill reported that the first issue of F/IQ Journal is now live at FIQ.ischool.utoronto.ca.

Julia wondered how F/IQ will maintain continuity after Meg and Bill (editors) will graduate. Meg responded; F/IQ committee includes a number of first-year students. There has also been discussion about making the journal committee and ad hoc committee of council.

Andrea asked Bill to discuss potential concerns with the programs committee: are potential students aware of the program change?

Jonathan responded; yes, potential recruits are given a preview of the new curriculum.

c. Social Committee:

Julia will send out email tonight about upcoming pub nights and dim sum dinner (RSVP required).

The committee is beginning to plan the Holliday Coffee House. Looking for volunteers to serve on committee to give ideas, decorate, etc. Looking for participants from MISSC. Also sending out email to entire student body for participants.

Armin asked for clarification.

Julia explained that last year's coffee house consisted of snacks, food, coffee, people invited to come up to front of room and sing carols, skits, stand-up comedy, etc. Will transition into pub night as well. Second week of December.

Make it potluck? So that we can include Museum Studies. How can we include Museum Studies?

Some discussion about whether or not a potluck is manageable with so many people.

d. Student Tech Fund Committee

Sascha reported that all requested changes to the proposed Student Tech Fund by-laws have been incorporated into the document. She had Charlotte from GSU look over by-laws and she suggested adding notwithstanding clause at beginning. This has been added. Consequently, the Student Tech Fund spending will never cross over $30,000 without going to student council for a vote. The tech fund will be purchasing laptops and moveable furniture. The committee is also planning to organize seminars and instructors.

Grace asked if it was possible to use Tech Fund money to buy equipment for other committees, i.e. recording equipment for the podcasting group.

Sascha explained that anyone may put in a proposal for spending.

Julia put forth a motion to pass the Student Tech Fund By-laws

Second: Rebecka Sheffield

Carried.

Meg asked if Tech Fund can be used to pay for software licenses.

Sascha recommended that this conversation occur outside of the council's general meeting.

Armin reported on the success of the room 119 unveiling. 40 visitors ate about 16 pizzas and one lucky first year student won an iPod. People were happy that we did the opening and were excited to see the lab. People did not know the room existed.

Sascha reminded council that anyone may book the lab at Inforum, or just use the swipe card to enter.

Students also met with incoming Dean Seamus about 3 weeks ago and asked him where he saw the tech fund fitting in to the future of the school and his general impression was that the fund was a good thing. A separate tech fund could be created for any undergraduate program that is developed. So strategic plan will be based on the assumption that we will be meeting the needs of masters students.

Bill reported that one of the considerations for the Tech Fund should be the possibility of creating a framework so that students could be commissioned as the set-up for tech fund initiatives. Currently, Ab is the only staff member who is able to do purchasing, but perhaps qualified students could assist?

Katherine asked where is the student tech fund wiki? Armin responded that the committee will make it more visible.

e. Admissions Committee

Andrea reported that there has been a delay with the committee. Lots of started applications, but no completed applications have been received. They are not due until April, but the process opened October 1. The committee has decided not to meet until there are completed applications

Andrea asked about putting MISSC merchandise into application material; she handed out ballot to obtain feedback. Something cheap, etc.

Jonathan suggested creating a "coochie catcher" like the one that Matt Ratto created. This is an interesting 'gift'.

Katherine suggested pleather bookmarks?

f. Academic Committee

Stella reported that she has emailed Jens-Erik about meetings, but has yet to receive a response.

Stella also emailed GSU Rep (Patricia) to ask if GSU about the policy of having class representation. Patricia will follow-up.

6. **Other Business**

Jonathan asked council to officially recognize Bill Mann and Meg Ecclestone for their contributions to the launch of the new F/IQ Journal.

Second: Andrea

Clapping.

7. **Adjournment**

4:53 pm