



MUSSA February Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 5th 2018

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: BL 417

Meeting called to order at: 4:05pm

In Attendance: Aurora Cacioppo, Kristen McLaughlin, Kathleen Vahey, Hannah Hadfield, Serena Ypelaar, Erica Chi, Amy Intrator, Sydney Rose, Evelyn Feldman, Susan Jama, Marlee Yule, Leore Zecharia, Laetitia Dandavino-Tardif, Charlotte Gagnier, Maeghan Jerry, Rebecca Noone
Regrets: Katlyn Wooder

Meeting began at: 4:05pm

1. Meeting Called to Order
 - I. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):
 1. Kathleen Vahey
 2. Hannah Hadfield
 - II. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Motion approved by:
 1. Leore Zecharia
 2. Laetitia Dandavino-Tardif

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

- I. CUPE Announcement from Rebecca Noone
 - i. TA Union, a Graduate union, provided with certain amount of benefits for Master's and Doctorate students. Every year negotiations occur for income, respect and request to be taken seriously from employers.
 - ii. Strike may occur and if so, TAs will withhold their labour - TA grading and classroom teaching affected as a result and grading will take longer or not occur until the strike is resolved.
 - iii. Vote of 89.4% of the union in favour for the bargaining team to consider key issues - negotiations deadline is Feb. 26th, strike will occur if needs aren't being met regarding: compensation, health care benefits, safety in the workplace, and workplace conditions
 - iv. CUPE hopes graduate students will understand their decision and they are asking for support.

- v. Invitation to Masters students to show up for CUPES #StrikeCountdown Rally to support our Bargaining Team on their last day at the table with U of T, this **Wednesday, February 7**. All are welcome!
 1. **When:** Wednesday, 7 February at 12pm
 2. **Where:** Outside Simcoe Hall, 27 King's College Circle
 3. **What:** Rally to support our Bargaining Team on their final day of conciliation with the Employer, with food, chanting, and to fight for the best possible deal!
 4. **RSVP** to this event on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/528561974209234/?ti=icl>

Exec Update

II. Treasurer

- i. No updates to report
- ii. **ACTION:** Laetitia asked to prepare a report of where we stand financially for the April MUSSA meeting (for the incoming team)
- iii. Hannah & Laetitia to meet and balance merchandise costs

Important Announcements:

III. **Women in Leadership**

- i. Task division/sign up for a job!
 1. Welcoming panelists and guests in lobby
 2. Food table watch (replenishing water)
- ii. Camera/film status: Charlotte Gagnier and Laetitia Dandavino-Tardiff
- iii. Order coffee & confirm water jugs (hot and cold): suggested coffee enough for approximately 40 people
- iv. Grocery list (jams, hummus, breads, veg, fruit)
- v. Cups? "Bring your own mug", plates, napkins - decided to purchase cups for the event
- vi. Email AV equipment (2 mics?): Inforum has two available but we are unsure if they are wireless - must confirm before the event
- vii. Name tags: Aurora and Kathleen determined we will make our own for the panelists
- viii. Gifts: Mugs & Tea & Cards
- ix. **ACTION:** Aurora make sign up spreadsheet for tasks

Committee Updates/Reports

IV. Alumni Association

- i. FIAA Job Shadowing - Mmst options still in the process of collecting names and recruiting contacts to volunteer

- ii. Program runs February to August and often the Mmst had the internship opportunities around the same time and did not opt in for the opportunities - if they are going to put in the effort in the Job Shadowing Program, the students must make the effort to participate
- V. Admissions Committee
- i. Meeting focused on new BI (Bachelor of Information) - discussed building diversity into the program from the ground up (such as Indigenous representation, funding and scholarship opportunities in the program, etc)
 - ii. Admissions into the BI program already offered to some MI and MMst applicants - MI job market more desirable at the moment, whereas MMst is more saturated in Toronto
 - 1. Recruitment fairs generally in Toronto; suggested to expand market in the prairies and out West
- VI. Programs Committee
- i. Approved the digital course (which will be building a digital project with the Ontario Science Centre)
 - ii. New course proposed for Museum Studies - currently requesting feedback before approval, called "Special Topics: Artifact Audience Text Writing in the Museum" taught by Laura Robb from the AGO
 - 1. Gap in training for the types of writing relevant in a museum (i.e. exhibit texts, catalogues, interpretive texts, websites, etc)
 - 2. **ACTION:** Maeghan to report on and ask why is there a gap, shouldn't this content be covered in other interpretation courses?
- VII. Committee on Standing
- i. Nine cases came before the committees (eight requests for extensions and one request for multiple late withdrawals). After deliberation, each was granted. Considerations for granting the request were based on evidence (Medical documentation, and professors) and the fact that all the extension were first requests. If the request were not granted most of the students would have failed one or more course(s).
 - ii. Questions addressed about the role of the committee and the programs responsibility to proactively help students to request extensions. The concerns were centred around mental health issues, which can impede students completing the forms. However, because there is a process of repealing a failing mark, it was decided that the standing committee, the policies, and procedures are adequate to fulfil the needs of the students.
- VIII. Tech Fund

- i. First Year Tech Fund Position
 - 1. Hannah Barber is no longer a student at MMst so Sydney Rose is now in charge of workshop planning including the proposed Powertools workshop
 - ii. Tech Fund is buying lots of new stuff including VR equipment (which was approved last year), new work-study student in Studio 307 and sewing workshop proposed by first-year student
 - iii. Request for newer iPhone chargers for students, however, the charging station in the Inforum is having a consistent problem of stolen cables
 - iv. Currently compiling annual report of expenses
- IX. MISC-MUSSA Liaison
- i. MISC meeting on January 26th - Discussed the iBall (year end ball) and decided to host it on Wednesday, April 11th (due to project presentations in Museum Studies)
 - ii. Calendars discussed at the MISC meeting, Evelyn suggested a joint calendar for all the MISC-MUSSA events and various clubs - she was voted in to merge the calendars online on a Google Calendar
 - 1. **ACTION:** Contact Asma to have a place for the joint calendar on the website so faculty can support it
 - 2. **Vote:** Evelyn to take over and issue a joint calendar: all in favour, vote approved
- X. Musings
- i. Trying to expand promotions, hoping to release a contact list of influential people in the field
 - ii. Media Preview of War Flowers exhibition did really well - Curator at Campbell House will show Mmst students around the exhibition on February 22nd
 - iii. Musings will be covering the Women in Leadership panel, thesis projects, and all the exhibition projects
- XI. Life and Times Committee
- i. **ACTION:** Evelyn to get in touch with Life and Times to figure out MUSSA's role in the committee
 - ii. Propose changes in the MUSSA constitution

Exec Updates

- XII. Social Chair and/or Social Assistant
- i. Good turnout of events in January
 - ii. Museum Talks and TRSWG talks should be well attended, otherwise the faculty will not supported them
 - iii. MISC joint events to create a closer relationship: clothing swap, joint pub night and MUSSA-MISC-FIAA trivia night (proposed date on March 20th)

- iv. Social Committee meeting tomorrow to discuss upcoming events - Cara suggested KAIROS Blanket exercise
- v. iSchool conference invoice requested
- vi. Cheque request form made by Kathleen Vahey
- vii. End of Year party proposed April 12th
- XIII. First Year Representative
 - i. First years interested in CPR and First Aid training certificates for upcoming internship opportunities
- XIV. Second Year Representative
 - i. UTGSU meeting attended by Hannah Hadfield - hybrid voting adopted for next elections (online and on-site voting options)
 - ii. Merchandise sale period just closed and did really well - order placed with an expected 1-2 week wait and more being totes made
- XV. Vice President
 - i. Kristen McLaughlin picked up the special grant and deposited it into the MUSSA bank account - \$200 will be used for the Women in Leadership Panel food
 - ii. **ACTION:** Amy to announce TRSWG Lee Miracle talk in mandatory first-year classes this week
- XVI. President
 - i. Social Media Assistant/Volunteer
 1. Shift in posts for Facebook groups on the MUSSA page rather than the MMst Current Students group to not overwhelm group members
 2. First-year and CRO call out for exhibition attendees to promote and cover project openings on social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) - suggestion of exhibition members to record material and send it to the Social Media rep. For accessibility reasons of cost and location
 - ii. TRSWG Lee Miracle Event & Volunteers to arrive early and help set up
 - iii. Inforum Town Hall Update
 1. Aurora attended the Town Hall meeting last week - Inforum update came to students abruptly and students were taken back by the sudden changes
 2. Inforum student workers will open earlier and close later to accommodate students, however they do not have the available resources at the moment
 3. Accessibility concerns from the Faculty of Information: 417 and 525 proposed as quiet areas
 4. Regulated time to lock the building and the revolving doors accessed with the fob
 5. Friday, Saturday and Sunday extending hours

6. Building open to students with fob for 24hrs

Announcements/Updates

XVII. Open Announcements

- i. Questions raised regarding how we should disseminate information of the TA strike and Inforum closures. Is it CUPEs responsibility to disseminate information to the Mmst current students?

1. **ACTION:** MUSSA email (Kristen) will inform students of the TA strike in a Museletter update but not necessarily endorse the stance

Meeting adjourned at: 5:16pm