

Minutes
MUSSA Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2013 12-1 PM
Faculty of Information, Bissell Building, Room 306

Regrets: Sanja (MISC/MUSSA Liaison), Kristen (Committee on Standing Rep)

1. Welcome – Call to Order 12:00

2. Executive Reports

PRESIDENT – Robyn

Financial/Budget Update:

- Fall instalment of Head Grant received and deposited (around \$700)
- Council may also apply for GSU special grant (around \$200)
- Updated version of budget available on MUSSA website (under “Who We Are” drop-down menu)
- Spending this year has been mostly under budget

Council Manual

- Still in the works (referred to as “document for Standard Operating Procedures” in Oct 9 2013 Minutes)
- Please provide any input or suggestions about your position or other responsibilities for future councils

Faculty Council Meeting

- President and Vice-President will attend
- Contact Robyn or Lauren with questions and concerns you would like addressed at the meeting

Information Session November 23rd

- For prospective students – MMSt section from 11:00-12:30
- You can sign up to represent MMSt as an “Inspiring Student”

Student Conference

- Call for student submissions (deadline December 20th)
- Still negotiating MUSSA’s financial contribution

GSU Presidents’ Meeting

- Propose having student associations for collaborative programs (CRO, BHPC, etc.)
- Not necessarily formal councils, but with access to similar resources (bank accounts, grant applications, etc.)

VICE-PRESIDENT/GSU REP – Lauren

25th AGM for GSU

- November 25th at 6:10 pm
- All welcome to attend

Mount-Making Workshop

- Put forward to the Tech Fund (refer to Oct 9 2013 Minutes)
- Associate of Cara Krmpotich, but out of country
 - o Tech Fund would cover costs of flight and some materials
- Can only be approved after referendum
 - o Revising bi-laws: may affect the inclusion of workshops in the Tech Fund mandate

SOCIAL CHAIR – Melissa

Halloween Party Debrief

- Good turn-out for first years
- In future, hope to promote beyond posters and social media (in-class announcements)

Movie Night this Thursday (November 14th)

- Showing ‘The Thomas Crown Affair’ from 6:00-9:00 pm, in Student Lounge
- Popcorn will sold by donation

End of Term Party on December 6th at 6:00 pm

- Location confirmed ‘Pourhouse’ (182 Dupont St.)
- Venue requires the group to spend \$200 in total
 - o Suggest ordering appetizers in advance (aim for \$150 in appetizers, rest to be covered by individual purchases)

Washington Trip Update

- Difficulties contacting alumni in Washington – Alumni contact list is out of date (issues with change of address, contact information, etc.)
- Working to finalize the schedule
- Registration: November 18th – 22th from 12:00 – 1:00 in Bissell 624
 - o Students must bring \$100 deposit (portion may be returned on the bus)
 - o Robyn and Lauren will oversee registration

Washington Trip Bake Sale

- November 27th from 10:00 – 4:00 in Bissell Lobby
- Melissa will take morning shift from 10:00-1:00
 - o Set up “Doodle Poll” for volunteer sign-up
- Silent auction portion: most likely contributed by Irina Mihalache
 - o Need to design list for bids
- Prices cannot be fixed, but by donation
 - o Can determine a “suggested donation” the morning of (will depend upon quality of baked goods)
- Those wishing to contribute should contact Melissa with a description of what they’ll bring (must include an ingredient list)

SECOND YEAR REP. – Nora

Class Representatives

- Re-opening discussion for broadening Class Rep responsibilities (refer to Oct 9 2013 Minutes)
 - o Distribute and collect student evaluation sheets to provide feedback specifically for MUSSA, not the faculty

- In-class announcements (communicated via e-mail)

Mentoring Potluck

- 26th November from 6:00 – 8:00 in Student Lounge
- For Mentors and Mentees from both MMSt and MI
 - Sign up to bring something
- Will head over to Ein Stein’s for drinks after

Museum Visits

- Reconsidering plan for Black Creek Pioneer Village
 - Had aimed for Thursdays, but all seem to be fully booked this year
 - Event would most likely be under-attended: transit distance and time
= Risk making a poor impression on host

FIRST YEAR REP. – Nicole

Event Proposal: MMSt Sit-In, Conversation Café...

- Geared towards first years, but open to everyone
 - Will discuss student-suggested topics ranging from personal interest to general issues (hope to supplement program-specific events)
 - Venue for supporting students and equipping them for success in Grad studies)
 - Times and locations can vary according to preference
 - Budget minimal if any (possibly for posters)
 - To start up after Washington Trip in the year
 - Topic suggestions: Lauren suggests “stich-n-bitch”, reintroduce yarn bombing (after the Bissell Bombers)
 - Kat offers to blog about upcoming cafés in *Musings*
 - Nicole opens the floor for other topic suggestions and alternative suggestions for first year events
- = Suggestion met with support

TREASURER – Lily

- Lily asks that receipts from council debit card purchases specify the event for which the purchase was made (written note on receipt)

SECRETARY – Abigail

- Abigail asks that council members continue to revise Minutes’ information and format and make suggestions/corrections

MUSINGS CO-EDITOR – Kat

Monthly Themes

- Requesting submissions from students about their academic backgrounds and how they came to Museum Studies
- Focusing on History this month (followed by Anthropology/Archaeology, Humanities, etc.)
- Students suggest highlighting underrepresented concentrations: Science, Linguistics, etc.

- Emphasize that there are no required/suggested concentrations, that students come from diverse studies
- Also suggest including nods to the history of the program and the application process
 - Can act as an alternate source of application information to the main website

Photo Contest for Washington Trip

- Yet to determine parameters of actual contest (hope to launch in November)
- Hope to set up a hash tag on Twitter, Instagram, etc.

MISC-MUSSA LIAISON (regrets)

MISC Meeting

- Asking for suggestions from MUSSA to be brought up at MISC meeting
 - Ask about the microwave for the student lounge (refer to Oct 9 Minutes)

3. Committee Reports

ADMISSIONS – Marianne

Debrief: Recruitment and Admissions Committee Meeting (October)

- Discussed website issues (faculty having issues with updating information)
 - Proposing an admissions internship: offered to an iSchool student to revamp the website
 - Webmaster's responsibilities were distributed between other people making it difficult to achieve cohesion
- Recruitment strategy approved
- Evaluated success of first Information Day
- Asking for input as to what attracted current students to the program (not only content, but marketing →how did the website contribute?)
 - Should emphasize the diversity of streams
- General call for suggestions for recruitment strategies
- Suggest that website should raise awareness about *Musings* and feature a link to the blog page (maybe on the rotating banner)
 - Could also feature *Musings* on the LCD screens
- Revising issues at information day: professors did not know how to respond to students' questions about application process

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – Robin

Debrief: October Meeting

- Alumni expressed disappointment about turn-out to mixer (mix with Masters students)
 - Informed that students had class
 - Revise promotion strategies
- MUSSA considering applying for Alumni Association contribution to Washington Trip funds

INFORMATION SERVICES – Nora

Sub-Committee

- Appointed a PhD student to represent students

Meeting November 14th, 1:00-2:00

- Discuss grants for information services or students

LIFE AND TIMES – Cady

iTea Topics for November 20th

- Other MMSt centered iTea will be on student exhibition projects (in March)
- Originally planned to showcase thesis work from MMSt students
 - o Only one MMSt doing thesis work this year
 - o Irina will develop an information session for students considering the thesis option
- Proposed “Show-and-Tell”: students will bring in their own objects (those without objects can personalize name tags and describe their chosen designs)
- MUSSA contributes \$50 to each iTea, may contribute an extra 25 for snacks, name tags, and colourful table cloths
 - o Kathleen O’Brien will handle advertisements
- Asking for clever ideas for a title
- Will start at 4:30 (students are welcome to help set up at around 3:30)

PROGRAMS – Kaitlin

Debrief: October Meeting

- MI course “Preservation and Digital Curation” renamed “Digital Preservation Planning” (to differentiate from MMSt “Constructing and Curating Digital Heritage”)
- Evaluating desired outcomes of PhD program: may encourage developing general language skills for communicating outside of academia
 - o Suggest that this should be a requirement for Graduate students
- Examining policies in light of student complaint about “required” but ungraded coursework
 - o To be left up to the discretion of the instructor
- Debating requirements for first year concentrations (inclusion of computer science as mandatory)

Program Length & Sessions:

- Memo from Dean’s office describing program length as “3 full-time sessions” = MMSt would run fall, winter, summer + fall, winter
- Confusion about effects of adding summer term, whether students will incur incidental fees for summer session
- SGS reps will address this shift at the next Programs Committee meeting (beginning of December)
 - o Council members’ questions:
 - Do students have a say?
 - When will this take effect?

COMMITTEE ON STANDING (regrets)

TECH FUND – Desiree and Jordan-na

Possible Initiatives

- Refer to Mount-Making Workshop above
- Scheduled meeting with AGO Digital Services to discuss what tools would be useful for MMSt students, what programs and interfaces they should be familiar with, etc.

4. Delegation of tasks – what next?

Washington Trip Fundraiser

- Offer hot meals in last week of December
- Charge \$5 a plate
- Pitch money for plates and other materials
- Call for cooks and crockpots/slow cookers

Last Meeting December 6th

- Probably around 10:00, should last for no more than an hour and half

Student Conference

- Nora will act as liaison between council and conference administrators

5. Adjourned 1:15