AGENDA

1) Call to order and acceptance of the Agenda

2) Acknowledgement of traditional land

3) Approval of the Minutes of April 24, 2019 (attached)

4) Business arising from the Minutes

5) Communications Received

6) Dean’s Report

7) Reports from Council Committees
   a) Executive Committee
      • Motion: Approval of Standing Committee Chairs and Non-Student Members
      • Presentation of Standing Committee Student Members
      • Motion: Election of Executive Committee Members
   b) Standing Committees
      • Awards Committee
      • Undergraduate Committee on Standing
      • Programs Committee (attached)
      • Recruitment and Admissions:
        • Bachelor’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (BRAC)
        • Master’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (MRAC)
        • Doctoral Recruitment and Admissions Committee (PRAC)

8) Reports from Institutes
   a) McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology
   b) Digital Curation Institute
   c) Identity, Privacy and Security Institute
   d) Knowledge Media Design Institute (attached)
   e) Technoscience Research Unit

9) Other reports
   a) Alumni Relations
   b) Careers Officer’s Report
   c) Communications Officer’s Report
   d) Development and Advancement Initiatives
   e) Inforum
10) Student Reports
   a) Undergraduate students association
   b) MISC (attached)
   c) MUSSA
   d) DSA (attached)

11) FIAA Report

12) Other Business

13) Question period

14) Announcements

15) Adjournment
COUNCIL

2018-2019 Session – 5th Regular Meeting

Wednesday April 24, 2019  |  4:00pm-6:00pm  |  Room 728, Claude Bissell Building

MINUTES

Present:
Ex-officio Members: Prof. Wendy Duff (Dean)

Teaching Staff: Prof. Periklis, Andritsos, Prof. Christoph Becker, Prof. Matthew Brower, Prof. Alan Galey, Prof. Lynne Howarth (Chair), Prof. Kelly Lyons, Prof. Mary Elizabeth, Luka, Prof. Heather MacNeil, Prof. Rhonda McEwen, Prof. Irina D. Mihalache, Prof. Velian Pandeliev, Prof. Matt Ratto, Prof. Olivier St-Cyr, Prof. Eric Yu

Professional Librarians: Victoria Owen, Elisa Sze

Senior Administrative Officers: Ann Brocklehurst, Glenn Cumming, Anna Pralat, Stephanie Rose

Directors (affiliated units): Lari Langford

Associated instructor / sessional lecturer: Vicki Whitmell

Administrative Staff: Christine Chan

Doctoral Students: Madison Trusolino

MI Students: Danielle Crecca, Rumman Feraus, Allen Kwan, Meagan Lau, McKinzy Manes, Hugh Samson, Manda Vrkljan, Erin White

MMSI Students:

Alumni: Heather McTavish

External Members:

Non-Voting Members: Gaurav Bamezai, Alex Howes

Observers: Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis

Recorder: Carol Lee

REGRETS: The President of the University of Toronto, Vice-President and Provost, Chief Librarian of the University, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, Prof. Colin Furness, Prof. David Nieborg, Prof. Seamus Ross, Prof. Dan Ryan, Prof. Sarah Sharma, Prof. Brian Cantwell Smith, Prof. Sherry Yu, Nalini Singh, Lari Langford, Stephanie Anagnaostou, Susan Bond, Patty Facy, Rida Idrees, Meagan Lau, Andrew Micak, Erica Chi
ON LEAVE: Prof. Costis Dallas, Prof. Fiorella Foscarini, Prof. Leslie Shade, Prof. Anthony Wensley

ABSENCES: Prof. Jeffrey Boase, Prof. Matthew Brower, Prof. Kenzie Burchell, Prof. Brett Caraway, Prof. Chun Wei Choo, Prof. T.L. Cowan, Prof. Alessandro Delfanti, Prof. Juris Dilevko, Prof. Alan Galey, Prof. Sara Grimes, Prof. Jenna Hartel, Prof. Tero Karppi, Prof. Patrick Keilty, Prof. Cosmin Munteanu, Prof. Jeremy Packer, Prof. Michael Petitt, Prof. Aviv Shachak, Prof. Alan Stanbridge, Prof. Siobhan Stevenson, Prof. Jia Xue, Daisy Dowdall, Kathleen Scheaffer, Prof. Dimitrios Hatzinakos, Prof. Michelle Murphy, Paula Sanchez-Nunez de Villavicencio, Jason Batten-Carew, Jamie Duncan, Akram Wahdan, Calvin Won, Emma Puddicombe

1) Call to order and acceptance of the agenda, 4:12 pm

2) Acknowledgement of traditional land by Mckinzey Manes

3) Approval of the Minutes of March 21, 2019 (attached)
   The minutes accepted as recorded.

4) Business arising from the Minutes
   No business arising.

5) Communications Received
   None received

6) Dean’s Report
   Prof. Duff reported there were no further updates regarding the decanal search. Prof. Duff presented the annual Susan A. Brown Administrative Award to Anna Oh and Glen Menzies. Several staffing updates were reported, including new teaching staff and the status of current searches. Prof. Duff thanked all participants of the Inforum Review. Upon receipt of the reviewers’ report, there will be an administrative response. Prof. Duff also thanked all student leaders and representatives for their dedication and moving the Faculty forward.
   Prof. Howarth, on behalf of Council, thanked Glenn Cumming and Lari Langford for their contributions to the Faculty, its growth and new programs. She invited members of Council to join her in thanking Professor Duff for her service, and her exemplary stewardship of the Faculty during her term as Dean.

7) Reports from Council Committees
   a) Executive Committee
      • Constitution and By-Laws
         MOTION to approve revised Faculty of Information Council Constitution and By-Laws moved by Prof. Lyons and seconded by Stephanie Rose. All were in favour. Motion passed.
      • Committees of Council Chairs and Non-Student Members for 2019-2020
         MOTION to approve Committee chairs and non-student members for 2019-2020 moved by Prof. Duff and seconded by Hugh Samson. All were in favour. Motion passed.
         o Awards Committee: Prof. Leslie Shade (Chair)
         o Programs Committee: Prof. Kelly Lyons (Chair), Prof. Krmpotich, Prof. Foscarini, Prof. Seamus Ross, Prof. Matt Ratto, Stephanie Rose
         o Bachelor’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee: Prof. Matt Ratto (Chair)
         o Master’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee: Prof. Jenna Hartel (Chair)
b) Standing Committees

- **Awards Committee** (appended)
  Prof. Yu provided overview of appended report of committee activities.
  Prof. Ross reported that we are waiting the allotment for doctoral awards.

- **Committee on Standing** (attached)
  Prof. Lyons provided overview of the attached report, noting the exciting title changes requested by doctoral students indicates students are close to completion.

- **Programs Committee** (attached)
  Prof. Lyons indicated the attached plan document reflects committee’s workload for May

- **Master’s Recruitment and Admissions (M-RAC)** (attached)
  Stephanie Rose reported that we continue to have a strong admissions cycle and encouraged all faculty and students to mark their calendars for the upcoming Getting Started day on July 13. Prof. Duff reported the results of a survey of 190 incoming students to gauge their intended concentrations: 63 LIS, 62 ISD, 62 UXD, 49 HCDS

- **Doctoral Recruitment and Admissions (P-RAC)**
  No report received.

8) **Reports from Institutes**

   a) McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology (attached)
   b) Digital Curation Institute (attached)
   c) Identity, Privacy and Security Institute (attached)
     - Prof. Duff reported that a suggestion to renew directorship was received and follow-up meeting suggested but not further developments to report at this time.
   d) Knowledge Media Design Institute (attached)
   e) Technoscience Research Unit (none received)

9) **Other reports**

   a) Alumni Relations (none received)
   b) Careers Officer’s Report
  Alex Howes reported good progress with summer and fall co-op placements, 70% returning employers, new employers such as PWC, Siemens, Brookfield, and Survey Monkey.
  Prof. St-Cyr thanked Alex for an amazing job of pursuing contacts, promoting our students.
   c) Communications Officer’s Report
  Ann Brocklehurst reported successful turnouts for Lucy Suchman’s talk and Andrew Clement’s event; upcoming activities include the alumni reunion in May and heavy promotion for MMSt50 special events in the fall.
   d) Development and Advancement Initiatives (none received)
   e) Inforum
  Elisa Sze reported on the Play Well program, on behalf of Daisy Dowdall. The program launched in March and encourages play and creative activities for students to mitigate stress. Students would like to see this again during the next semester.

10) **Student Reports**

   a) MISC – McKinsey Manes reported that spring elections have taken place and results will be reported shortly.
b) MUSSA — Prof. Howarth read emailed notes on behalf of Emma Puddicombe, incoming president of MUSSA: upcoming activities include another trip to Ottawa in honour of MMSt 50 and orientation week workshops for museum students.
c) DSA (appended)
Madison Trusolino reported on upcoming social events and an ad-hoc committee regarding 5th year funding.

ACTION: Carol Lee will post an updated Council package with the appended reports, to the Faculty website within the next week.

11) FIAA Report
Heather McTavish reported on the success of recent events, and on plans for the upcoming alumni reunion in May; professional development and student conference grants have been awarded; OLA education webinars subscription has been renewed and provide more learning opportunities for alumni and students to access; the outstanding student award will be voted on in May.

12) Other Business
None to report.

13) Question period
Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis asked for Faculty support on what is or isn’t essential in relation to students opting out of student council fees. Stephanie Rose responded that more information is coming. Prof. Krmpotich, reporting as a member of the Academic Board, noted that clear guidance from the provincial government about fee structures is not yet available. Prof. Howarth noted that Prof. Krmpotich and Stephanie Rose will be able to serve as liaisons on this issue going forward, and may provide additional information to Council at subsequent meetings.

14) Announcements
Prof. Howarth thanked all members of Council, wished everyone well for June convocation and the summer break.

15) Adjournment, 5:05 pm
Faculty of Information Programs Committee Report – October 10, 2019

Report provided by Associate Dean Academic Prof. Kelly Lyons, Chair of Programs Committee. Since the last Faculty Council Meeting on April 24, 2019, the Programs Committee has completed the following:

The Programs Committee approved the following and brings them to Faculty Council for information:
1. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF315H Information Practice in Organizations
2. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF401H Practicum prep
3. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF312H Worlds Become Data
4. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF302H Integrative Approaches to Technology and Society
5. Minor Modification new course proposal: Special Topics: The Joy of Information
6. Minor Modification new course proposal: Special Topics: UX Research and Design for Video Games
7. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF3014H Cultural and Interpretive Methods for Media and Technology
8. Minor Modification new course proposal: Special Topics in Information Studies: Personal Recordkeeping and Private Papers
9. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF2308 Special Topics in Information Studies: Privacy Studies
10. Minor Modification new course proposal: Social Scientific Methods
11. Minor Modification new course proposal: Special Topics in Information Studies: R for Data Science
12. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF2301H Special Topics in Information Studies: Data Analysis of Social Networks
14. Minor Modification course de-activation: INF3901Y Cooperative Education Placement 1
15. Minor Modification course title and description change: INF3900H from Workplace Integrated Learning to The Emerging Professional
16. Minor Modification title change: MSL2331 Exhibitions, Interpretation, Communication

The Programs Committee anticipates the following work at the October 31 and November 14 meetings:
1. Review Guidelines & Procedures for the Student Evaluation of Teaching in Courses
2. Workplace Integrated Learning Placement Pilot Proposal for Student Evaluation of Teaching
3. Minor modification new course proposal: INF2210 Human Values in Data Science
4. Minor modification new course proposal: INF314H Information, memory and culture
5. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF353H Designing interactive systems
6. Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning
7. Museum Studies Proposed Changes – Program Objectives and Outcomes
8. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT Honours BA and Master of Information
9. Course review by program directors: remove courses that have not been offered in 5+ years

Also attached is the current draft of the 2019-2020 Programs Committee Plan for information of Faculty Council.
## 2019/2020 Programs Committee Plan

The following table highlights the planned tasks and expected timing for each; it is not meant as an exhaustive list of agenda items for each meeting of the Programs Committee. It is expected that additional tasks will be brought forward throughout the year and added to the agendas for each meeting.

**Last Updated:** October 4, 2019

October 4: added HBA-MI closure to Faculty Council Oct 10; moved Guidelines for student evaluations of teaching, minor mods (Munteanu, Coleman) to October 31; moved Global Scholars to Nov 14; added NDA for course instructors to Dec 5; added closure of BA-IDM program to Nov 14

September 30: added guidelines for PhD students taking master-level courses to Dec 5; added “BI policy and procedures for curriculum” and MI/MMSt thesis changes (new category “with distinction”) to April 30

September 27: added course proposal “R for Data Science” and moved student evaluation guidelines to Oct 3;

September 12: deleted Material Culture minor mod; added: BI course proposals; moved: course review by program directors, human values course

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Planned Tasks</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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| **July - August**     | 1. E-vote Approve Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics in Information Studies: Data Analysis of Social Networks (Abul-Fottouh)  
2. E-vote Approve Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics in Information Studies: Business Process Management and Mining (Senderovich) |                                                                                             |
| **Sep 12**            | 1. Review committee operations guide  
2. Review Programs Committee plan for 2019/2020  
3. Minor modification title change: MSL2331 Exhibitions, Interpretation, Communication (Mihalache)  
4. Minor modification new course proposal: Privacy Studies (Shade)  
5. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT Honours BA and Master of Information | Confidentiality letter for all committee members                                               |
| **Oct 3**             | 1. Minor modification new course proposal: Social Scientific Methods (Boase)  
2. Minor modification new course proposal: INF312H World becomes data (Abul-Fottouh)  
3. Minor modification new course proposal: INF401H Practicum prep (Suurtamm)  
4. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics in Information Studies: R for Data Science (Abul-Fottouh) | -remind faculty: minor mods for new spring/summer course should be submitted by ?           |
<p>| <strong>Faculty Council</strong>   | 1. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT Honours BA and Master of Information                                                                                                             |                                                                                             |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Agenda Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>1. Guidelines &amp; Procedures for the Student Evaluation of Teaching in Courses</td>
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<td>2. Workplace Integrated learning Placement Pilot Proposal for Student Evaluation of Teaching (Colin Furness)</td>
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<td>3. Minor modification new course proposal: INF2210 Human Values in Data Science (Shade)</td>
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<td>4. Minor modification new course proposal: INF314H Information, memory and culture (Ross)</td>
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<td>5. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF353H Designing interactive systems (Tang)</td>
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<td>6. Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning (Ryan)</td>
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<td>7. Minor modification new course proposal: Interaction Design (Munteanu)</td>
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<td>8. Minor modification new course proposal: Big Data and the City (Coleman)</td>
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<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>1. Course review by program directors: remove courses that have not been offered in 5+ years</td>
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<td>2. Global Scholars initiative (Caidi/Rose)</td>
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<td>3. IDM BA program closure</td>
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<td>Faculty Council</td>
<td>November 28</td>
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<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>1. Policy and guidelines for PhD students taking master-level courses</td>
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<td>2. NDA for course instructors</td>
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<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>1. Minor modification new course proposal: INF402H Practicum</td>
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<td>Jan 23</td>
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<td>Faculty Council</td>
<td>February 6</td>
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<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>1. MI program level outcomes</td>
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<td>Feb 27</td>
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<td>Mar 12</td>
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<td>Faculty Council</td>
<td>March 19</td>
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<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>1. BI policy and procedures for curriculum</td>
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<td>2. Possible MI / MMSst thesis changes (new category “with distinction”)</td>
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<td>May 14</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
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KMDI Report Oct 2019

KMDI - Semaphore Team

- Lee Wilkins, RA: makerspace workshops, Crafting Printers project
- Veronica Zaretski, RA: background research and preparations for grant applications
- Halla Imam, Work Study Digital Archiving Assistant: organizing technical library, logging equipment in labs, hosting Makerspace Drop in hours and other activities; UN Study RA, assisted with conducting and data cleaning for Children’s Digital Rights UN study.
- Jose Guzman, RA: assisting with Makerspace workshops/drop in hours
- Ammar ElAmir, Work Study Student Communications Assistant: updating the KMDI website, and other communications activities
- Pooja Brahmbhatt, Work Study Events Coordinator – assisting and promoting events organized by or in partnership with the Institute
- Adrian Petterson, RA: assisting with Accessibility Arcade and game jam event planning.
- RA (to be filled) – assist with Programming, Equipment and Facilities use for Research, Makerspace and VR Studio
- RA (to be filled) – Assist with Focus in Balance VR/MR research project

Research

- **UN Study: Children’s Rights in the Digital Age (May-Nov 2019)** Global collaboration providing the children’s consultation for an upcoming UN General Comment on children’s rights in the digital environment.
- **Crafting Printers (Fall 2019)**: Student-led initiative aimed at troubling and confronting gender scripts in maker technologies
- **Focus on Balance (Fall 2019/Winter 2020)**: investigating models and frameworks for conceptualizing and prioritizing “balance” in products and programs for kids that seek to incorporate VR/MR/AR.
- **Semaphore-KMDI Partnership (Ongoing)**: Collaborative effort to articulate and concretize the existing and emerging partnerships between Semaphore Labs
- **KMDI-Semaphore Pilot Study & Proposal Development Faculty Grant**, Drs. T.L. Cowan and David Nieborg, will soon be nearing the end of their grants, and will be providing us with a preliminary “report” of findings

Past Events (Summer 2019)

- KMDI was an official sponsor of this year’s Level Up event, a student game design exhibit and competition held annually at Design Exchange (April 2019).
- KMDI-Semaphore hosted the Antifascist Game Jam On May 5, 12 – 5pm on behalf of the Hand Eye Society. This event was in tandem with Game Curious Montréal, who were doing a month long jam with their own itch.io page. 25 jammers joined.
- KMDI-Semaphore participated in the University of Toronto’s official programming for Doors Open Toronto by opening (and operating) the Makerspace over the two days in May (2019)
- We participated in the official University of Toronto programming for Bring Your Children to Work Day (May 2019), and led the kids through a “design your own game controller” activity.
- We hosted and provided programming for two middle-school class field trips (June 2019).
- We held a Digital Embroidery “Lunch and Learn” for staff and faculty (July 2019).
Upcoming Networking Events

- Two networking events: The KMDI-Semaphore Holiday Party -December 13, 2019, KMDI-Semaphore Spring Luncheon will be held in late spring 2019.
- A KMD-CS Meet ‘n Greet for KMD-CS students was held Sep 19, 12:30 - 2pm
- Game Researcher Social, Sep 26, 2-4pm for faculty, students and staff involved in digital game research at the University of Toronto, Tri-Campus.
- VR Researcher Social, Oct, TBD
- Maker Researcher Social, Nov, TBD

KMD-CS Speaker Series

- Sep 28, 7-11pm, CHOASMOSIS mAchines, cosponsored with Drama
- Dec 5, 7-8:30pm, “Communism or Neofeudalism?” public lecture by Prof. Jodi Dean, Professor of Political Science at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Inaugural “Franklin Talk” (name TBC), collaboration between the KMDI, McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology, Innis College, Centre for the Study of the United States, and OISE.
- Dec. 6, 2-4pm, “Bodies. Deep Learning. - AI and A/I,” talk by Prof. Antje Budde, Creative research Director, Digital Dramaturgy Labsquared and Prof. David Rokeby, Director of the BMO Lab for Creative Research in the Arts, Performance, Emerging Technologies and AI, collaboration between the KMDI and the CDTPS Colloquia series, at the Robert Gill Theatre Lobby (214 College Street).
- Collaboration in a new series of talks/public events with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, called the Dangerous Ideas series.

Makerspace and Inforum Collaborative iSkills Series

- Sep 15, 20, 21, 26, 28, Oct 4 – 3D Printing
- Sep 26, Oct 3 – Intro to Arduino
- Sep 28, Oct 27 – Raspberry Pi
- Sep 29 – Alternative Controllers
- Oct 15 – Photoshop, Illustrator, Biz Cards

Also, weekly Makerspace drop in hours – Tue, 9 – 1pm, Wed, 1-4pm

KMD-CS

- A KMD-CS Committee Meeting was held in June that included affiliate department representatives.
- Olivier St-Cyr will stay on as Interim Director of KMD-CS until June 30, 2019

Meetings and Other Activities

- Executive Committee meeting was held Aug 19 to discuss future mandate of Institute
- A Media Lab Directors meeting will be schedule in late fall with Laura Levin, Director of Sensorium & Cindy Poremba, Director to Gameplay Lab for Potential Collaborations & Partnerships
- Research Equipment Lending Library is underway and will be completed in the fall
Overall Summary

This year MISC will be comprised of 28 elected Council Members (6 Executives, 9 Committee Co-Chairs, and 13 Representatives) and 5 Working Group Chairs. With a growing and increasingly diverse population of MI students, MISC’s main goals this year are to streamline the structure of our council and to increase outreach to our growing student body. We look forward to working with the Faculty of Information, MUSSA, the DSA, and various iSchool student groups to represent and advocate for current and future MI students.

Update on Membership

Student Choice Initiative

As a result of the implementation of the Student Choice Initiative, this fall is the first semester where MI students had the opportunity to opt out of what the government deemed to be “non-essential” fees. Two of these fees include the MISC Society Fee and the Tech Fund fee.

We are pleased to report a relatively low opt-out rate of 8.8% for the MISC Society fee, and 9.9% for the Tech Fund fee. The table below reflects the breakdown and numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACORN Invoice</th>
<th># of Opt-Outs</th>
<th>Total # of Students</th>
<th>% remained opted in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MISC Society Fee</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tech Fund Fee</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The winter opt-out period is tentatively set for November 1, 2019-January 20, 2020.

Elections

Our fall election cycle came to a close on October 3, 2019. 15 total positions were up for election (3 upper year, 3 first year, and 6 all-year). We received a total of 40 nominations, a steady increase from the previous years’ fall nomination numbers (34 in 2018; 9 in 2017; 22 in 2016). As a result of the Student Choice Initiative, voting and running were restricted to students who remained opted into MISC’s society fee. A total of 151 students voted (22% turnout).

Voting took place both online and through UofT’s U-elecT system, as well as in person in the Inforum at polling stations. MISC would like to thank both the Student Services office and the Inforum team for their support during our elections period.
### 2019-20 Master of Information Student Council Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>President</strong></td>
<td>Patty Facy</td>
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<td><strong>Executive Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Katy Czajkowski</td>
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<td><strong>Vice-President, Operations</strong></td>
<td>McKinzie Manes</td>
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<td><strong>Vice-President, Finance</strong></td>
<td>Jason Batten-Carew</td>
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<td><strong>Vice-President, Communications</strong></td>
<td>Gaurav Bamezai</td>
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<td><strong>Vice-President, Academic Affairs</strong></td>
<td>Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis</td>
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<td><strong>Mental Health Committee Co-Chairs</strong></td>
<td>Val Masters (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Lena Zhao (First Year)</td>
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<td><strong>Professional Development Committee Co-Chairs</strong></td>
<td>Hanna Granovsky (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Akram Wahdan (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Savannah Li (First Year)</td>
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<td><strong>Social Committee Co-Chairs</strong></td>
<td>Abigail Krueger</td>
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<td>Laura Windhorst</td>
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<td><strong>Survey Committee Co-Chairs</strong></td>
<td>Sharon Lam (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Grace Chen (First Year)</td>
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<td><strong>Faculty Council Representatives</strong></td>
<td>Patty Facy (ex officio)</td>
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<td>Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis (ex officio)</td>
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<td>Katy Czajkowski (ex officio)</td>
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<td>Eric Hanson</td>
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<td>Jillie Reimer</td>
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<td>Kaitlin Simpson</td>
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<td>Lily Clarke</td>
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<td>Victoria Yang</td>
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<td>Wing Lam Tse</td>
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<td><strong>UTGSU Representatives</strong></td>
<td>Patty Facy (ex officio)</td>
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<td>Katy Czajkowski (ex officio)</td>
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<td>Robyn Forman</td>
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<td><strong>Tech Fund Representatives</strong></td>
<td>Maya Pasternak (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Vipasha Shaikh (Upper Year)</td>
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<td>Emily Waknine (First Year)</td>
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<td><strong>First Year Social Representative</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Peng</td>
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<td><strong>MISC-MUSSA Liaison</strong></td>
<td>Sydney Stype</td>
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<td><strong>FIAA Representative</strong></td>
<td>Cher-Ann Chai</td>
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Committee Updates

Social Committee: Orientation

September 3-6, 2019

- A total of **350 students** attended our Orientation week events
- MISC Social Committee planned a total of **4 events**:
  - Day 1 (September 3): joint pizza lunch with MUSSA on Orientation Day
  - Day 2 (September 4): Amazing Race and pub night event
  - Day 3 (September 5): Trivia night at Hart house, with original categories based on UofT history, Faculty of Information history, and UofT Alumni.
  - Day 4 (September 6): Yoga in the Robarts Reflection room with MI student Chelsea Humphries

Professional Development Committee: Clubs Fair

September 18, 2019, 4:00-6:00 PM in the Inforum

- **20 student clubs** participated; **140 students** registered to attend
- Full list of 2019-20 iSchool clubs & associations:
  - Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS) @UofT
  - Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) - UofT Student Chapter
  - Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) - UofT Student Chapter
  - Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL) - Toronto Student Chapter
  - CDP Club
  - Film Club Over Here
  - iJournal
  - IM Conference and Inforum Hackathon 2020
  - iSchool Book Club
  - iSchool Fibre Arts Club
  - iSchool French Club
  - iSchool Podcast Club
  - The Science and Information in Society Reading Group
  - Librarians Without Borders (LWB) - UofT Student Chapter
  - MISC Diversity Working Group
  - MISC Mental health Committee
  - MISC
  - Musings
  - MUSSA
  - Special Libraries Association - Toronto Student Group (SLA-TSG)

Working Group Updates

MISC is pleased to announce the revival of the **Part-Time Students’ Working Group**, as well as the creation of two new working groups: the **Diversity Working Group**, and the **Accessibility Interests’ Working Group**. The
Diversity Working Group already hosted their first event of the year on September 16, the talk with Jarrett M. Drake, a PhD student from Harvard. Descriptions of each working group below:

**The Part-Time Students’ Working Group**  
**Co-Chairs:** Meagan Lau, Andrew Micak  
- The Part-Time Students Working Group shall look after the interests of part-time MI students at the Faculty of Information. This includes issues such as funding structures, financial aid, minimum and maximum completion periods, access to social and professional development resources, and/or whatever the Working Group deems appropriate. All MI students who are part-time students are encouraged to participate. The Group generally meets at least twice during the course of the fall and winter semesters, and at least once during the summer session.

**The Diversity Working Group**  
**Co-Chairs:** Tomoko Shida, Tamara Rayan  
**Project leads:** Stefanie Martin, Moska Rokay, Renee Saucier  
- The Diversity Working Group was formed to create an intellectual, professional and social safe space and network for like-minded BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour) and ally students and alumni of the Faculty of Information. We are also working to provide an alternative avenue through which iSchool students can engage in discussion about how colonialism and Eurocentric biases have shaped professional practice and the workforce in the GLAM (gallery, library, archives and museum) professions, and to eventually affect changes within the iSchool curriculum in order to ensure that all future graduates from the iSchool will be aware of and ready to identify racial inequity within their professions.

**The Accessibility Interests Working Group**  
**Chair:** Adrian Petterson  
- The Accessibility Interests Working Group strives to increase accessibility and inclusivity at the iSchool in order to support all students’ ability to thrive in their academic and extracurricular involvement in the program. The Working Group will collaborate with MISC, an iSchool clubs to organize accessible events and reduce barriers to extracurricular participation, advocate for students’ accessibility needs within the iSchool and wider student community, and solicit advice and support from the Accessibility Services office at the University of Toronto.

**Representative Updates**

**Tech Fund**  
In light of the Student Choice Initiative, the Tech Fund Committee, with the approval of MISC and MUSSA, have made the decision to restrict use and borrowing of Tech Fund technology to students who opted into the fee, and have amended their bylaws to reflect these changes. Students who opt into the fall-session fee would have access during the fall, and students who opt into the winter-session fee would have access during the winter and summer.
At this time, however, the infrastructure is not yet in place to easily verify which students have or have not paid into their fees; as a result, no restrictions are being enforced yet. Options are being explored, and the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students have suggested that a system could be in place by Fall 2020.

**Upcoming Tech Fund projects**

- Outreach campaign to encourage students to remain opted into the Tech Fund fee for Winter 2020
- Project in the works to upgrade technology and appliances in the student lounge

**UofT Graduate Students’ Union**

- On July 31, MI UTGSU representatives voted in favour of the UTGSU taking legal action against the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, as a result of the Ministry’s implementation of the Student Choice Initiative. The motion passed without opposition and legal proceedings are ongoing.
- Two MISC members were appointed this summer to a UTGSU Course Union Investigation Committee. The Committee was tasked with investigating alleged constitutional violations of a course union during their spring 2019 election period. The result was a 24-page report revealing 20 violations and five “areas of concern.” As a result of the report’s findings, the UTGSU General Council voted to remove the course union from the UTGSU.

**Other Events/Initiatives**

- 40 Information students met and attended the #ClimateStrike together. Photos of us and our signs are posted to our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Special thank you to Prof. Siobhan Stevenson for joining us!

**Upcoming Events/Initiatives**

- Outreach: weekly MISC “office hours” in the Inforum: planned for Tuesdays 12-1pm, details to be confirmed with Kathleen Shaeffer.
- Yoga at the Inforum with MI student and yoga instructor Chelsea Humphries. Tri-partnership with MISC, MUSSA and the Inforum. Seven (7) 30-minute, bi-weekly sessions held in the late afternoons in BL507.
- Goal to create an International Students’ Working Group this year.
- MISC is intrigued by a mysterious safe in our office that has no combination. We are looking into options to have the safe broken open. Due to interest from students and some faculty members MISC is considering turning the opening of the safe into an event.
Dear Faculty Council,

Here are the activities of the DSA since the previous Faculty Council meeting.

**Elections**

The DSA held its annual elections on September 16, 2019. Here is a list of new executives and committee members.

DSA Exec
President: Alexander Ross
Vice-President: Christine Tran
Secretary: Paula De Villavicencio
Treasurer: Lee Wilkins

Faculty Committees
PhD Recruitment and Admissions Committee Representative: Jaisie Sin
Committee on Standing Representative: Megan Hull
Programs Committee Representative: Natalia Toronochuk (alternate Monica Henderson)
Academic Appeals Representative: Katie MacKinnon
Awards Committee: Jamila Ghaddar

**Social events + Climate Strike**

The DSA held its annual potluck on September 18, 2019. It was good introduction to the iSchool for new students. A contingent of PhDs participated in the Climate Strike Rally and Protest on September 27, 2019. We had a good turnout for this event! Special thanks to MISC for giving us a rallying point.

**Current priorities of the DSA executive**

- Working with ULife to update the DSA website and make it a regular hub of useful information for iSchool PhDs
- Increasing communication and cohesion between iSchool PhDs. Overall, there is a decent amount of socializing, mentorship, and community among iSchool PhDs but this could always be increased. For example, I host a weekly graduate quiet writing session at the McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology. This could be one way of bringing everyone closer together.
- Identifying and closing information gaps. We’re exploring ways we could ensure that everyone is able to get correct, up-to-date information about PhD expectations and a few other areas. Some areas in need of clearer communication: Funding letters, expectations for TAships and RAships in relation to funding, ideal reading list length and composition for qualifying exams, and a few others.
- Exploration of further funding opportunities for iSchool PhDs in relation to conferences, field work or research (if possible).

These priorities will be updated in further consultation with members of the DSA Executive and iSchool PhDs. Hopefully, we can all work together to enhance the student experience at the Faculty of Information.

Sincerely,
DSA Executive Committee