AGENDA

1) Call to order and acceptance of the Agenda

2) Acknowledgement of traditional land
   We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates.
   For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and
   most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River.
   Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle
   Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

3) Approval of the Minutes of February 6, 2019 (attached)

4) Business arising from the Minutes

5) Communications Received

6) Dean’s Report

7) Reports from Council Committees

   a) Executive Committee
      • Nominations for Chair of Council
      • Motion to approve proposed bylaw change re: PRAC membership (attached)
      • Motion to approve committee chairs for 2020-2021
        o Awards Committee – Prof. Leslie Shade
        o Programs Committee – Prof. Heather MacNeil
        o Undergraduate Committee on Standing – Prof. Heather MacNeil
        o BRAC – Prof. Matt Ratto
        o MRAC – Prof. Jenna Hartel
        o PRAC – TBD
        o Undergraduate Academic Appeals Committee – Prof. Alan Galey
      • Motion to approve the proposed terms of reference for the Truth and Reconciliation
        Working Group (to come)

   b) Standing Committees
      • Awards Committee (attached)
      • Undergraduate Committee on Standing (attached)
      • Programs Committee (attached)
      • Recruitment and Admissions
        • Bachelor’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (B-RAC)
• Master’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (M-RAC) (attached)
• Doctoral Recruitment and Admissions Committee (P-RAC)

8) Reports from Institutes
   a) McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology (attached)
   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
    b) MISC (attached)
    c) MUSSA (attached)
    d) DSA

11) FIAA Report

12) Other Business

13) Question period

14) Announcements

15) Adjournment
COUNCIL

2019-2020 Session – 3rd Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 6, 2020 | 4:00pm-6:00pm | Room 728, Claude Bissell Building

MINUTES

Present:

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

Teaching Staff: Prof. Deena Abul-Fottouh, Prof. Agnieszka Chalas, Prof. Costis Dallas, Prof. Fiorella Foscarini, Prof. Jenna Hartel, Prof. Lynne Howarth (Chair), Prof. Cara Krmpotich, Prof. Kelly Lyons, Prof. Irina Mihalache, Prof. Velian Pandeliev, Prof. Dan Ryan, Prof. Arik Senderovich, Prof. Leslie Shade, Prof. Olivier St-Cyr, Prof. Karen Suurtamm, Prof. Tony Tang

Other Academic Appointment: Prof. Jasmine Rault

Librarians: Victoria Owen

Administrative Staff: Christine Chan

Senior Administrative Officers: Ann Brocklehurst, Chioma Ekpo, Anna Pralat, Stephanie Rose, Chris Scammell

Directors – Affiliated Units:

Doctoral Students: Alex Ross

MI Students: Patty Facy, Jillie Reimer, Lily Clarke, Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis, Wing Lam Tse, Katrine Czajkowski, Victoria Yang, Eric Hanson

MMSI Students: Emma Puddicombe, Natalie Heaton

BI Students: Komal Dhillon

Alumni:

Non-Voting Members:

Observers: Tomoko Shida, Oy Lein “Jace” Harrison, Lo Humeniuk

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. Nadia Caidi, Prof. Colin Furness, Prof. Rhonda McEwen, Prof. Matt Ratto, Prof. Seamus Ross, Prof. Siobhan Stevenson, Prof. Beth Coleman, Prof. Mary Elizabeth Luka, Prof. Sherry Yu, Nour Mokdad

On Leave: Prof. Christoph Becker, Prof. Matthew Brower, Prof. Juris Dilevko, Prof. Alan Galey, Prof. Patrick Keilty, Prof. Eric Yu, Kathleen Scheaffer

Absent: Prof. Periklis Andritsos, Prof. Chun Wei Choo, Prof. Sara Grimes, Prof. Heather MacNeil, Prof. Aviv Shachak, Prof. Sarah Sharma, Prof. Brian Cantwell Smith, Prof. Jia Xue, Daisy Dowdall, Prof. Dimitrios Hatzinakos, Prof. Michelle Murphy, Kaitlin Simpson, Manaal Mirza, Emma Findlay-White

1) Call to order and acceptance of the Agenda, 4:11 pm

2) Acknowledgement of traditional land by Patty Facy

3) Approval of the Minutes of November 28, 2019 (attached)

   The minutes were accepted as recorded.
4) **Business arising from the Minutes**

Prof. Howarth reported that the Dean has approved Daisy Dowdall to replace Kathleen Scheaffer as a member of the Programs Committee.

5) **Communications Received**

- Updates on the Faculty’s commitment to the call for action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) (appended February 6, 2020)

Prof. Lyons provided an overview of the appended report and noted that the previous report from 2016 is available on the Faculty website. Discussion included: previous offerings of the blanket exercise; the need for sustaining engagement of faculty and students; offering of more workshops; sources of funding; a suggestion to form a working group; and concern that a new working group will comprise only settlers.

**ACTIONS:** Prof. Lyons to update report to include doctoral students’ involvement with organizing Lee Maracle event. Prof. Howarth will convene the Executive Committee to initiate the forming of the TRC working group. Any members interested in joining the working group can email Carol Lee.

6) **Dean’s Report**

Prof. Duff provided an overview of: the external review process, and Faculty of Information self-study; updates on new website; new faculty searches. Discussion included: self-study process, upcoming focus groups, external reviews, actionable recommendations, data sources.

7) **Reports from Council Committees**

a) **Executive Committee**

- Notice of Motion: Proposed bylaw change re: PRAC membership (attached)

Prof. Howarth reported that the Executive Committee had convened to review the request for the bylaw change: revise the faculty membership of the PhD Recruitment and Admission Committee to read “up to six (6) Teaching Staff or Other Academic Appointees”. The motion will be put to a vote at the next Council on March 26, 2020.

b) **Standing Committees**

- **Awards Committee** (attached)

Prof. Shade reported upcoming meetings will address OGS awards and acknowledged S. Dang, S. Rose and C. Chan for their administrative support, student members and Prof. Mihalache for joining the committee. Discussion and questions included: awards for international students, minority students scholarship, ways to support marginalized and non-traditionally represented students.

- **Committee on Standing** (attached)

Prof. Lyons thanked Prof. Ryan for acting as Chair for the committee meeting on January 10, 2020. No discussion followed.

**ACTION:** C. Lee to update Faculty Council documents with “Undergraduate” Committee on Standing

- **Programs Committee** (attached)

  - Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program – ICCIT & Faculty of Information Interactive Digital Media Program, specialist option (attached)

Prof. Lyons provided overview of proposed closure: this is the formal closing of a program for which admissions and enrolment had stopped several years ago; worked with Provost and ICCIT to prepare proposal.
MOTION to approve the proposal for the closure of the Interactive Digital Media Program moved by Prof. Lyons and seconded by Prof. Shade. All in favour. Motion carried.

- Prof. Lyons highlighted, from the submitted report, items brought forward for information: museum studies student learning outcomes, university-wide non-disclosure agreement guidelines; deactivated courses; new course proposals; review of MI program outcomes.

- Recruitment and Admissions
  - Bachelor’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (B-RAC)
    S. Rose, on behalf of Prof. Ratto: thanked BI students for continued engagement in recruitment process; reported on current recruitment activities.

  - Master’s Recruitment and Admissions Committee (M-RAC) (attached)
    Prof. Hartel thanked committee and student services for creativity and passion; reported successful Information Days and acknowledged staff for organizing, faculty for concentration pitches, students for volunteering. Discussion and comments: representation of museum studies in event title; webinar participation; interest in CDP

  - PhD Recruitment and Admissions Committee (P-RAC)
    S. Rose reported that there are fewer spots available compared to last year and the review of applications has begun.

8) Reports from Institutes
   a) McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology (appended March 10)
      P. Facy provided overview of recent and upcoming events and publications.
      ACTION: P. Facy will share written report with C. Lee.
   b) Digital Curation Institute
      Prof. Dallas reported on upcoming events, incoming visiting scholar from University of Glasgow and announced DCI fellowship which includes a 1-year stipend.
   c) Identity, Privacy and Security Institute (none received)
   d) Knowledge Media Design Institute (attached)
      No discussion or questions.
   e) Technoscience Research Unit (none received)

9) Other reports
   a) Alumni Relations (none received)
   b) Careers Officer’s Report
      Prof. Howarth introduced Chioma Ekpo, Senior Careers and Outreach Officer. C. Ekpo reported recruitment for co-op and internship placements is underway, high engagement with alumni and strong interest in professional development activities.
   c) Communications Officer’s Report
      A. Brocklehurst reported the re-establishment of communications committee, recent media mentions of faculty members, requests for speakers on social media, and next edition of Informed magazine. Discussion included: accessible research, explaining research to the public.
   d) Development and Advancement Initiatives (none received)
   e) Inforum
S. Rose reported: Student Services staff have moved to the 4th floor office space, front desk services, hiring of students. Discussion included: hiring of librarian in future; possible exhibition to memorialize Inforum; iSkills workshops.

10) Student Reports  
   a) Undergraduate  
      K. Dhillon reported the undergraduate students have formed a design club.  
   b) MISC (attached)  
      P. Facy provided highlights from submitted report including upcoming events and student feedback on need for more awards, including for BIPOC students.  
   c) MUSSA  
      E. Puddicombe reported on upcoming events, end-of-year celebration, curatorial tours and Eco Club initiative for reusable dishware for events. N. Heaton reported that the Museum Professionals of Colour had held a general meeting recently and are formalizing their association.  
   d) DSA (attached)  
      A. Ross provided highlights from submitted report: previous events, return of PhD Research Days April 8 & 9 and acknowledgement of Faculty funding; concerns for 5th year funding and recent development that the Dean will form a committee on the financial health of doctoral students.

11) FIAA Report  
      C. Ekpo provided updates on recent events, alumni engagement and professional development opportunities

12) Other Business  
      Prof. Howarth proposed moving the next Council meeting to March 26 to avoid conflict with Prof. Smith’s book launch event on March 19.  
      ACTION: C. Lee will email confirmed meeting details to Council members as soon as possible.

13) Question period  
      None.

14) Announcements  
      S. Rose reported that the My Student Support Program (MY SSP) is now available to all students.

15) Adjournment, 5:50pm
Motion for Approval

Notice of Motion was presented to Council on February 6, 2020.

**Motion to approve** the following amendment to the Faculty of Information Bylaws of Council concerning the membership of the PhD Recruitment and Admissions Committee:

**Faculty of Information Bylaws of Council, Article 3, Section 7.1**

Council shall approve the membership of the PhD Recruitment and Admissions Committee composed of the following:

- One (1) Graduate Student from the relevant degree program
- Four (4) - Up to six (6) Teaching Staff or Other Academic Appointees

Ex-officio members:
- The Dean or designate
- The Chair of Council (non-voting)
- The Assistant Dean, Registrarial and Student Services
- The Secretary of Council (non-voting)
Committee Membership
Voting Membership:
1) Dean of the Faculty of Information – Prof. Wendy Duff
2) Full-time regular member of Teaching staff (prof rank) #1 – Prof. Leslie Shade (Chair)
3) Full-time regular member of Teaching staff (prof rank) #2 – Prof. Seamus Ross
4) Full-time regular member of Teaching staff (any rank) – Prof. Heather MacNeil
5) Assistant Dean, Registrarial & Student Services – Stephanie Rose
6) Member-at-large –Prof. Irina Mihalache (Jan-August)
7) Student representative (MI): Patty Facy
8) Student representative (DSA): Jamila Ghaddar
9) Student representative (BI): Olivia Birch

Non-voting Membership:
1) Chair of Council – Sherry Dang Lin

Quorum: Three members.

Committee Activity
So far this semester the Awards Committee met one time in person to discuss awards selection processes, with other business conducted over MS Teams and email.

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<td>Discussion about internal Awards Selection Processes</td>
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<td>March 24, 2020</td>
<td>Office of the Governor General Gold Academic Medal Award Nomination</td>
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<td>April 7, 2020</td>
<td>Susan Brown Staff Award</td>
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<td>April 13, 2020</td>
<td>OGS-Visa Doctoral Nomination</td>
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<td>April 13, 2020</td>
<td>Study in Scholarship international awards nomination</td>
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<td>April 13, 2020</td>
<td>Provosts Postdoctoral Fellowship</td>
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<td>Forthcoming</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>OGS-Domestic Application Selection Process</td>
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We are still waiting results from the SSHRC CGS-M and doctoral competitions.

Respectfully Submitted by Leslie Shade, Chair, Awards Committee
Faculty of Information Programs Committee Report – April 30, 2020

Report provided by Associate Dean Academic Prof. Kelly Lyons, Chair of Programs Committee on behalf of the Programs Committee. Since the last Faculty Council Meeting on February 6, 2020:

The Programs Committee reviewed the following and brings it to Faculty Council for information:
1. Methodology for the review of MI program learning outcomes

The Programs Committee approved the following and brings them to Faculty Council for information:
1. Minor modification new course proposal: INF4XXH Born-Digital Culture
2. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics: Data Governance in a World of Big Data
3. Minor modification new course proposal: Machine Learning with Applications in Python
5. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics: Storytelling with Data
7. Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning
9. Minor modification change INF2173H Information Professional Practicum from a graded course to credit/non-credit course

The Programs Committee anticipates the following work at the April 30th and May 14th meetings:
1. Minor modification new course proposal: INFXXXH Accessibility and Inclusive Design
2. Minor modification change several courses from Special Topics to regular course
3. Minor modification new course proposals for courses expected to be taught 2020/2021

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. Meeting Minutes contain record of approvals.

### Last Updated: April 20 2020

- April 20: add INF2240 to April 30; add INFXXXH Accessibility course to April 30
- April 13: add year-long project for UXD/HCDS; added items for e-vote
- April 1: added museum studies course and Irina’s course proposal
- March 10: added Usability Assessment: Concepts, Methods and Tools to March 12
- March 9: added new course proposals Data Governance for Big Data, Storytelling with Data and Machine Learning with Applications in Python to March 12
- March 3: removed “MI thesis ‘with distinction’”; moved INF402 to March 12
- February 24: added minor modifications for INF313H and INFXXX to Feb 27
- February 21: cancelled Feb 13 meeting, move MI learning outcomes to Feb 27
- February 4: added BI elective to March 12; moved INF402 to Feb 27,
- January 17: cancelled Jan 9 meeting; added INF402H and iSkills workshops to Jan 23.
- December 3: moved INF313 to Feb 27.
- November 21: moved “Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT - BA specialization in IDM” to Faculty Council Feb 6
- November 20: added “Approval of INF3XXXH Interaction Design” to Dec 5;
- November 15: moved INF2301 and INF314 to Nov 14; added “Approval for deactivation of courses” to Dec 5; added annual/cyclical tasks to Summer
- November 12: moved “Review change implementation process for graduate minor mods” to Nov 14; INF2301, INF314, Interaction Design, Big Data and the City, Global Scholars initiative to Dec 5; added INF3XXXH Interaction Design to Nov 14
- October 30: removed “guidelines for PhD student taking master-level courses”; moved INF314H, INF313H, interaction design, big data and the city to Nov 14;
- October 23: moved INF2210 to Nov 14.
- October 15: added “Designing UX for mixed realities” to Nov 14
- October 11: moved “Policy and guidelines for PhD students taking master-level courses” to Oct 31.
- October 10: added review of SGS change implementation process
- 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)   | Confidentiality letter for all committee members |
<p>| Sep 12     | 1. Review committee operations guide                                           |                                            |
|            | 2. Review Programs Committee plan for 2019/2020                              |                                            |
|            | 3. Minor modification title change: MSL2331 Exhibitions, Interpretation, Communication (Mihalaee) |                                            |
|            | 4. Minor modification new course proposal: Privacy Studies (Shade)             |                                            |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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| 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?”               |
|            | **Faculty Council October 10**                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                |
| Oct 31     | 1. Guidelines & Procedures for the Student Evaluation of Teaching in Courses  
2. Workplace Integrated learning Placement Pilot Proposal for Student Evaluation of Teaching (Colin Furness)  
3. Minor Modification new course proposal: INF353H Designing interactive systems (Tang)  
4. Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT — BA specialization in IDM  
5. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: Combined Degree Program — ICCIT Honours BA and Master of Information |                                                                                                |
| Nov 14     | 1. Review of courses that have not been offered in 5+ years  
2. Possible changes to committee planning and operations guide in light of changes to the implementation process for graduate minor mods  
3. Minor modification new course proposal: INF2210 Human Values in Data Science (Shade)  
4. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics—INF3XXXH Interaction Design (Munteanu)  
6. Minor modification new course proposal: INF314H Information, memory and culture (Ross) |                                                                                                |
|            | **Faculty Council November 28**                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                |
| Dec 5      | 1. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: CDP — ICCIT Honours BA and Master of Information  
2. Guidelines & Procedures for the Student Evaluation of Teaching in Courses | “new courses for spring / summer?”                                                               |
|            | 1. NDA for course instructors  
2. Minor modification: MMSt Program Learning Outcomes  
3. Global Scholars initiative (Caidi/Rose)  
4. Minor modification new course proposal: Big Data and the City (Coleman) |                                                                                                |
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<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>1. iSkills workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Council February 6</td>
<td>1. Proposal for the Closure of an Existing Program: ICCIT – BA specialization in IDM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Feb 27     | 1. Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning (Ryan)  
2. Minor modification new course proposal: INFXXX Born Digital Culture  
3. Updates on MI program learning outcomes review |
| Mar 12     | 1. Approve Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning (Ryan)  
2. Minor modification new course proposal: INF402H Practicum  
3. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics: Data Governance in a World of Big Data (N. Shahrin)  
4. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics: Storytelling with Data (D. Jorjani)  
5. Minor modification new course proposal: Machine Learning with Applications in Python (Senderovich)  
| Faculty Council March 26 | CANCELLED                                                              |
| April 9-16 | e-votes  
1. Minor modification new course proposal: Special Topics: Storytelling with Data  
3. Minor modification new course proposal: INF313H Computational Reasoning  
5. Minor modification change INF2173H Information Professional Practicum from a graded course to credit/non-credit course |
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<th>Task</th>
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<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>1. BI policy and procedures for curriculum</td>
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<td>2. Course proposal INFXXXH Accessibility and Inclusive Design (St-Cyr)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Change from Special Topics to regular course: INF2240H Digital Labour plus others</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>1. Minor modification new course proposal: Museum Studies (Mihalache)</td>
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<td>2. Other minor modification new course proposals for 2020/2021</td>
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<td>3. Other change from Special Topics to regular courses</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
<td>1. Review annual/cyclical tasks for the next year and add to plan if needed:</td>
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<td>- update operational guide</td>
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<td>- guidelines for student evaluations of teaching</td>
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<td>- deactivation of courses (every 5 years? Next cycle: 2024)</td>
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<td>- special topics courses transitioning to regular courses (every 3 years?)</td>
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<td>2. Review INF3006Y – how's it working, Faculty’s expectation, inconsistency in its application across advisors/students; more detailed guidelines about structure and meeting frequency may be appropriate</td>
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<td>3. Creation of year-long project-based course for UXD and HCDS (similar to INF2194Y); possibly change name of INF1601Y to UXD project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Faculty of Information Undergraduate Committee on Standing Report
April 30, 2020

Report provided by Associate Dean Academic Prof. Kelly Lyons, Chair of Undergraduate Committee on Standing

There were no items brought before the Undergraduate Committee on Standing since the last meeting of Faculty Council on February 6, 2020.

The next meeting of the Undergraduate Committee on Standing will be May 11, 2020.
MRAC Report to Faculty Council
April 20, 2020

MRAC Committee:

Members- Chair- Jenna Hartel, Karen Suurtamm, Deena Abulfottouh, Nadia Caidi, Siobhan Stevenson, Irina Mihalache, Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis, Michelle Wright, Stephanie Rose, Shiva Vaghei, Sherry Dang, Nadia Caidi

The Application Cycle:

We reached the application deadline on the 1st of April, with documents due on April 15th, so we are in the final review process for all candidates in the MMSt and MI programs.

Winners have been notified of their Admission Awards, and we are continuing to see candidates both award winners, and non-winners accepting their offers.

There is concern about the number of candidates who will decide to attend in the fall due to the impact of Covid-19 on the economy. Time will tell how things unfold with acceptances of our offers.

Events:

We offered two “Meet& Greet” sessions with admitted students on April 04 and we had between 60 to 70 students joined us live in each online section. The sessions were for 1.5 hour and the last 30 minutes was break-out groups so students could ask questions from the staff and students.

Our next virtual “Meet & Greet” takes place on May 02 and so far 72 have registered. There’ll be a cap of 85 attendees on that session since we are offering a 4th session on May 09.

Also in May, we are offering a series of introductory sessions with faculty liaisons and student volunteers, which you can find the list below: https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/faculty-of-information-at-uoft-29115998221. Event registration is still open, and students are beginning to fill those spots.

Communication and Outreach:

In consultation, MRAC and Student Services developed an integrated communications plan the places priority on transparent, operational matters to keep incoming students informed of any changes to the programs during the pandemic. We expect that ongoing messaging will continue about updates and changes to course delivery plans, as decisions are made.

We are offering virtual front-desk hours for incoming students, with hours starting May 14.

We have connected with MISC and MUSSA about communication materials that they have and we are having students work on a summer blog to engage with incoming students. Finally, we are engaging some faculty members on conversations with incoming students. There are a lot of things going on behind the scenes and we appreciate everyone’s assistance.
1. Director’s Summary
This report covers the activities initiated and realized during the 2019/20 academic year at the McLuhan Centre, such as: events/programming, research, publications, graduate student involvement, and ongoing projects. While much of our year-end programming in March/April was cancelled due to COVID-19, we’ve still managed to have a busy and successful year overall.

Our Working Groups were busy all year conducting research and planning events, and we’re continuing to integrate more PhD students into research activities at the Centre.

Our Monday Night Seminars have been packed all year with standing room only; we’ve now introduced a regular overflow room upstairs at the centre with audio-video feed to accommodate our growing audience.
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9. **Future Planning** ...................................................................... 10
2. Events/Programming

Our programming consisted of bi-weekly Monday Night Seminars, a day-long symposium, and several other talks and lunchtime seminars. Events are outlined below and on the McLuhan Centre website (www.mcluhancentre.ca). Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, three of our Monday Night Seminars and several working group events scheduled to take place in March and April 2020 were cancelled.

2.1. MONDAY NIGHT SEMINARS

Fall 2019-Winter 2020
Theme: #HotMessAge

Our annual theme, HotMessAge: Media Studies Takes the Call, addressed how media and technology are central to today’s pressing social, economic, and environmental situations. But media and technology are also part of forging new worlds while addressing these challenges. This year at the McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology we amplified some of the voices in Media Studies who offer hot takes with the cool possibilities of radical social change.

We hosted seven Monday Night Seminars from September 2019 until February 2020 (five in the fall term, two in the winter term), before event cancellations due to COVID-19. A total of 22 speakers were scheduled for this year.

2019-20 Monday Night Seminars (see links for full event descriptions):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Title</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Line Dead, Repair Calls September 23, 2019</td>
<td>Jayna Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steve Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlimited Family Plan October 21, 2019</td>
<td>Sophie Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted November 4, 2019</td>
<td>Cassius Adair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandy Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Line, Cold Call November 18, 2019</td>
<td>Yuri Furuhata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mél Hogan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Russill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call Forward December 2, 2019</td>
<td>Skawennati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancel Service, Remove Line January 27, 2020</td>
<td>Beverly Baim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sarah Hagi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christine Shaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elisha Lim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smooth Operator February 24, 2020</td>
<td>Sarah T. Roberts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monday Night Seminars cancelled due to COVID-19:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Title</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collect Call March 9, 2020</td>
<td>Finn Brunton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This Call May Be Monitored March 23, 2020</td>
<td>Anver Emon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tanner Mirrlees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barbara Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moska Rokay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2. FOR WHOM THE MEDIUM MATTERS

September 13, 2019 (10:00AM-5:00PM)

For Whom the Medium Matters is an annual event that brings together scholars and field-defining media theorists to build on the Toronto School tradition. These are scholars “for whom” the medium is central to their work and address “for whom” the medium comes to matter in different ways.

Keynote Speakers: Rena Bivens, Avery Slater

2.3. THE FRANKLIN LECTURE WITH JODI DEAN: COMMUNISM OR NEOFEUDALISM?

December 5, 2019

A lecture and reception for Jodi Dean’s book, Comrade (Verso 2019). Co-sponsored/organized by Innis College’s Writing & Rhetoric Program, OISE Department of Social Justice Education, the McLuhan Centre. KMDI, and the Centre for the Study of the United States. The Centre also hosted a lunchtime seminar with Jodi and graduate students from across UofT.
3. Research

3.1. WORKING GROUPS

This year the Centre received 12 working group applications and funded 8. The application for 2020/21 working groups will go out later this summer after we have assessed what types of activities the university might be able to support. We are working on how to sustain research activities for next year and hoping for some creative solutions or practices beyond just going virtual.

Full list of 2019/20 Working Groups:

Reprising the Real World of Technology
Co-Convenors: Leslie Regan Shade (Professor, Faculty of Information); Sara Grimes (Associate Professor, Faculty of Information, Director of the Knowledge Media Design Institute/KMDI and Semaphore Labs); Leslie Chan (Associate Professor, Centre for Critical Development Studies, University of Toronto Scarborough); Peter Pennefather (Professor Emeritus, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto and Visiting Senior Fellow, TRSM, Inclusive Media and Design Center, Ryerson University).

Sonic Spaces
Co-Conveners: Brady Peters (Daniels Faculty, Architecture); Charles Stankievech (Daniels Faculty Visual Studies); Lilian Radovac (UTSC, ICCIT); Liora Belford (Art History); Joseph Clarke (Art History); Lewis Kaye (UTSC, Arts, Culture, and Media)

The Consent and Its Discontents
Members: Kristen Bos (Technoscience Research Unit/Department of Anthropology), Michelle Murphy (History/WGSI/Technoscience Research Unit), T.L. Cowen (UTSC), Patrick Keilty (Faculty of Information), Jasmine Rault (ICCT, UTM), Fernanda Yanchapaxi (OISE), Subhanya Sivajothy (Faculty of Information), Aljumaine Gayle (Intersect TO), Sajdeep Somal (South Asian Visual Arts Centre), Nasma Ahmed (Digital Justice Lab)

Race, Media and Global Migration: Critical Studies in Contemporary Digital Media
Co-Conveners: Negin Dahya (Assistant Professor, ICCIT at UTM; Graduate Faculty, Faculty of Information, St. George) Neda Maghbouleh (Assistant Professor, Sociology, UTM); Nehal El-Hadi (Visiting Scholar, The City Institute, York University)
Members: Rula Kahil (Postdoctoral Fellow, Sociology, University of Toronto); Laila Omar (PhD Student, Sociology, University of Toronto)

You’re Deactivated
Co-Leaders: Julie Chen (Assistant Professor, ICCIT) + Alessandro Delfanti (Assistant Professor New Media, ICCIT)
Group members: Nicole Cohen (Associate Professor, ICCIT), Greig de Peuter (Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier), Julian Posada (PhD Student, iSchool), Brendan Smith (PhD Student, iSchool)

Digital Islamophobia
Lead Conveners: Zeinab Farokhi (University of Toronto); Tanner Mirleses (University of Ontario Technology); Yasmine Jiwani (Concordia University); Megan Boler (University of Toronto) Victoria Tahmasebi (University of Toronto)
The Global South Feminist Media & Archives School
Lead Conveners: Carina Guzmán (Faculty of Information), Chido Muchemwa (Faculty of Information), Mariam Karim (Faculty of Information and Women & Gender Studies Institute), Jamila Ghaddar (Faculty of Information), Henria Aton (Faculty of Information and Centre for South Asian Studies)

6 Place Toronto
Lead Convener: Petros Babasikas (Assistant Professor, Daniels Faculty of Architecture)
Members: Jamie Allen (Canada Research Chair in Infrastructure, Media & Communications, NSCAD), Heba Mostafa (Assistant Professor, History of Art), Charles Stankievech (Director, Visual Studies, Daniels Faculty of Architecture), and Mark Sterling (Director, Urban Design, Daniels Faculty of Architecture) Learn more at: www.6placetoronto.org

3.2. COURSES AT THE CENTRE
Over the 2019-20 year the Centre was used to teach four courses: two graduate-level courses at the Faculty of Information and two from St Michael’s Book and Media Studies Program.
4. Publications
Brief summary of recent publications from the Centre below. Please visit www.mcluhancentre.ca/research for detailed descriptions and links to each publication.

4.1. RECENTLY PUBLISHED
Many McLuhans or None at All
Edited by Sarah Sharma
Special Issue of Canadian Journal of Communication (Fall 2019)

Transnational Feminism in a Time of Digital Islamophobia: A conference report
By Zeinab Farokhi
Feminist Media Studies Journal

Log out! The Platform Economy and Worker Resistance
Edited by Alessandro Delfanti
Special issue of Notes from Below (Spring 2019)

4.2. IN PROGRESS

Transnational Feminism in a Time of Digital Islamophobia Special Issue
Edited by the working group and Jasmin Jiwani (Concordia)

MsUnderstanding Media: A Feminist Medium is the Message
Edited by Sarah Sharma and Rianka Singh
Duke University Press (Full manuscript submitted March 2020)

Preface: The Centre on the Margins
Sarah Sharma iv

Introduction to MsUnderstanding Media: McLuhan and Feminist Media Studies
Sarah Sharma and Rianka Singh 1

PART I: Retrieving McLuhan's Media

Transporting Blackness: Black Materialist Media Theory
Armond R. Towns 22

Sidewalks of Concrete and Code
Shannon Mattern 37

Hardwired
Nick Taylor 54

Textile: The Uneasy Media
Ganaele Langlois 74
PART II: Thinking with McLuhan: An Invitation

The Incubator and the Urge to Continuous Use
Sara Martel 90

WifeSaver: Tupperware and the Unfortunate Spoils of Containment
Brooke Erin Duffy and Jeremy Packer 106

“Will Miss File Misfile?” The Filing Cabinet, Automatic Memory, and Gender
Craig Robertson 129

Index Cards, Knitting Needles, and Computers Made of Paper
Cait McKinney 150

Spinning McLuhan: Spindles and Spinning Wheels in Three Geolocated Contexts
Radhika Gajjala, Tarishi Verma, Latha Tummuru and Rustina Untari 177

PART III - Media after McLuhan

Scanning for Black Data
A Conversation with Nasma Ahmed and Ladan Siad 193

3D Printing and Digital Colonialism
A Conversation with Morehshin Allahyari 210

Sky High: Platforms and a Feminist Politics of Visibility
Rianka Singh and Sarah Banet-Weiser 230

Afterward
Wendy Hui Kyong Chun 245-250

Bibliography
Contributor Bios
5. Student Research Opportunities

5.1. 2019-20 PHD FELLOWSHIPS
The fellowship program was last year created last year (2018-19) to realize part of McLuhan’s original plan and vision for the Centre. They are part of the Faculty of Information Doctoral Program and were awarded to incoming doctoral students whose research overlaps with research and scholarship taking place at the McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology. Our 2019/20 PhD Fellowship was award to Réka Gál.

5.2. MCLUHAN CENTRE GRADUATE READING GROUP
Alexander Ross, one of our PhD students, has continued running an interdisciplinary reading group for graduate students. Students met monthly to read and discuss a broad set of issues and ideas related to media studies. Each month featured a short reading and seminar discussion at the Centre.

Reka Gal has been hosting an apocalypse reading group at the Centre.

5.3. RESEARCH ASSISTANT OPPORTUNITIES
Rianka Singh (PhD student) continued working as a Research Assistant on projects related to McLuhan and media studies. This included working with the Director on a MsUndertanding Media edited volume.

Patty Facy (MI student) has continued working as the Program + Events Research Assistant over the last year. She provided logistical and administrative support for the events and seminars that took place at the Centre this year.

6. New Partnerships/Ongoing Collaborations
- Powerplant, Toronto
- MOCA, Toronto
- HKW, Berlin
- McLuhan Institute, Picton
- Canadian Embassy, Berlin
- SAVAC, Toronto
- Centre for Social Innovation, Regents Park
- Digital Justice Lab, Toronto
- DHN Network
- School of Cities
- Blackwood Gallery
- Night of Ideas, Art Museum

7. Sponsorships
- Graduate Student Conference (English)
- MEA association,

8. Continued Maintenance/Repair
- Our newsletter has over 1000 subscribers and is sent out periodically throughout the term to promote upcoming events.
- We converted a single offices space in the Centre into office space for 3 PhD students
• We are continuing to look into ways to make the Centre more accessible

9. Future Planning
I look forward to updating everyone and seeing what the future holds in terms of the best format and ways for the McLuhan Centre to continue with its research and programming momentum in an era of social distancing.
Research

- **Crafting Printers (Winter 2020):** Led by Faculty of Information PhD student Lee Wilkins, the Crafting Printers project aimed to pilot an established but understudied model for supporting more inclusive and diverse makerspace experiences. The data collection, which took place over the course of five, 3-4 hour workshops, held in January and February 2020, is now complete. Data analysis was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic but is now planned to take place in Summer 2020.

- **Focus on Balance (Winter 2020):** Completed the first phase of a new cross-sector research project examining how the idea of a “balanced” media/tech diet is, and could be, applied to reality-enhancing technologies including virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and mixed reality (MR) for and by children (elementary and middle school aged). The literature review, conducted by MI student Adrian Wong, is now complete, the prototype of a new AR application is in development. A comparative design analysis of existing VR children’s games and experiences will be conducted in Summer 2020.

- **UN Study: Children’s Rights in the Digital Age (Winter 2020):** Global collaboration providing the children’s consultation for the UN’s upcoming General Comment on children’s rights in the digital environment. The data analysis for Canada’s contribution, co-led by KMDI Director Sara Grimes and KMDI Executive Committee Member Prof. Leslie Shade, is now complete.

- **Accessibility Arcade (Winter 2020):** Led by MI student Adrian Petterson, and conducted in consultation with community stakeholders and advocacy experts, the Accessibility Arcade has now been updated, upgraded, and moved into the 4th floor KMDI Makerspace. The arcade is the focus of an emerging cross-sector partnership that includes academics from Uof T and Ryerson, maker groups, game developers, and non-profits with a shared interest in increasing accessibility in game making and play.

- **New: AR Sandbox (Winter 2020):** Led by MI student and Makerspace Programming Coordinator Michael Andreae, this initiative examines the use of AR Sandbox technology for accessible games/gaming. The sandbox is built, and our first project/program is planned in the form of a CSC494H1 Computer Science Project.

**KMDI - Semaphore Team**

- KMDI will be hiring a data visualization/graphic designer in the summer to further develop and extend our knowledge dissemination activities, create in-house graphics (for research communication/marketing/branding purposes), as well develop new data visualization (and visual communication) design workshops and course modules.
KMDI-Semaphore will be hiring a Summer Student Communications Assistant Work Study Position to assist with promoting the institute
KMDI-Semaphore will be hiring a Summer Events Coordinator Work Study Position to assist with ongoing events
KMDI-Semaphore is looking to hire a Data Visualization Graphic Designer in Summer 2020 to help with knowledge mobilization and knowledge translation relating to faculty research.
KMDI-Semaphore will be hiring a Lab Attendant/Program Support Work Study Summer Student to assist with Makerspace drop in hours and associated Makerspace activities
KMDI-Semaphore will extend Michael Andreae’s contract as Makerspace Programs and Research Coordinator over the summer, to continue developing new programming for the Makerspace when it reopens, as well as assisting in the development of the Institute’s new series of virtual workshops and talks (to be launched in the Fall 2020).

**Past Events (Winter 2020)**

- **A Makerspace Event: Relax by the Beach**, Presented by Play Well, in partnership with KMDI, Tuesday February 11th from 1-4pm, Wednesday February 12th from 10am-1pm, Makerspace. KMDI's AR sandbox was made available with a Kinect, projector, and 120 kg of sand. KMDI Research Assistants were on hand to answer questions about the Sandbox and the new Makerspace.
- **A Makerspace Event LEGO and 3D Pen Art**, Presented by Play Well, in partnership with KMDI, Wednesday February 12th 4-6pm, BL417 was a success. LEGO and 3D pens were on hand to play with. RA’s were on hand to answer any questions.
- **Feb 27, 4:30 – 5:30pm, Reception for** Nina Czegedly’s (KMDI Fellow) talk, “Vicissitudes of a Transdisciplinary Maverick.”
- **Cancelled by COVID-19**: Several events that were planned for March and April were cancelled or postponed due to the coronavirus shut down, including Faculty of Information Professor and Reid Hoffman Chair Brian Cantwell Smith’s book talk and reception (March 19, 2020); public talk and workshop by Abertay University’s Professor Darshana Jayemmanne (March 23-24); two events led by the Ursula Franklin Working Group, at UTM (March 13) and the St. George Campus (March 20) (in coloration with the McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology); a KMDI-Semaphore end-of-year lab social; additional Play Well events in the Makerspace; a VR working group event with researchers from OISE; and hosting an event showcasing Indigenous VR practitioners organized by the Doctoral Student Association.
Past KMDI Semaphore Speaker Series

- Nina Czegedly, KMDI Fellow, Feb 27, 3 – 4:30pm, Vicissitudes of a Transdisciplinary Maverick

Past Makerspace and Inforum Collaborative iSkills Series

- Create Your First iOS App: January 28th from 4.15-6.15 in the Gerstein Library MadLab
- Discover Arduinos: January 28th from 4.15-7.15 in 417
  A gentle dive into Git: The multi tool for saving, storing, publishing and sharing your work: February 1st from 1-4 in 417
- 3D Scanning, Yourself!: February 3rd from 4.15-6.15 in 417
- Computers without screens: Building with a Raspberry Pi - Beginner: January 26th from 2-5 in 520
  Computers without screens: Building with a Raspberry Pi - Intermediate: February 9th from 2-5 in 520
- Computers without screens: Building with a Raspberry Pi - Beginner: January 26th from 2-5 in 417
- Create Your First iOS App: January 28th from 4.15-6.15 in the Gerstein Library MadLab
- Discover Arduinos: January 28th from 4.15-7.15 in 417
- A gentle dive into Git: The multi tool for saving, storing, publishing and sharing your work: February 1st from 1-4 in 417
- 3D Scanning, Yourself!: February 3rd from 4.15-6.15 in 417
- Computers without screens: Building with a Raspberry Pi - Intermediate: February 9th from 2-5 in 417

Upcoming Events

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all upcoming events have been postponed or cancelled until further notice.
Progress Report & Updates:
1. Co-op & WIL Programming – By the Numbers
2. Student Support
3. Re-Engagement & Outreach Activities

1. Co-op & WIL Programming – By the Numbers as of April 22, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Total Number of Enrolled Students</th>
<th>Confirmed Placements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-op 2020</td>
<td>166 students</td>
<td>24 co-op student placements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSt Internships</td>
<td>60 students</td>
<td>• Summer 2020 = 8 confirmed internships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Fall 2020 &amp; Winter 2021 terms = 3 confirmed internships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI Practicums</td>
<td>Fall 2019 = 25</td>
<td>Fall 2019:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 75 practicums secured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winter 2020 = 54</td>
<td>Winter 2020:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 140 practicums secured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring 2020 = 60</td>
<td>Spring 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recruitment ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI Practicums</td>
<td>Summer 2020 = 16 students</td>
<td>15 students placed - breakdown:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 2 secured their own placements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 6 were placed at funded Faculty projects (paid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 1 was placed at a small art gallery in Toronto (unpaid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 5 were placed at three different Fin-tech start-ups in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto (unpaid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 1 was placed at a health informatics consultancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>in Toronto (unpaid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 student to be placed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Student Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Support Category</th>
<th>Participation Numbers Sept. 2020 - present</th>
<th>Themes/Concerns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-op Virtual Drop-in Sessions, Launched March 13, 2020</td>
<td>10 sessions offered 36 students participated - follow ups were schedule as needed</td>
<td>• Lack of postings available  • Covid impact causing withdrawal of offers  • Concerns around work permits and delayed processing times  • Balancing end of term academic demands with the demands on the recruitment side (time to apply to postings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual sessions - 10mins to 30mins per call/session</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSt Virtual Drop-in Sessions, Launched March 19, 2020</td>
<td>6 sessions offered, including one with Prof. Cara Krmpotich 25 students attended the 6 sessions.</td>
<td>• Lack of opportunities available, especially with the museum sector due to the closure.  • Covid-19 Impact - uncertainty around when Museums are reopening/hiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adjustments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Adapting existing internships to remote opportunities  • Summer course availability – students requested more MMSt course offerings in the summer, which was accommodated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student one-on-one appointments, 30mins to 60mins slots</td>
<td>239 - 35% where repeat appts.</td>
<td>• Interview preparation  • Job search/networking  • Resume/Cover Letter Review  • Co-op/Internship prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iSkills Workshops Jan 2020 to Feb 2020</td>
<td>Resume Writing &amp; Review (4/5 student rating) Personal Professional Narrative (4/5 student rating of the session) LinkedIn Clinic (4.6/5 student rating of the session)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Re-Engagement & Outreach Activities

**MI Practicums:**
- In collaboration with Vicki Whitmell, we will deliver a webinar on Friday, April 24, 2020 for the MI Practicum hosts. This will help us understand how we can further support them in creating meaningful remote experience for our students and adapting their projects to a virtual environment.
- Plan to connect with Professional Associations to assess opportunities for practicums

**Govt. funding for Co-op/WIL Recruitment & Faculty Co-op/WIL Hiring initiative**
- Through the govt. wage subsidy program, the faculty has expressed great interest in developing a range of co-op/internship/practicum opportunities to support our students and their ongoing professional development.
- To date, we have advertised 11 student positions, 2 have been filled. Currently, 3 are being developed and we expect to see more opportunities.
- In response to the impact of covid-19, the requirements for summer co-op have been changed to allow remote-only placements, with a minimum of 8 weeks/280 hours.
- To bolster our placement efforts, we are developing strategic partnerships with other departments and faculties, such as Statistics and Engineering, to encourage them to hire our students.

**Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Online Platform**
A vendor approval process is underway to purchase a CRM platform that will enhance the delivery of our student services/programs and industry/cultural partner engagement. Currently, our processes and systems are decentralised, using multiple tools and manually tracking recruitment activity and engagement. With a CRM platform, we will have a centralized platform to strengthen the delivery of our Co-op/WIL and professional development offerings, and allow us to provide a seamless and timely user experience for students, employers/hosts, and staff.

**FIAA Support & Student Professional Development Engagement**
In the winter 2020 term, we re-engaged our incredibly supportive alumni community to support the faculty’s student recruitment efforts through student-alumni panels. Similarly, through events such as Ask An Alum and the Human Library Event, our students had the opportunity to hear from alumni about their profession and learn strategies for mapping out a thriving career.

**Student Feedback on Programs & Services**
On Monday, April 20, 2020, Dean Wendy Duff held a virtual co-op student feedback session. Students were forthcoming with their experience and expressed areas that were positive and areas they felt needed to be improved. The Dean’s Office will review the discussion notes and work closely with the Careers Unit to assess and prioritise where improvements can be made to strengthen the delivery of programs and services.
All upcoming events can be found on the MISC website’s calendar.

Major Highlights since February

- **Wet’suwet’en Bake Sale** (Feb 26): we raised **$1561.25** in donations
- **Tech Fund Referendum**: MI and MMSt students voted to reduce our annual Tech Fund Fee from $50 to $40/year for full time students, $25 to $20/year for part-time students
- **Recent Events**: our last two events in March were our inaugural Alumni PechaKucha Night (March 10) and our Homelessness in Libraries webinar training session with Ryan Dowd (March 12).
- We held a **Virtual AGM + Town Hall** with student services and Dean Duff on March 19
- **Merchandise**: crewnecks, tote bags and stickers! More at misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/merchandise/
- Our [2019/20 Annual Report](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/2019-20-annual-report/) will be published on April 30, 2020

COVID-19 Initiatives & Resources

- Our COVID-19 webpage ([misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/covid-19-resources/](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/covid-19-resources/)) includes support such as:
  - Grocery/pharmacy delivery for MI students
  - Mental health resources compiled by our Mental Health Committee
  - A comprehensive [MISC Guide to COVID-19: Activities, Resources & Helpful Info](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/covid-19-guide/), compiled by iSchool students
- All events planned after March 16th, notably the 15th Annual Employer Showcase event and the End of Year Formal, were cancelled.
- We’ve been hosting weekly virtual happy hour events on Zoom to stay connected.
- We also want to thank Dean Duff for committing to hosting an iSchool-only convocation style ceremony and reception for the Class of 2020 once social distancing measures end.

2020/21 Election Results

- Our Spring election cycle took place in March/April to elect our upper year executives, committee chairs and representatives. [2020/21 Council term begins on May 1, 2020](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/2020-21-council-term/).
- Introduced two new International Student Representative positions this year.
- Faculty council reps and first year reps to be elected in the fall.
- See our [2020/21 Council member list here](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/2020-21-council-member-list/).

Annual Student Experience Survey

- Each year MISC sends a survey out to all students to gauge their experience with MISC and the iSchool.
- 162 respondents: 135 MI, 17 MMSt, 10 CDP
- Full report to be published on the [MISC Survey Centre](https://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/survey-centre/) in the coming weeks.

2019/20 MISC Outstanding Instructor Award

Nominations for the annual MISC Outstanding Instructor Award are submitted annually in the Spring by MI students. Students then vote on the recipient. The award winner is posted to the MISC website by the end of
April and presented with a framed certificate and gift at the iSchool’s spring convocation reception. Visit misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/instructor-award to read what students had to say about this year’s nominees!

### 2019/20 Instructor Award Nominees:
- Karen Suurtamm
- Dan Ryan
- Arik Senderovich
- Jenna Hartel
- Siobhan Stevenson
- Velian Pandaliev
- Rohan Alexander

### 2019/20 Council Sendoff
Want to recognize the hardworking students on our 2019/20 council for all of their hard work this year. Thank you as well to the iSchool staff and faculty for all your support, and especially the student services team for working tirelessly to help us through this year and the COVID-19 transition! On behalf of the graduating MI class, we thank you and look forward to reuniting for a post-pandemic graduation celebration.

Click here for our 2019-20 Annual Report (available on April 30, 2020)

### 2019/20 MISC Members (♀ indicates Spring 2020 graduate)

**Executives**
- ♀ Patty Facy - President
- ♀ Katy Czajkowski - Executive Vice-President
- McKinzey Manes - VP Operations
- ♀ Jason Batten-Carew - VP Finance
- Nicholas Lindsay-Lewis - VP Academic Affairs
- ♀ Gaurav Bamezai - VP Communications

**Committee Chairs**
- ♀ Val Masters - Mental Health Committee Co-Chair
- Lena Zhao - Mental Health Committee Co-Chair
- ♀ Laura Windhorst - Social Committee Co-Chair
- ♀ Abigael Krueger - Social Committee Co-Chair
- ♀ Akram Wahdan - Professional Development Committee Co-Chair
- Savannah Li - Professional Development Committee Co-Chair
- ♀ Sharon Lam - Survey Committee Co-Chair
- Grace Chen - Survey Committee Co-Chair

**Representatives**
- ♀ Cher-Ann Chai - Alumni Association (FIAA) Rep
- ♀ Sydney Stype - MISC-MUSSA Liaison
- Jessica Peng - First Year Social Committee Rep
- ♀ Vipasha Shaikh - MI Tech Fund Representative
MISC Report to Faculty Council - April 2020

- Maya Pasternak - MI Tech Fund Representative
- Robyn Forman - UTGSU Representative
- Lily Clarke - Faculty Council Representative
- Kaitlyn Simpson - Faculty Council Representative
- Victoria Yang - Faculty Council Representative
- Eric Hanson - Faculty Council Representative
- Jillie Reimer - Faculty Council Representative
- Wing Lam Tse - Faculty Council Representative

Working Group Chairs

- Tomoko Shida - Diversity Working Group Co-chair
- Tamara Rayan - Diversity Working Group Co-chair
- Andrew Micak - Part-Time Students' Working Group Co-chair
- Meagan Lau - Part-Time Students’ Working Group Co-chair
- Adrian Petterson - Accessibility Interests Working Group Co-chair
Master of Museum Studies Student Association (MUSSA)

Report to Faculty Council – April 30, 2020
Prepared by: Melissa Mertsis, President & Jordan Vetter, Vice President

Recent Events

Museum Professionals of Colour (MPOC) Association Established
- At their AGM on February 5, MPOC formalized their association with a vote to approve their constitution.
- Results of the official election of the 2020-2021 Executive Committee were announced April 3.
- For the upcoming school year, MUSSA will look to formally incorporate MPOC under MUSSA to have a representative on the council and to receive a portion of MUSSA’s funding.

Museum Studies Trivia Night
- There was a great turnout of first- and second-year students at Brewhaha Pub on February 13 as they put their brains to the test and participated in a friendly museum trivia competition.

Mackenzie House Curatorial Tour
- On February 27, a handful of MMSt and CDP students participated in a hands-on, behind-the-scenes tour at Mackenzie House, where they learned from the Curator and Historian ways to effectively engage the public on tours and through programming in smaller spaces and in historic houses.

MUSSA/MPOC Panel
- On March 12, MUSSA and MPOC hosted panelists Wendy Ng, J’net Ayayqwayaksheelth and Just John Samuels for “Museum Detox: Cleansing Institutions of Unconscious Bias and Developing Anti-Racist Praxis”. It was a powerful discussion breaching the topics of race, diversity, risk, oppression and power – and how institutions and individuals can be allies in the industry.

Student Exhibition Projects
- Second-year MMSt students have been working on their major Exhibition Projects over the course of the year, and many have launched online or had grand openings at galleries and museums in the region over the months of March and April.

Changes to Events due to COVID-19
- MUSSA/FIAA Mixer (March 26 at O’Grady’s Tap & Grill) – CANCELLED
- Professor Vasiliki Lunchtime Talk (April 2 at the iSchool) – RESCHEDULED
  - Hosted online via Bb Collaborate April 16
- MMSt Gala (April 7 at Hart House) – CANCELLED
  - Deposits for the venue were moved forward to book the space for end of next year
General Updates

End of Semester Financial Report
- MUSSA ended the year $27.01 over budget, but up $363.88 since the beginning of the year due to successful merchandise sales, and fundraising at the end-of-term celebration in December.

New Council Elected
- Elections for MUSSA’s 2020-2021 Council took place in March, with results announced on March 30. Introducing the new Council:
  - President: Melissa Mertsis
  - Vice President/GSU Rep: Jordan Vetter
  - Second Year Rep: Lindsay Chisholm
  - Social Media Manager: Hanna Schacter
  - Interim Social Chair: Chantelle Perreault
  - Alumni Committee Rep: Chantelle Perreault
  - Admissions Committee Rep: Madison Carmichael
  - Musings Administrative Editor: Jaime Meier
  - Musings Copy Editor: Erika Serodio
- Remaining roles to be filled in the Fall elections.

Future Activities

Fall Planning
- Getting the new MUSSA Council onboarded and preparing ideas for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Working with Faculty in light of COVID-19 to understand ways we can support current and incoming students in the program.