University of Toronto – Faculty of Information
Master of Information Student Council
November 13th, 2012; 4:00-6:00pm
Student Lounge, 7th Floor, Claude Bissell Building

Agenda

Present: Brooke Gardhouse, Sarah Anne de Groot, Ned Struthers, Melody Tacit, Laura
Sorbara, Kim Pham, Emily Porta, Pam Murray, Sanjin Kuduzovic, Laura Chuang, Jessica
Gallinger, Mari Vihuri, Ashley Bodiguel, Allison Moore, Kate Restivo, Wendy Traas, Gillian
Eguaras, Ramona Sansait, Darrell Joyce, Simren Singh, David Jorjani, Octavio Menchaca
Escalante, Alexandra Kwan.
Official Regrets: Nonna Volodina, Katrina Cohen-Palacios
Absent: Daniela Cancilla

Recorder: Alexandra Kwan

The meeting was called to order at 4.12pm with quorum established

1. Approval of Agenda
    Motion: Jessica Gallinger
    Seconded: Laura Sorbara
    Vote: Passed—Unanimous.

2. Reading and Approval of the Minutes
    Motion: Jessica Gallinger
    Seconded: Alexandra Kwan
    Vote: Passed—Unanimous.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes—NONE.

4. Reports by Executives:
    a. President (Jessica)
        i.   Introduction of guest attendees: Dean Seamus Ross (at 5pm), Bahram Farzady
             (GSU Funding Commissioner, will give presentation)
        ii. Announcement procedures: Jessica will be changing the procedures for email
             announcements because the digest is too long and repetitious between the weeks.
             Announcements may be repeated twice and no more than twice. Council
             members agreed that this is acceptable. Melody: Will you let people know about
             the changes? Jessica said that people will be notified. Once Jessica submits the
             guidelines to Mari, Mari will be updating the page of instructions for
             announcements.
        iii. Green iTea: Wednesday, February 27, 2013: Jessica has been trying to change
             increase the eco-friendliness of the student lounge. Laura C. will report on the
             organic bins MISC has installed. Based on conversations with the Sustainability

Office, this Green iTea's date will be February 27th, 2013. People interested in getting involved, please contact Jessica.
   iv. E-waste recycling status: Jessica has not yet received a response from the person who runs the e-waste recycling program. This program will tie-in with the iTea. Depending on how the e-waste recycling program works, could this have broader applications (e.g. in institutions like public libraries)?

b. Vice President (Laura)
   i. Update on compost bins (spoiler alert: they're here): The bins have arrived. There are green compost bins located in the 4th floor lobby outside the Inforum and in the 7th floor lounge. Please DO NOT put paper in them. If you have leftover food in your containers, please dispose it in the compost bins.
   ii. Approval of Mental Health Pamphlet by MISC: Laura C's pamphlet is a compilation of three emergency same-day hotlines. It is a collection of what iSchoolers say about anxiety, depression and how they cope. It's a lighter-hearted handout, but it should be taken seriously. It is meant to be a mental resource for students, to communicate that it is okay for students to reach out. Laura C. noted that it is a MISC document and needs approval by council. Later on in the meeting, Jessica mentions that this pamphlet does not need to be voted on. The handout will be shared with MISC members, and Laura C. encourages members to feel free to make edits. The mental health iTea will include CAPS—Laura has contacted Janine Robb (Executive Director, Health and Wellness). Laura has also contacted Inforum Librarian Nalini Singh, a former social worker, to see if she has anything to add. Laura C. is asking if fellow students are still willing to share advice on depression and anxiety.
   iii. Approval of letter to be presented to the faculty re: iTea raffle prize donation: Prizes for the raffle were not thematically appropriate last year. Laura has a list of suggested prizes (like scented candles, meditation classes, etc.) and plans to ask faculty if they are interested in donating. Laura S. asked whether this request be presented at the faculty council meeting. Jessica said she has access to the email list for faculty members and can send a message there.
   iv. Open Access Debate: At the University Affairs meeting, an access copyright debate was planned. However, the 'for' debater dropped out. Laura C. asked if council members knew anyone who would be capable of debating for access copyright. Former MI student, Melissa Bell, was suggested. Jessica suggested emailing Prof. Nadia Caidi. The debate will take place on January 16th 2013.

c. Secretary (Alexandra)
   i. MISC archival project: There are old files stored in the MISC Office which need to be appraised and preserved because they have historical value to MISC. Alexandra would like to recruit a volunteer (preferably an Archives & Records Management student) to help with this. Mari mentioned that Tech Fund files from 1998-99 have been found. Allison added that the Faculty has unearthed all its course calendars. Emily suggested storing them at the Internet Archive. Jessica suggested holding an exhibition at the end of the project, and to involve the FIAA too. Brooke inquired what capacity should the FIAA be involved.

Jessica suggested that FIAA could get involved in an advisory capacity, but could also help promote the exhibition event, which would take place during the Winter term. MISC will get back to them with more information. Those interested should contact Alexandra.

d. Treasurer (Sanjin)
   i. MISC Audit Exemption: Sanjin has completed the process to receive an audit exemption. It involved handing over financial documents in an organized form from the previous year.
   ii. Student Sponsored Initiatives (SSI): Sanjin has put up posters around Bissell, run notices in the MISC digest, and Mari has created the Funding page on MISC's website (http://misc.ischool.utoronto.ca/funding) to advertise this fund. However, there has been low response, likely because students are preoccupied. Sanjin would like council members to spread the word. Jessica asked which groups have applied for funding. Sanjin: so far, the iSchool Student Conference and the CYA group. Jessica noted that she suggested to groups to request more funding. She hopes that the fund does not run out of money before the semester ends because substantially more money has been requested by groups.
   iii. MISC Reserve Fund (MISC-RF): In contrast, the MISC reserve fund is not as restricted in terms of what you can request. More information can be found on the website.

e. Webmaster (Mari)
   i. Website redesign progress report: The process is almost complete. The development server has been set up, but Mari has not yet received FTP access to install modules or themes (Alex Dvornyak and Ivan Sestak have been contacted about this). She has talked to all committee chairs about what they want on their space on the website. Council members will see a demo once the layout and content have been established, and feedback will be solicited via e-mail.
   ii. Photos posted on the MISC Facebook page: huge jump in activity: Mari posted her pictures of recent MISC events. Jessica said facebook reported a 1000% increase of likes and people talking about MISC, and a 168% reach. This is a good way of getting people to come to the page. Jessica asked council members to invite their friends to like the page.
   iii. Mari will report on business cards and letterhead next time, noting that most members have received their business cards.

5. Reports by Committees:
   a. Academic Affairs (Allison)
      i. INF courses without class reps: The list of class reps is online as of Monday night. There has been slower response, but three more reps are to be added to the list as of Tuesday. However, there are 16 classes without reps! Allison has observed that the classes without reps tend to be taught by professors who teach multiple classes. She is working on coordinating a digital submission form instead of a paper form, but is unsure if actual signatures are important to MISC.

ii.   Status of class rep information on the MISC website: Prior to this year, the procedure to list the names of class reps and provide instructions to contact them using BlackBoard. Mari has put the names with email addresses on MISC's website to make it easier for students. This was met with positive response, since some professors do not use BB or have restricted the email-function in BlackBoard. Laura S. is a class rep and asked a professor to give her access to the class's contact list in order to contact students. Alternatively she has prominently posted her contact information on the classroom chalkboard. Laura S. inquired about the missing COMPASS evaluations from the summer term. Allison responded that she is only working on the new evaluation system.

At 4.39pm, Kathleen O'Brien arrived with James the photographer, to take promotional pictures for FI.

Students enrolled in full-summer (Y) and second-half (S) courses did not receive COMPASS evaluations. Allison: the plan is to implement U of T's evaluation software (which is amazing). Dean Ross would like this to be completed by December, but Allison does not believe this is possible because the questions to be asked on the survey still need to be selected. Prof. Cara Krmpotich brought this to the Faculty Council and more discussion is needed. The new system will not come into effect until at least April or the Summer.

iii.   Communication with class reps to date and issues identified: Reps should announce the events that are happening around the iSchool and general complaints/concerns about the course to Allison. Jessica suggested that reps doing in-class announcement should be given copies of Laura's pamphlet to distribute to students.

b.   Professional Development (Pam and Kim)
    i.   Professional Preparation Strategies session: Monday Nov 26, 12-1pm! Kim Silk: how to market your degree.
    ii.   Steve Krug session: Usability consultant. He will be holding a workshop here on November 28th. It is a $600 workshop. He will be at FI on Nov 27th to talk about web design. ISD and PD are both sponsoring the session.
    iii.   Employer Showcase update: It will take place in January during the first week back, from 12-3pm. Employers represent all paths of iSchool at this networking event. Good opportunity to meet employers and connect with professionals. Initial invites went out this week. Faculty will try to get more IT companies. For ideas about recruitment and employers, contact Pam and Kim. They would like to get 25 or so employers this year. Currently PD offers a business card service for students but there has not been much interest. Since people do not want 250 business cards, Pam called the company that makes them. According to the company, no matter how many cards students want, it will cost them $55. Council members asked if PD plans to offer other types of business cards. Pam said they were not going to because students can go to other online companies that print fewer business cards. Pam will be seeking volunteers for the employer showcase closer to the date, and would appreciate some help.

c. Social (Ashley & Darrell): the next Open Mic night is on Wednesday, November 21st at Sammy's. Ashley: Please spread the word— we've had good turnout so far and the event practically pays for itself. The co-chairs are encouraging people to come watch and/or perform, but have noticed that advertising is a major obstacle. Currently, they have been using the MISC website and posters. They have decided to advertise events via class reps and would like council members to tell people to come. On Friday, November 23rd, "Community Night" event will take place. Students can vote on which episodes to screen via the MISC Social Facebook page until Saturday (Nov 17).

   i. Bagel Bombs Update: this was set up in the lounge as a surprise. Students had bagels and coffee. The co-chairs count this as a success, noting that people were delighted. They will stage more in the future, and will collaborate with Laura C. to promote the Mental Health iTea. The Bagel Bomb events need to have a short advertising period beforehand; if it is advertised too much, they will run out of bagels. Also, an element of surprise is good. Kate asked whether gluten-free and vegan bagels are served. Ashley: Yes, the leftovers are in the freezer.

   ii. Upcoming Events promotion: the end-of-semester party is being planned, but need word-of-mouth to direct people to the website and Social's Facebook page. Laura S. commented that the boards beside the elevators are good spots for the ads. Ned: Can we combine the Inforum calendar with MISC calendar? Mari: we have a lot of things on our calendar already. Social: The end of term party is accessible. The December 12th end-of-semester party is at night. No date for a day party has been scheduled.

   At 4.53pm, skipped forward to the Tech Fund report.

d. Merchandise (Nonna)
   i. Contigo bottles: (read by Jessica). "Nonna is looking for someone to design an eye-catching logo for the Contigo water bottles. The logo doesn't have to relate to any previously existing logos, but it should be relevant to the Master of Information field. The logo needs to be 2x2 inches and designed as an EPS or AI file. If you can't do it but have a creative friend that is talented in graphic design I would really appreciate it."
   Laura S. asked whether the design have to be MISC's slogan. Jessica: No—it can be anything. Nonna wants something witty and appealing in a 2x2 square.

6. Reports by Representatives:
   a. Alumni Association (Brooke)
      i. Student Conference Grants: FIAA provides student conference grants up to a maximum of $500. The deadline is Nov 30, see (http://www.ischool.utoronto.ca/alumni/student-conference-grant).
      ii. Job Shadowing Program: this was offered last year. FIAA is currently organizing the program.
      iii. FIAA-joint Holiday Social: FIAA, SLA, TSLIS, and THLA are having their joint holiday social on Thursday, December 6th.

b. MISC-MSGSA Liaison (Katrina) – NO REPORT
c. Admissions Committee (Wendy) – NO REPORT
d. Faculty Council (Jessica et al.)
   i. Proposal to expand role of Faculty Council Representatives to serve as community outreach liaisons: Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next meeting.
e. Graduate Students' Union (Jessica, Laura, Ned)
   i. Special report by our GSU Academics and Funding Commissioner, Bahram Farzady: Open Access panel event will be held November 15th at OISE, on the 5th floor. The panel will discuss ideas on how to increase open-access publishing. Bahram is a Liaison with University of Toronto Libraries and SGS. He encourages students to check out GSU.ca for social events.

f. Student Tech Fund (Emily, David, Octavio):
   i. Content development payment approval ($3390): Despite that Tech Fund members were present to talk with the people running the workshop (Ladies Learning Code and HackerU, their for-profit wing), there was some confusion over the price. The amount that council members voted on last month was only half the price of the custom workshop. The workshop went really well and students were happy with it. TF was charged for the "Curriculum Development Phase", which entailed 40 hours of work by Instructor Ryan Bannon. Yet, TF felt the price was unjustified given the amount of content we received. TF will be asking for an itemized invoice. In the meantime, TF needs approval to pay for the other half of the delivered workshop.

      MOTION: To approve $3390 for the Curriculum Development Costs for a design workshop that already took place (Emily).
      Allison inquired about the cost of the workshops once the curriculum has been developed. Emily responded that future workshops would cost a flat fee about $3000; since the curriculum development fee would already be paid, future customized workshops would not cost that much again. Jessica pointed out that the motion should be passed to avoid legal trouble and that TF should continue to negotiate with LLC. It was suggested that future workshops may be used as leverage in negotiations. Jessica: by passing this motion, MISC will give TF the authority to resolve the issue.
      Seconded: Allison.
      Vote: Passed— 2 opposed.

   ii. HTML/CSS workshop ($3000 +tax) (January): Due to the last item, TF will not going forward with this HTML/CSS workshop.
   iii. Tech Fund party and design workshop recap: The TF party went extremely well. Many people contributed ideas. People also lingered afterwards. Emily emphasized the importance of obtaining alcohol permits early for events because it was incredibly difficult to get licenses on short-notice; however, the TF got their licenses in time for the event. The main idea that won was Puppy Day: a day when TF brings specially-trained dogs to a room in FI, so people can visit

them. The one-day event, and will likely take place at the end of the year.
Darrell inquired whether these would be adult therapy-dogs. Emily replied that
these would need to be certified therapy dogs, otherwise the event will not go
forward.
The other idea was an espresso machine, but it would require access to water
(perhaps the 5th floor?) and there are safety issues. Emily asked Jessica whether
the TF can have space in the MISC office to store items for future members.
Jessica said that the MISC office has space management issues at the moment,
but the TF can store their items for future members.
Susan Brown (Assistant Dean, Administration) is in charge of the amount of
money in the TF account; it is difficult for TF to obtain the funds because TF has
no access to its own bank account. The balance is forthcoming; however, before
the TF can purchase anything they must find out the balance. Due to lower
enrolment this year, there will be fewer funds because the money partially comes
from our tuition.

MOTION: Jessica motioned to endorse Tech Fund's appeal to administration for
their financial records, access to their bank accounts and past financial records,
and their investigation of options for future financial autonomy.
Seconded: Laura S.
Vote: Passed—Unanimous.

Melody inquired whether the espresso machine to be purchased by TF was
commercial grade or not. Emily said that TF has not yet investigated the models,
but the machine would likely be a household one. Melody pointed out that
espresso machines can be dangerous to users. If TF bought an espresso machine,
Melody was concerned that it would either not be powerful enough to create
good drinks, or it would be too powerful and burn someone if they do not know
how to use the machine. Simren commented that espresso machines often
breakdown. She asked if TF plans to supply the coffee too. Emily: Yes, TF will
be supplying espresso, K-cups too, but not milk or other coffee supplies. Darrell
suggested that there are companies that rent coffee machines for free in exchange
for purchasing milk and coffee supplies from them. He noted that Keurig
coffeemakers have poor quality, and that they break and leak. Allison responded
that she has a Tassimo which works quite well, and it is possible to recycle its
cups. Brian Cantwell Smith Ideas Exchange is supposed to have a Tassimo
machine for students, but this has been moved to Student Services due to
renovations on the 5th floor. Melody noted that there also used to be an electric
kettle which is no longer there. Emily: TF will get a new one and leave it in
lounge. Jessica pointed out that a cleaning plan is needed because the Lounge's
microwave is disgusting. She reminded council members that if items are
purchased, they need to be maintained. Emily said so far, TF has found many
reasons not to purchase an espresso machine. Melody suggested that buying a
high-quality coffee machine, coffee, and a kettle to make tea, this should be
sufficient for students. Simren added that an espresso machine is much more
expensive to upkeep and maintain. It is more cost-effective to purchase large

bags of coffee and tea from Costco. If there are more questions about espresso machines, please contact Emily.

Assuming that there are sufficient funds, the TF will be purchasing new technology. Currently students are dissatisfied with the Inforum's netbooks. The TF would like to get PC laptops as well as costlier laptops, which are specifically for design and gaming. Emily presented a list of items to council members which include: Macbook Pros, iPad minis, iPad 4s, and Dell XPS 15s (See Appendix 2).

MOTION: Emily motioned to approve the funds for purchasing these items
Seconded: Laura S.
Vote: Passed—Unanimous.

Dean Ross arrived at 5.18pm. Due to students leaving, quorum was lost at 5.56pm. See Appendix 1 for the Dean's discussion with MISC.

g. Information Services (Mari and Emily)
   i. Report on October 12th meeting: To clarify, Information Services Committee is where Inforum librarians and IT administrators/support staff report on Information Services. They have been operating without an IS Director (formerly Joe Cox). Last year, Elisa stepped in as acting Director; this year FI has no director. The Inforum presented a report on the extent to which the faculty is negatively impacted by the lack of Director. Dean Ross said one of the Inforum librarians needs to step into this role. Darrell inquired about the incentives for stepping into this role. For more information and the report, ask Mari for a copy. Status of the Associate Dean Academic role also arose during the IS meeting. Last year, Prof. Heather MacNeil was our Associate Dean Academic. This year, the role will be filled by the Dean's Advisory Group and/or Path Liaisons. The next IS committee meeting is on Thursday. The 5th floor issue was discussed at the last FC meeting. Since the Inforum needs a Director, IS lacks a clear vision for the future. The Dean suggested striking a new taskforce to create a new strategic plan, in lieu of a director.
   ii. Facilitating better communication between Information Services and Tech Fund: Emily and Mari will talk with Kathleen Scheaffer and Ivan Sestak about Inforum workshop offerings. Funds are limited; perhaps TF can coordinate with IS. According to the old TF reports (which were recently found), TF and IS used to be one entity. Over time, there was need to separate this because students wanted more autonomy. Currently, there is an opposite movement towards integration to enable better communication.

h. Life and Times Committee (Daniela—absent): (Read by Mari)
   i. iTeas booking complete
   ii. New rooms are now available for booking via WebEvent (507, 713, 321A, 622/640)
   iii. 7th and 3rd floor lobbies have been furnished for students
   iv. 7th floor kitchen is now equipped with a dishwasher

    i.   Programs Committee (Sanjin)
   i. Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) in alignment with ALA accreditation criteria: This was discussed with the Dean
   ii. Establishment of Subcommittee on Learning Outcomes
   iii. Proposed Guidelines on "Extra Courses not Required for Degree": This is ongoing.
   iv. iv) Still in Process - Paths to Concentrations (New Modification Proposals)

    j.   Committee on Standing (Simren) – NO REPORT

7. New business

Jessica asked Emily to confirm that the Tech Fund will be losing half its annual income because the University of Toronto will no longer be matching students' payments to the account. Emily has not yet heard from Susan Brown on the matter, but the Tech Fund is actively trying to get in touch with her.Darrell mentioned that Laura Jantek (Admissions and Recruitment Officer) wants more volunteers for FI's Information Night.

8. Adjourn: Motioned by Jessica,
   Second: Laura S.
   Voted: Passed—Unanimous.

   Carried at 6.20pm.

The Dean arrived at 5.18pm without an agenda. He invited students to ask him questions, Alexandra has grouped their concerns by theme below.

COMPASS Evaluations: Summer-term and Future System Replacement

Jessica inquired about the Summer-term's course evaluations. The Dean did not send out course evaluations, which are usually sent out during the last week of the term (to ensure the course is fresh in students' minds). Since the course evaluations were not sent out during this time, he decided to let it go. He can send out the evaluations if students really want them. Laura S. requested that he send them and emphasized that it is problematic to cancel course evaluations. Kate said that students would have appreciated notification about this, and that even the professors did not know why the evaluations had not been sent out. Mari added that students are worried about not being able to submit evaluations for the fall and winter terms. Dean Ross replied that the evaluations will come out and this term will be the last time COMPASS will be used. In the future, FI will be using the University of Toronto's system, which would enable FI to compare our program to others across the university. It can be used to measure performance against the outcome measures we have for our program. The system would allow instructors to ask questions of their own (privately to the students in their classes). FI also uses evaluations to consider promotions. Laura S. asked why the new system was not implemented for the summer term courses. Dean Ross responded that the summer instructors were not full-time faculty members, FI had some staff changes, and there were limited resources. Dean Ross said he would send out past summer course evaluations, given the feedback from council.

Technical Skills in the Classroom

Darrell asked about FI's plans to incorporate technical skills (e.g. use of software) into our curriculum. He pointed out that students will be using various systems and technology in our future careers, but feels technically ill-prepared to use them. Dean Ross acknowledged the issue and suggested students should encourage instructors to include technical skills in their courses. Ned: As students, if we don't know what software is being used, it's difficult to ask people about it. Dean Ross replied that Isidora (Careers Officer) wrote a report on what software and technical skills are useful for information professionals. Jessica noted that this report has not yet been released to students. Software is not taught in class because faculty are trying to help students acquire the background knowledge to use software in a changing environment. There is a concern that if technologies are taught to students, the technologies studied could become obsolete. Darrell countered that any kind of software training would help students learn other types of software. Dean Ross mentioned the Inforum workshops. Emily replied that these workshops have had negative responses. Dean Ross argued that the reviews for these workshops were positive, but Jessica pointed out that these results are likely influenced by selection bias (in which students who like the workshops are more likely to attendmultiple workshops and those who are dissatisfied will not attend past one negative review). Darrell said the workshop schedules are not helpful to commuter students, for whom the time saved from commuting outweighs the workshop learning experience. Simren argued that students are taught theory without fundamentals; thus we will not understand what the theories are meant to apply to in a

real setting. We are learning top-down instead of bottom-up. When we go out into the workforce, we will not know how to approach the software. Also, without any experience with software and technologies, we cannot apply it to theory. Mari inquired how students should effectively make faculty aware that technical skills are really important to us. Students care about course evaluations because they use it to communicate issues like this to instructors. A lot of what we learn comes from TF initiatives and what students are contributing on their own time—but it is not their job. Dean Ross suggested that MISC write a brief letter expressing concern on behalf of students— that the applied technology taught alongside theory in the classroom is insufficient. The Dean will take the letter and present it to the faculty as a starting point for discussion; this way it will appear on the faculty's agenda. It was asked whether the faculty are listening to what students are saying. Dean Ross responded by asking whether class reps are also listening to students. Simren pointed out that the issue has been raised many times, but nothing has been done since the iSchool has focused on other things (e.g., increasing enrollment) rather than addressing current students' concerns about their experience. The Dean responded that the enrollment has increased, but the iSchool increased the number of faculty by nine members in the last three years; thus, there is a smaller student-faculty ratio since he has been Dean. Dean Ross uses more sessional instructors and practitioners because students continually asked him about theory and practice, but noted that there should be a balance. He hears this complaint consistently, and tries to raise students' concerns continually. Jessica asked if anyone was responsible for looking at the correspondence between theory and practice. The Dean will raise it among faculty and look to the Programs Committee to see if there is sufficient technical knowledge in the new programs and existing courses.

Learning outcomes shaping the iSchool Curriculum

We have learning outcomes (approved by the ALA), in which faculty needed to answer how their individual courses contribute to the delivery of learning outcomes that the iSchool wants their students to achieve. When new courses come up for approval, the iSchool has representatives in programs committee to ask about the practical application to theory. Sanjin: In terms of learning outcomes, many of the courses (although aligned with ALA) do not reflect the urge to incorporate more technical aspects of curriculum. When a faculty member discussed the syllabi, Sanjin suggested asking students for feedback because students' learning outcomes may be much different from ALA's; however, there was no faculty interest to do so. Sanjin is trying to bridge the gap between student feedback and the Programs Committee, but other committee members have not demonstrated their interest. Simren pointed out that measuring outcomes is difficult when professors are expected to report their outcomes— the students' feelings are not communicated. Some faculty might be reluctant to change course design. She asked why there is no independent review of course outlines to assess them. A council member suggested that certain professors have a vested interest in keeping curriculum the same. The Dean strongly disagreed that there is a vested interest in maintaining the status quo, and that faculty members should be interested in giving students an education. There should be opportunity for students to assess each course's contribution to achieving the program's learning outcomes. Dean Ross emphasized the importance for students to feel they are achieving these, but only 70% of students in last year's graduating class feel they achieved the learning outcomes of the program. As a result, he wants to restructure the program to make learning outcomes more apparent. With respect to the TF, the iSchool's admissions and funding issues, Emily noted that the more

iSchool grads are not getting real jobs, the worse the iSchool's reputation will be in the future because students will tell others. TF has had massive demand for their workshops because they are teaching essential skills and students are expected to have practical knowledge. From the job ads, use and familiarity with software is a basic requirement—even a quick overview helps. Systems like Sirsi and MARC do not change that much. Ned said that the iSchool's name alone connotes a technical focus. Coming from another graduate program, he noticed the lack of communication between faculty and student bodies. Students want tech-skills, professors want to teach—what can be done to fix their relationship? He also observed a lot of anger among second-year students, and increasingly first-years. Dean: In 2009, 2010, and 2011, 85% of grads had a job in the area they graduated within 12 months of graduation. Isidora conducted the survey—job prospects for grads remain excellent. Allison noted that the evaluation's learning objectives will be useful for evaluating performance, and that some faculty members will be concerned by this. The Dean stressed the importance of implementing this new evaluation system and is determined to have this completed soon. Allison asked why students' learning objectives are shaped by ALA, when the majority are not studying libraries anymore. The Dean stated that this is complicated because the learning outcomes approved by ALA should be sufficient for any of the paths. Also, he believes it is bad for grads if ALA accredited one particular path/concentration instead of all of them. He expressed the need to work towards the overall program of accreditation, and wants to avoid segregation among paths. As an ISD student, Allison pointed out that her objectives are not the same as LIS students'. Dean Ross: The objectives should be broad enough to support all the paths. Sanjin argued that following ALA's guidelines has made learning outcomes too broad. Darrell suggested applying path-specific guidelines on top of the ALA guidelines. Evaluations could ask questions like: "Does this course give you confidence to be employable? Allison also noted that classes are defined by their stream. Dean Ross recommended that MISC lobby Patrick Keilty, who is looking to define five new courses in the LIS path/concentration and submit them in February. MISC should speak to Prof. Keilty to ensure students' concerns are on the table. If students are unhappy with Inforum workshops, they should lobby Kathleen Scheaffer, the Inforum's instructional librarian, who needs to know what students want. Emily asked if there were sufficient funds for this. Mari pointed out that IS does not currently have a director. Dean Ross: they have three librarians there and need to choose one librarian to act as the IS director. As members of council, Jessica noted that MISC does a lot of lobbying and will continue to lobby the Dean, because lobbying instructors has not worked. She emphasized the need for senior members of the Faculty to show leadership in this area.

Cross-listed courses: Taking Undergraduate Courses at the Master's level?

Jessica brought up that an individual student wants to take Computer Science course, but is has experienced administrative difficulties in getting credit for that course because it is not cross-listed. She asked Dean Ross if this has always been a problem. The Dean responded that the issue is that it is an undergrad course. Unless the course has includes something different to make it a graduate course, it cannot be recognized. Sanjin asked what happens if the student has no prior computer science experience? Dean: The argument will return to the student pursuing a bachelor's degree in that subject. He suggested that the student email directly.

Due to students leaving, quorum was lost at 5.56pm.

Path/Concentration Information on Student Transcripts

There is some confusion over specialization information on student transcripts. Dean Ross said that as soon as concentrations are approved by the end of November, then he will look into putting annotations on transcripts for students graduating with "paths". He will ask SGS about it, but he would like to get the concentrations approved first. A long-term solution is needed because Adriana cannot write hundreds of letters to confirm path specializations.

iSchool Graduates and the Job Market

Ned: There is anger in the program for a variety of reasons. Something needs to be done to open more dialogue to tell professors what students need. Dean Ross emphasized that students can email him directly, and that he never refuses a students' appointment. To make an appointment, students should contact his secretary Bisa Lovric (bisa.lovric@utoronto.ca). He does not understand why there is such anger, and want to know what the iSchool is doing wrong because an education experience should not make students feel regretful. Ned: a lot comes from fear because the job market is grim. There needs be more focus on where people go, what skills they need, and more guidance on courses and marketable skills.   There needs to be more engagement with students' concerns—post-iSchool— especially because the iSchool is marketed as a professional degree. Ned cited the Project Management course as an exemplar. Dean: We had 1200 jobs on our website. The majority were jobs that iSchool students were qualified to do, so students should not be fearful. He also noted that a lot of second year students last year waited until March/April to look for jobs and strongly recommended that students start earlier. Simren noted that the future is dire for librarians, but it is not that people aren't aware of the disconnect. There is no accountability for professors to bring about change when students provide feedback. Ned added that most students are at FI for only two years. Dean Ross pointed out that the only way for change to occur is to bring up bottom-up pressure and bring culture-change about. For example, the Project Management course used to be offered one section per year, and often faced under enrollment. After the Dean's conversations with Toronto and Hamilton Public Libraries, in which they said that students do not know project management, so more people began taking Project Management. The Dean urged MISC to speak to Patrick Keilty because he has the drive and vision in the LIS field. MISC needs to help him understand why its important to students so that there can be a balance between faculty's years of experience and students' perceived needs.

Concluding Remarks

Jessica expressed to council that Dean Ross advocated to remove the core courses last year. If the FI had a different Dean, the core courses might still be required. Regarding last month's letter re: simultaneous 1st/2nd year enrollment, Jessica met with the Dean to talk about student concerns. As a result of his (and Student Services') receptiveness to those voiced concerns, the first and second-year students had separate enrollment dates of the Winter 2013 term. Jessica thanked the Dean for attending the MISC meeting to hear and address student concerns again.

The Dean left at 6.10pm and the council meeting resumed its agenda.

Appendix 2: Tech Fund document presented to MISC

NOTE: the following are retail prices, actual prices may be lower

8 x Macbook Pro 13" non-retina display laptops with the following specs:
cost: $1499 + 194.87 tax = $1693.87 each (1229.00 from the bookstore   13" non-retina i7)
Total cost: $13550.96
Processor: 2.9GHz dual-core Intel Core i7 processor (Turbo Boost up to 3.6GHz) with 4MB L3 cache
Memory: 8GB of 1600MHz DDR3 memory
Storage: 750GB 5400-rpm hard drive
Graphics: Intel HD Graphics 4000
Camera: 720p FaceTime HD camera
Connections and Expansion: Thunderbolt, Ethernet, two USB 3 ports, firewire port, headphones, etc.
Operating system: OSX Mountain Lion

2 x Macbook Pro 15" with 256 GB SSD and retina displays with the following specs:
Cost: $2799.00 + $363.87 tax = $3162.87 each
Total cost: $6325.74
Retina display screen
Processor: 2.6GHz quad-core Intel Core i7 processor (Turbo Boost up to 3.6GHz) with 6MB shared L3 cache
Memory: 8GB of 1600MHz DDR3L onboard memory
Storage: 512GB SSD
Otherwise like the 13" non-retina

2 x iPad mini with the following specs:
Cost: $329.00 + $49.35 tax = $378.35 each
Total cost: $756.70
One black, one white
Wi-fi only
16GB
7.9-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit Multi-Touch display with IPS technology
Chip: Dual-core A5
Front and back video and still camera, video recording in 1080p
battery: up to 10 hours web surfing

3 x iPad 4s with the following specs:
Cost:$599.00 + $77.87 tax = $676.87 each
Total cost:$2030.61
2 black 1 white
32GB
wifi only
retina display
Dual-core A6X with quad-core graphics
Battery: 10 hours surfing
front and back video and still camera, 1080p on back, 5mp camera on back, 1.2 mp on front for Facetime

9x Dell XPS 15s with the following specs:
Cost: $1699.99 + $221.00tax = $1920.99 each
Total cost: $17288.90
With a Full HD screen, blu-ray player and 2GB graphics this 15" laptop now comes with Windows 8 for the ultimate multi-media experience.
core i7
windows 8
8GB memory
750 GB HD

1x Dell XPS 15 with a 128GB SSD with the following specs: <mark>(can't find this one???)</mark>
Cost: $

1x Dell swivel thingy
can we put this off until next time, watch this video: http://www.theverge.com/2012/11/9/3620558/new-windows-8-devices-on-the-verge-episode-010