Report of the Museum Studies Masters Program Admissions Committee to the Faculty of Information, Faculty Council Meeting, Dec. 5, 2008

Chair: Lynne Teather, Members: Cheryl Meszaros, Jennifer Carter, Judy Dunn and Valerie Gapp as Student rep.


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<tr>
<th>Student Applications- Target for Sept. 2009</th>
<th>Begun Admission Process</th>
<th>Completed</th>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>21</td>
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The first work of the Chair was to meet with Judy Dunn and Laura Jantek to go over the admissions process, review the upgrades to the SAM system and consider how it could best help our Committee. We have also discussed admissions criteria in our MS Faculty meeting, held every Monday morning with all MMSt. Faculty and sorted out the financial aspects of making offers to applicants through Fellowships and Student Assistantships.

Museum Studies also participated in the recent Information Nights of the Faculty. Members of the Admissions Committee plus our acting director Lynne Howarth, Faculty member Matt Brower, and four Museum Studies current students spoke to about 40 people over the 2 nights. We’ve had numerous follow-up emails and have a number of meetings with applicants over the next two weeks, including one student interested in taking the Ph.D. with a Museum Studies emphasis. The format of the Information Night was particularly effective this year, thanks to Judy and all of her staff, and we are hoping that we can continue using the same structure as it allowed a personal engagement about the specifics of our Program and the application process.

As conveyed in the accompanying table, as of Dec. 4, 75 students have started their process of admission to the Museum Studies, and 21 have paid the admission fee as we work towards an intake of 35 students. These numbers indicate that we are ahead in numbers compared to this date last year.

We are now setting up our first admissions committee meeting (in the next 14 days TBA) to discuss the admissions process, and criteria for selection, as well as to provide orientation to those who need help with the SAM admissions system. We hope to begin review of the applicants early in January (and probably sooner) in order to be able to make offers to the most qualified applicants.

We are looking forward to reporting on our success to future Faculty Council meetings in the New Year.

Respectfully Submitted
Lynne Teather,
Chair MMST Admissions Committee