MSGSA– Report for Faculty Council, June 15, 2012
By Caitlin Tracey-Miller (President)

Current Incoming Council (Elections for remaining positions will be held in the fall):

President
Caitlin Tracey-Miller
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Vice-President
Claire MacDonald Matthews
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Second-Year Representative
Brittany Holliss
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MSGSA Winter 2012

1. Events
   a. Montreal trip in January
      i. Trip included visits to museums and a group tour of the CAA (Canadian Association of Architecture)
      ii. Group spent time with students from the Museum Studies program at the University of Quebec.
      iii. In the meeting afterwards, students were happy with the trip and felt that it had been worthwhile.
      iv. An article about the trip, by Claire MacDonald Matthews, was published in CMA Muse Magazine.
   b. End of Term Pub Night in April
   c. Spadina House Tour
   d. Visit to the “Secrets of their Ancient World” Exhibit at the ROM

2. Mentorship Program
   a. Over the summer, we are organizing the mentorship program for the fall. It will pair first year and second year students based on interests. Last year’s mentorship program was well-received. We are also working to plan welcome events and fall elections.

3. The Musings Newspaper
   a. “The Musings” is underway, and will be taking the form of a blog. A call for submissions went out in January, and a few responses were received. It will be going live soon, and will be easy to update throughout the year as content is received. Rachel Wong, an incoming second year, helped out with the design and website. Musings will be linked to the MSGSA website.

4. MMSt Hoodies
a. Melanie Derschowitz, last term’s second year representative, organized MMSt hoodie sales. They used the Faculty of Information hoodie, but added MMSt to the sleeve. They were well-received by the students.

5. Looking Forward
   a. In the final meeting of the year, the council sat down and discussed goals and plans for the coming year. A few of these plans are described below.
      i. There are plans to finish the Survey discussed in the last report: “The MSGSA is creating a survey that will gather information on the current state of the Museum Studies Program as seen by the students. The goal is to produce a comprehensive diagnosis of the program upon which future changes may be based. We hope to have every single student enrolled in the MMSt program and CRO fill out the survey.”
      ii. Continued committee work and museum studies representation.
      iii. In an effort to increase transparency, the MSGSA’s budget will be posted on the website and the website updated. (http://msgsa.weebly.com/)
      iv. The council will work hard to increase the visibility of the MSGSA and make sure that students have their voices heard.
      v. MSGSA will continue to build connections with MISC and collaborate on events.
      vi. MSGSA will plan social events and museum visits. We hope to create an event specifically for mentors and mentees early in the term, so that people can meet each other.
      vii. The MSGSA will consider charity opportunities and goals.
      viii. The MSGSA will discuss the constitution and any suggested changes.
      ix. Name Change
         • The MSGSA voted in favour of a name change for the student council. The council believes the current name to be inaccessible to most students and faculty. The council will be brainstorming various options over the next few months and researching the feasibility of this change. Any change will be voted on at the next Annual General Meeting in September 2012.