Museum Studies Student Association (MUSSA)  
Report to Faculty Council October 18, 2013  
Submitted by Robyn Bosnyak (President)

In addition to ongoing committee representation and monthly meetings, MUSSA would like to report on the following updates:

1. Name Change

After the results of a student survey conducted last year, the name of our organization was officially changed to the Museum Studies Student Association (MUSSA) on September 12, 2013 at our Annual General Meeting.

2. Election Results and 2013-14 Council

- **President** - Robyn Bosnyak  
- **Vice President** - Lauren Williams  
- **Social Chair** - Melissa Smith  
- **2nd-Year Representative** - Nora Venezky  
- **1st-Year Representative** - Nicole Ritchie  
- **Secretary** - Abigail Baker-Bigauskas  
- **Treasurer** - Lily Jackson  
- **Musings Co-Editor** - Cat Waszczuk  
- **MISC-MUSSA Liaison** - Sanja Ljaskevic  
- **Admissions Committee** - Marianne Williams  
- **Alumni Association** - Robin Nelson  
- **Graduate Students Union** - Lauren Williams  
- **Information Services Committee** - Vacant  
- **Life and Times Committee** - Cady Moyer  
- **Programs Committee** - Kaitlin Normandin  
- **Committee on Standing** - Kristen Atkins  
- **Tech Fund (2nd Year)** - Desiree Fuller  
- **Tech Fund (1st Year)** - Jordan-na Belle-Isle

3. New Shared Office Space

The MISC Office in Room 624 has been converted to a shared office space for MISC and MUSSA. We have transferred our documents and supplies from the cabinet in the 6th floor hallway to the office. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Dean Ross, Susan Brown, Glen Menzies, Octavio Escalante and the rest of MISC for helping to make this happen.

4. New Musings – Student and Faculty Blog

The student-run blog Musings ([http://musingsmmst.blogspot.ca](http://musingsmmst.blogspot.ca)) is undergoing some remodeling to become the new student and faculty blog for the Museum Studies program. Professor Irina Mihalache is the new faculty liaison for the blog who will coordinate with our Musings Co-Editor and help manage an editorial team of students. The blog will act as a source of information for interested students, as well as feature exciting initiatives and projects taking place in the Museum Studies program.

Website: [http://mussa-ischool.weebly.com](http://mussa-ischool.weebly.com)  
Facebook: [http://fb.me/mussa.ischool](http://fb.me/mussa.ischool)  
Twitter: @MUSSAToronto
5. Class Trip to Washington, DC

The annual MMSt trip will take place from January 11-15, 2014 in Washington, DC. We will be traveling by coach bus with approximately 45 students and have plans to visit the monuments, the Holocaust Museum, the American Museum of Natural History, and hold a Museum Studies Alumni event. We will also be hosting a number of fundraising events throughout October and November to help subsidize travel costs.

Organizers: Robyn Bosnyak, Lauren Williams, Melissa Smith
Attending Faculty: Irina Mihalache (Lead Organizer), Cara Krmpotich, Matt Brower, Costis Dallas, Alan Stanbridge

5. Student Initiatives

1) Alumni List/Job Shadowing Program
We are continuing the process of working with the Alumni Association to develop a comprehensive MMSt Alumni list in the hopes of introducing a job shadowing program for Museum Studies students in the Greater Toronto Area.

2) Class Representatives
We are revamping our approach to class representatives to ensure that there are open lines of communication between students, professors, and MUSSA. We would like to introduce a mid-term check-in and end-of-term report submitted by class reps.

3) Annual Student Survey
We will once again be conducting a student survey during the year. This year’s survey will likely take place during the second term and be conducted online.

6. Upcoming Social Events

1) Halloween Party - October 31st in Room 728

2) Behind-The-Scenes Museum Tours
We are organizing a series of educational museum tours for students throughout the year. Our first behind-the-scenes tour will be at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

7. Financial Support for iSchool Student Conference

The student organizers of the 2014 iSchool Student Conference Information In Formation presented their ideas to our council at our first meeting of the year on October 9, 2013. We are in the process of negotiating our financial contribution, but are looking forward to another great conference.

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