Elections and Meetings

The MSGSA held elections and the Annual General Meeting in September. During the AGM, the MSGSA voted to amend the constitution with minor changes and discussed plans for the year. Museum Studies students also committed to positions on committees, and have been actively serving on those committees. The MSGSA council has met twice, once in October and once in November, and committee representatives reported during these meetings.

The MSGSA applied for a head grant from the Graduate Student Union, and received the first installment of funding. This funding will make the plans for the year possible.

Musings
The museum studies online blog, “Musings,” is now being regularly updated. The editing team wrote a submission policy and is encouraging submissions and student participation. (http://musingsmmst.blogspot.ca/)

Student Survey
The MSGSA will be distributing a survey to first and second year students beginning December 4th. The survey will ask students for feedback on what they would like to see from the MSGSA, as well as their thoughts about what is working well and less well in the program. There will be a follow-up meeting in January. Students will be invited to a moderated forum where they can share ideas. The goal is to create a space where all voices are heard and documented.

MSGSA Website
The first year representative updated the website. The MSGSA is continuing to submit content, and will be emphasizing the website and encouraging use. (http://msgsa.weebly.com/)

MSGSA Name Change
The MSGSA is currently distributing a poll to see if students would like to change the name of the MSGSA to something easier to remember. The winning name will be announced before the end of the term.

MISC/MSGSA Collaboration
The MSGSA has enjoyed increased collaboration with MISC this semester. The joint Open Mic Nights on the third Wednesday of the month have been successful and enjoyable, and there are plans to continue them into the winter. The MSGSA also partnered with the MI mentoring program for a tea and cookies event for mentors and mentees. These events are a wonderful opportunity to develop relationships across disciplines.

Social Events
The MSGSA has planned a number of social events this term, including opening and end of term pub nights, and a tacos and games night in the student lounge.
Other:

The MSGSA has organized the sale of business cards for interested students.

Members of the MSGSA participated in the recent Info Nights for Prospective students on November 15 and 20th, 2012.

Looking Forward

The social chair is in the process of planning the museum studies trip to Ottawa in January, as well as a variety of winter events and outings.

The MSGSA plans to increase social media presence, including a possible twitter and more regular use of the MSGSA facebook page.

The MSGSA is hoping to encourage increased connection between alumni and current students. Students responded with enthusiasm to the museum professionals itea and the recent networking events hosted in the Inforum.