Assignments

Ari
- Will have proposal by March 11 for hosting and whatnot, will be having more calls

Ealasaid
- Bob's rules of order rewrite for pillars

Jenn
- Send huge Moodle doc to everybody - MStar Overall Resources.
- Write up invitation to join pillars, send to Steering before it gets posted
- Start a thread on Moodle about research projects

Starr
- Starr & E will look into rentals and stuff

Ryan
- Schedule meeting with teaching pillar, get requirements to steering by next meeting

Minutes for 2/11/17 Steering Committee Meeting

Present: Starr, Jenn, Ealasaid, Nancy, John, Ari, Ryan
Facilitator: Jenn is next in the alphabetical rotation

- Facilitator leads breathing and prayer
- Approve previous meeting's minutes
    - General consensus: yes
- Follow-up on action items from last time:
- **Ari**:
    - Had a call, Sandra will be the point person for money stuff
    - Will have proposal by March 11 for hosting and whatnot, will be having more calls.
- **Ealasaid**:
    - Waiting on Sarah for wiki
- **Jenn**:
    - Doodle poll for retreat dates – put it up, sent reminder
    - Is in communication with Lyssa, will get things set once we have a date for the retreat
    - Has started thread on Moodle for research projects but not posted.
    - Is composing a call for people to join pillars, will send it to Steering before posting.
    - Travel fund
        - May not have time for a fund, but maybe a sliding scale.
        - Suggestion to put out a call for people to donate airline miles
        - Carpooling needs to be set up – Ealasaid and Starr will look into it.
- **Nancy**:
    - Pillar information gathering
        - Temple and Tech: Ari, Sandra (anchor), John, Lyssa, Laura morningstar-mystery-school-maintenance@googlegroups.com
        - Teaching & Curriculum: Ryan (anchor), Ealasaid, Tony, Nancy, Nikolai, Lyssa, someone called web of one

- Alumni & Research: Jenn (anchor), Starr
    - Been working on Elements curriculum, almost done.
- **Ryan:**
    - Sent out Bob's rules, but it's pretty specific to steering. Ealasaid to rewrite it for the pillars.
    - Requirements for teachers: not finalized.
    - Jenn: what is next step?
        - Ryan: going to have a call asap at a time everybody can make and come up with a definitive, written doc for steering in a month.
- Pillar Check-Ins
    - Alumni & Research – Already covered except = Starr joined the pillar
    - Teaching & Curriculum – everything already covered
    - Temple & Tech – everything already covered.
- Retreat Check-In – committee is Ari, Tony, Jenn, Starr, been talking through email. Poll out for one more week, Starr & Jenn talking around theme of weekend. Next, bring theme and other plans to Steering, school, Thorn for input. Probably 6/8 or one of the last weekends in July.
    - Starr: suggestion to pick a recurring time for the retreat, like "the 2nd weekend in June." To be discussed at retreat.
- Any New business
    - Starr: we gotta get the docs into a form and location where we can find things!
        - Ealasaid: we need a single source of truth, maybe the wiki can be that once we have it.
    - Discussion about a place (Zoom or Moodle) to discuss unusual things that happen to us with our MStar peers. General consensus this would be a good thing.
    - Discussion about what "projects" are (both in terms of our monthly checkins and as the research part of Alumni and Research pillar. It's important to have a way for new people to bring their knowledge into the school. We're not a tradition of the book.
    - Discussion about establishing group boundaries – if issues/disagreements arise, we can dig into them and examine what's happening. It's Twin work – wrestle until we return to love.
- Facilitator-led prayer and breathing to close

Full Notes

Present: Starr, Jenn, Ealasaid, Nancy, John, Ari, Ryan
Approve the minutes – general consensus: yes
Facilitator: Jenn is next in the alphabetical rotation

- Facilitator leads breathing and prayer
- Approve previous meeting's minutes
  - General consensus: yes
- Follow-up on action items from last time:

- **Ari**:
  - Temple & Tech tasks, in particular, who will be the budget liaison and doing a regular link update
  - Had a call, Sandra will be the point person for money stuff
  - Will have proposal by March 11 for hosting and whatnot, will be having more calls.
- **Ealasaid**:
  - Update Bob's Rules of Order and send out.
    - sent
  - Set up wiki for Steering once Sarah hands it over.
    - No word
- **Jenn**:
  - Doodle poll for retreat dates.
    - Put it up, sent out reminder. June/end of July is winning
    - Will talk with retreat committee once a date is picked. Giving the poll another week.
  - Talk to Lyssa about cords when we have a timeline for the retreat.
    - Is in communication w/Lyssa
  - Thread on Moodle about research projects & will compose a call for people to join the Pillars and send it around to Steering members before posting it
    - Has started, not finished
  - Travel fund
    - Don't know if we have enough time to do it for this retreat; might be able to do some kind of sliding scale.
    - Starr: hard to cut costs for people from east coast, wants to put out a call for airline miles if anybody has 'em. Someone helped Starr that way in the past, hopefully can help folks who won't be able to make it otherwise.
    - Ryan: having some kind of carpooling – Ealasaid happy to help out, Starr & E will look into rentals and stuff.
- **John**:
  - Ping Starr – Star kind of pinged herself :D
  - all good.
- **Nancy**:
  - Pillar information gathering
    - Having trouble getting info, gonna do it now!

- Temple and Tech: Ari, Sandra (anchor), John, Lyssa, Laura
  morningstar-mystery-school-maintenance@googlegroups.com
- Teaching & Curriculum: Ryan (anchor), Ealasaid, Tony, Nancy, Nikolai, Lyssa, someone called web of one
- Alumni & Research: Jenn (anchor), Starr
- Been working on Elements curric, almost done. Lots of good stuff on the Moodle.
- **Ryan:**
  - *Reach out to Teaching & Curriculum Pillar about Bob's Rules and teacher selection*
  - *Get a meeting for the Pillar scheduled*
  - *Send out a call for teachers once the criteria is approved.*
  - Sent out Bob's rules, but it's pretty specific to steering. Suggesting to rewrite it for the pillars.
    - Ealasaid will do it
  - Requirements for teachers: been discussing it. Currently, elements and planes, should start prep for demon work. Doesn't think we should require demon work to teach.
    - Makes sense to have a different set of criteria for teaching advanced material, but right now the focus is on elements and prep for elements. Will deal with advanced stuff later.
    - Hasn't had a teaching meeting this month yet, working on it
  - Nancy: Driving factor on teacher requirements isn't whether she can teach or not, it's getting our butts in gear and getting classes started. How we teach beyond elements is an issue to figure out, but we gotta get this done. Deciding factor on requirements needs to be the quality of the school
  - John: how does this work?
  - Ryan: teaching drafts requirement, runs past steering for input, then adopts. Pillar is then autonomous with exception of approving new teacher – run the name past steering with two weeks' notice before making it official.
  - Nancy: teaching criteria has already been approved – was approved a while ago and is on the moodle.
  - Jenn: found it on the moodle. It's all in one huge document, though, which is why it was hard to find.
  - Crosstalk
  - Nancy: the teaching criteria we're talking about is indeed an overall criteria, has a bunch of other stuff.
  - Jenn pulled it up: 1) completion of core curric, 2) embodyment of Mstar core practices, 3) agree to adhere to code of ethics (which is in the same doc).
  - Convo for what counts as core has already happened, long discussion about it, was decided along with Thorn, core curric goes through planes but not demon work; teachers would commit to doing demon work in the future.
  - Jenn will send Moodle link around to everyone. It's enormous.
  - Ealasaid will look back in notes to find the convo about it with thorn.
  - Jenn: what is next step?
    - Ryan: going to have a call asap at a time everybody can make and come up with a definitive, written doc for steering

- Jenn: when can we have the doc?
- Ryan: within a month, we need to put out a call for teachers and schedule classes!
- Pillar Check-Ins
  - Alumni & Research – Jenn still has stuff from last time, including posting a call; Starr joined the pillar, woo!
  - Teaching & Curriculum – everything already covered
  - Temple & Tech – everything already covered.
- Retreat Check-In – comm is Ari, Tony, Jenn, Starr, been talking through email. Poll out for one more week, Starr & Jenn talking around theme of weekend. Next, bring theme and other plans to Steering, school, Thorn for input. Probably 6/8 or one of the last weekends in July.
  - Starr: we gotta pick a regular time for the retreat so people can set calendar in advance. Maybe talk about at the retreat, then w/school online, something like "every second weekend in June"
- Any New business
  - Starr – we gotta get the docs into a form and location where we can find things!
    - Ealasaid: once the wiki is set up, can put things there.
    - Nancy: things really grow massively and get reposted over and over, it gets hard to find things and it's embarrassing to not know where things are – especially when new people join
    - Ealasaid: we need a single source of truth, maybe the wiki can be that once we have it.
  - Ari: wants a place to discuss weird shit – need a place to discuss unusual things that happen with our peers in Mstar. Somewhere to be acknowledged and heard and get feedback.
    - Starr: yeah. If you just announce it in news and have Sarah add a thread called something like "weird stuff," people will show up. Host zooms, etc. about it.
    - Ari: zoom may be easier than writing people up.
    - Starr: Ari could come join the bones discussion – we're talking about ancestors more than bones. It's a space to talk with and about the ancestors. Invite Ari to join.
    - Nancy: definitely wants the weird shit thread. :)
    - Jenn: ancestor work isn't explicitly taught in Mstar, but it's foundational in general.
    - Nancy: this sounds like something for the research pillar. :D
    - Starr: yeah, the pillar needs to figure out what the projects *are*. People are posting about smaller stuff but thought the original intent was for larger-arc-of-life-related stuff, big research projects.
    - Jenn: yes, that was the hope for the pillar is that the projects/research would keep the school vital and keep us from turning into a religion-of-the-book.
    - Nancy: has stuff she's doing that would probably count as research/project . If we're a school that teaches stuff and expects people to bring it to the rest of our lives – we gotta support that.

- Starr: yes! New people don't just come in and soak up info, we want them to teach us stuff they know that we don't.
- Nancy: Thorn clearly wants us to share this stuff with more people, we need to make sure we don't lose sight of that.
- Ryan: need to be clear what Mstar is about so it's clear what's our path and what's not
- Starr: Thorn put it something like, when asked what a project is, said how does Mstar feed that work and how does that work feed Mstar. Ancestor work is like that, we've always had ancestor stuff in Mstar, but it's really sparking right now
- Ryan: a while back had a big conflict with Reclaiming over nuclear power, is concerned about how Mstar creates its identity and whether people will still fit.
    - Starr: that sounds like twin work. If we start having conflict in the school over this kind of thing, we can work on wrestling until we return to love again.
    - Ari: Mstar as an underlying approach shouldn't be connected to political factions/groups (not that we're talking about that). Had a group that said everybody is welcome except for bigotry. Mstar is about digging deeper into the work
    - John: yeah, when things come up, we can discuss and dig until we figure out why they're important.
    - Nancy: this is steering work! Figuring out boundaries and then assigning work accordingly. We are the body that makes these decisions. Good work folks!
  - Anything else last-minute to add?
- Assignments
  - Ealasaid:
    - Bob's rules of order rewrite for pillars
    - Go back in notes and find convo about what counts as core curriculum
  - Ryan:
    - schedule meeting with teaching pillar, get requirements to steering by next meeting
  - Jenn:
    - Send huge Moodle doc to everybody - MStar Overall Resources.
    - Has to post to steering comm the post to invite people to pillar
- Facilitator-led prayer and breathing to close