

**2023-2024 MI Practicum Report  
For INFO Programs Committee  
June 2024  
Kim Humes**

- 32 students placed.
- All placements completed between April and August 2024.
- Placement sites:
  - o Dalhousie Libraries, Halifax Grammar School, Access to Justice & Law Reform Institute, Dalhousie Analytics, University of King's College library, Nova Scotia Archives, Wilfred Laurier University library, NS Dept of Labour, Skills, & Immigration, Royal Alberta Museum, Maritime Institute for Science, Technology and Society (MISTS)x2, Canada's Ocean Supercluster, Patrick Power Library (SMU), NSCC Annapolis Valley library, Canadian Centre for Energy Information (Statistics Canada), Science History Institute, Annapolis Valley Regional Library, St FX University library (celtic collection), HRM Archives, Pink Larkin, Directorate of History and Heritage (DND), Provincial Archives of NB, Nova Scotia Museum, NSCAD library, Council of NS Archives, Halifax West High School library, Halifax Public Libraries, MSVU library, Heritage Trust of NS, Halifax Jazz Festival.
  - o 22 unpaid placements; 6 paid placements; 2 using Dal Libraries internship as Practicum.
  - o 3 pre-admission employment (3 went back to work at places they had employment at in the past).
- Key challenges:
  - o Increased complaints about unpaid placements. 4 students backed out of unpaid placements after confirmation. Working on shifting to a paid internship model. Clarification about expectations should happen at the fall information session (e.g. it is not ok to back out of any placement once the Notice of Placement has been sent).
  - o 5-6 students were not placed until March/April. Various issues that were resolved. Some tough conversations needed to be had. Suggesting maybe offering a follow-up meeting in February with those not yet placed to gather new ideas, discuss concerns, and create an action plan, if needed.
  - o Many requests for oral reports. Practicum guide was ambiguous as to requirements, so text was updated to clarify preference for written reports. Suggesting a reduction of student report word count from 2800-3000 to 1000 words.
  - o Students were not clear that resumes they give us will be sent to potential placement sites, and sometimes they were not comprehensive enough. Clarify this in the fall information session.