



# MUSSA November, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** November 18, 2020

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Location:** [MMSt Channel](#) of the [Virtual Inforum](#)

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**Meeting Called to Order at:** 1:05pm

**MMSt Channel of the Virtual Inforum:**

<https://ca.bbcollab.com/guest/0e9a2d0717ac4e83a4cace658a3fa3c4>

**In Attendance:** Melissa Mertsis, Jordan Vetter, Cassidy Latimer, Hannah Schacter, Helen Yao, Jefimija Vujcic, Jessica Parsons, Louisa Simmons, Magali Delgado Santana, Sarah Cavaliere, Chantelle Perreault, Sara Fontes, Natalie Scola, Erika Serodio, Annabelle Kolomeisky, Jaime Meier

**Regrets:** Christina Ugge, Lindsay Chisholm, Amanda Berardi

## 1. Meeting Called to Order

- I. Thank You/Welcome
- II. Land Acknowledgments
  - Recognizing we are on traditional land of various Native groups.
  - Any suggestions on how to better our Land Acknowledging statements?  
Contact Melissa or Jordan
- III. Virtual Meeting Protocol
  - Keep mic off while others are speaking
  - Raise hand feature when having a question, because Melissa isn't always looking at the chat
  - Meetings will be recorded and put into the Google Drive
  - Reach out if you're unable to make a meeting

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

- a. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):
  - Louisa Simmons
  - Annabelle Kolomeisky

Approval of Minutes

- b. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):
  - Chantelle Perreault
  - Hanna Schacter

## 1. Exec Updates

### I. Tech Fund (Magali)

- a. Review of the Request to Acquire 8 Adobe Creative Cloud Licenses (\$3,480.40)
  - Will need access to Adobe. In process of evaluating funds to providing services
  - Hard get access to these services because of Covid
  - Updated request form for funds, will need support of MUSSA to spread the word through newsletters and other channels
  - Have to see request and then evaluate how to assign the licenses
  - Want access to licenses, but will have to transfer from the tech fund for the class.
- b. Exhibition Project Course (\$5,500)
  - Believe that funds we have be enough to cover the class
  - Tech fund budget was approved yesterday -- will be happening later in the year
  - Link to Tech Fund Report:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PEGCCDJyeKiq8p9JISlgzfiDoo0ITclp?usp=sharing>

### II. President (Melissa)

- a. Meeting with Irina and MPOC
  - Hiring in the works for next summers courses in DEI
  - Facility working on landscape study, wanting to see how U of T Museums Studies compares to other programs within other schools
  - Faculty meeting in December, wanting to collab with BIPOC and the AGO on new projects
  - Working on social media initiatives on POCs, both in the museum sphere and outside
  - Potentially collaborating with them in a student feedback survey, if interested contact Melissa or Jordan and they will put you in touch with Irina
- b. Meeting with Lindsay J/Student Services
  - Wanted us to be aware of a new U of T app -- NAVI, helps navigate mental health resources
  - Not for emergencies, but can link you to resources and how to get help
- c. Meeting with Wendy Duff
  - Meeting w/ Wendy was to talk about funding
  - Need more funding from the facility? If students need it, student groups can apply for them, but it would be better to have allocated funds
  - Would be similar to receiving funding from GSU

- No concrete details, but it's on facility radar to get more information on funding
  - Wants to create more career-related workshops -- Details to follow at a later date
  - Any feedback on the workshop you would like to see? Pass it on to Melissa and Jordan and they will pass it on
- d. Council Reminders
- MUSSA is a safe space, we should all be respectful of others
  - Trying hard to enforce working hours (9-5)
  - Please keep up to date with emails, and continue CC'ing MUSSA email so there is a paper trail
  - Feel free to use Facebook chat for more casual manners
  - Thank you for filling out availability polls regarding attendance
  - Council members should try to attend events if they can and lead by example
  - If you need help with any duties, or need help being directed to resources, contact Melissa and Jordan
  - Madison has resigned from council :( -- Need new member for the admissions committee to fill her spot .
  - Natalie is voted in after expressing interest -- All present members have voted in favour, but Natalie and Melissa abstain from vote
  - NEXT MEETING: Thursday, Dec 10, 1pm
  - Please send Cassidy updates a few days before she can add it to the agenda (can get in contact w/ her through Facebook or email)
- III. Vice President (Jordan)
- a. MUSEletter
- Anyone want anything shared with MUSEletter? Make sure you Jordan the Friday before you want it to be added
  - Keep an eye on the MUSEletter, there are lots of great events we should all be aware of!
- b. Website Revamp
- Have any ideas on how to make it look better? Get in contact with Jordan
  - Lots of resources to look at on the website (job links, etc.)
- IV. Treasurer (Jessica)
- b. Budget Updates
- Total income is \$957.71 - 31.5% of our budget
  - Income came from merch sales
  - So far expenses are \$2,230.35 - 86.8% of budget
  - Came from second instalment of mech purchases, and gift cards from October
- c. Reimbursement Reminder (Melissa)
- If you spend on behalf of MUSSA, reimbursement will have to take place within a month of spending

- Submit forms as soon as possible to Jessica so you can get your money back!
  - Not taking student funds for winter term due to Covid
- V. Social Team (Chantelle/Natalie)
  - Alumni committee update - They want a panel for grad students to learn more about job opportunities and how to prep for the working world
  - Working on trying to get more coordination for events and calendars of people who want to attend
  - Trivia night is coming up, but will be passed on to MUSEletter to spread updates
- VI. Social Media Team (Hanna/Sarah)
  - Put together graphics for mental health resources on social media
  - Sarah doing MUSSA series, wants people to send in info
  - Will be posting more about trivia and other fun events for people to attend
  - Holocaust centre has a symposium coming up
- VII. Second-Year Representative (Lindsay)
- VIII. First-Year Representative (Annabelle)
  - Looking at what people are thinking of regarding online learning and how they are adjusting
- IX. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sara)
  - a. FIISA (Faculty of Information International Student Association)
    - Attended FIISA presentation. Mentioned new initiatives and training for staff that need to take place
    - Wants to make updates to website so its more user friendly for international students
    - Events on Friday, 12-1 pm virtual lunch events people can attend
    - Was wondering if they needed help from MUSSA. Sara tried to get in contact with them so see if we could offer anything
    - They would like people to share their camera when using the mic, so they can see facial expressions
  - b. MISC October Updates
    - Not collect student fees again in the winter term
    - They already have a surplus and don't want to take extra funds from students if its not needed
    - Want a secure and safe connection in order to do sales on their website

## 2. Committee Updates

- X. Musings (Jaime/Erika/Mia)
  - Trying to make new additions, but know its difficult on top of assignments
  - Will make more announcements in next meeting with more updates

- XI. Alumni Association (Chantelle)
- XII. Tech Fund (Helen)
  - Certain groups want to organize a workshop on mental health and was wondering if they can cover it with tech fund
  - Magali will update later on more news when it becomes available
- XIII. Admissions Committee (Madison)
- XIV. Programs Committee (Christina)
  - a. October Meeting Updates
    - Review courses through EDI lens, will have a town hall meeting in January and will be able to provide more information afterwards
    - Encourages everyone to ask questions regarding the program
- XV. Committee on Standing (Louisa)
  - Meeting to take place tomorrow, but info is confidential so she can't share too much
  - Struggling academically? Reach out to someone like professors, others at MUSSA, etc..
- XVI. Faculty Council (Melissa/Jordan)
  - a. Meeting Updates Oct. 15.
    - Truth and Reconciliation committee is working on making new procedures
    - Nov 26th is the next meeting, more information will be available after meeting takes place
- XVII. Awards Committee (Melissa)
  - Reviewed postdoctoral fellowship applications
- XVIII. UTGSU (Jordan)
  - a. Oct. 27th + Nov 17th Meeting Updates
    - Student group with emergency food bank. Trying to promote that more during Covid
    - Trying to reduce food waste on campus, although it's difficult because there aren't many people on campus at the moment
    - There's been an election of council members to various committees, (Ex. member who decides bursaries for students)
    - Have just shared 2020 finances and will use those numbers to propose a 2021 budget
    - Head Grant Application Status
      - Included a summary of MUSSA's finances from last year
      - GSU will provide us funding for this year, once the application is approved
- XX. Truth and Reconciliation Group (Amanda)
  - No new updates, will have more meeting before next MUSSA meeting and will be able to give updates then

### 3. Announcements/Updates

- XXI. Open Announcements

- New merch is out! Still trying to figure out shipping methods for those outside the GTA
- There's a petition for the Official house of commons to extend federal loan for students who graduate within 6 months. Want a full year instead and are hoping for an extension due to Covid.
- Doctoral Student Association's Indigenous Connections Group (DSA ICG)- looking for MUSSA members to participate - reach out of Melissa and Jordan
- Looking for feedback on the election processes, meeting format, cohort involvement, ways we can keep diversity and inclusion at the forefront -- Message Melissa or Jordan if you have any ideas regarding this!

**Meeting adjourned at: 1:53pm**