



# MUSSA January 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** January 19, 2021

**Time:** 12:00pm

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

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## **MMSt Channel of the Virtual Inforum:**

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

**Meeting called to order at:** 12:09pm

**In Attendance:** Melissa Mertis, Jordan Vetter, Cassidy Latimer, Chantelle Perreault, Hanna Schacter, Jaime Meier, Magali Delgado, Sara Fontes, Natalie Scola, Erika Serodio, Sarah Cavaliere, Louisa Simmons, Annabelle Kolomeisky, Jessica Parsons, Jefimija Vujcic, Christina Ugge

**Regrets:** Amanda Berardi, Helen Yao

## **1. Meeting Called to Order**

I. Thank You/Welcome

II. Land Acknowledgments

- MUSSA acknowledges the past and ongoing oppressive role of Museums and that they are colonial institutions
- Any suggestions on how to improve Land Acknowledgements? If so, get in contact with Melissa or Jordan!
- Check what land you're on through this resource: [native-land.ca](https://native-land.ca) :)

b. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

i. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Chantelle Perreault
- Louisa Simmons

c. Approval of Agenda

i. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Sarah Cavaliere
- Jefimija Vujcic

## **2. Exec Updates**

I. President (Melissa)

a. Safe Space Reminder

- Feedback is always appreciated on how to make MUSSA a safer space
- If you're uncomfortable saying something, contact Melissa or Jordan in private to talk about your concerns

- b. Attendance Expectations
    - Please let someone know if you're unable to make meetings, but try to attend all that you can
    - If you're unable to make it, fill someone in and they can share updates that need to be discussed
  - c. Winter End of Term Party Congratulations
    - Thank you everyone who helped with planning -- it was a big success. Yay!
    - Good amount of donations -- Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets!
  - d. Meeting with Dean Duff
    - Next meeting will take place Jan 22, 2021 at 2pm
    - Melissa will eventually share notes on what is discussed at the meeting
  - e. Meeting with Prof. Irina Mihalache
    - Takes place on Wednesday Jan 20, 2021, at 4pm to recap last term
    - Hoping to create an exhibition project for first years, but there's no explicit details yet
    - There will be a new hiring position for assistant professor in "anti oppression" topic and they are hoping to create an action plan
    - Position here:  
[jobs.utoronto.ca/job/Toronto-Assistant-Professor-Contractually-Limited-Term-Appointment-Museum-Studies-ON/544242017](https://jobs.utoronto.ca/job/Toronto-Assistant-Professor-Contractually-Limited-Term-Appointment-Museum-Studies-ON/544242017)
  - f. Council Member Update
    - Lindsay resigns as second year rep. Not looking to fill her role because it's so late in the term
    - Melissa and Jordan will be splitting her responsibilities
    - Merch orders will be dealt with by Jordan
    - New opportunity to take over book club
  - g. Meeting Polls
    - Created polls for meetings in the New Year - Feb, March, and April
    - Please try to fill them out ASAP and then we can get dates for the meetings
    - Please fill out by next Friday
    - Feb - <https://www.when2meet.com/?10699035-a5vHY>
    - March - <https://www.when2meet.com/?10699042-dnxL9>
    - April - <https://www.when2meet.com/?10699052-Vsvu4>
- II. Vice President (Jordan)
- a. MUSEletters
    - If you want to include anything in the MUSEletter, send the Friday before the week you want sent out
  - b. Survey Results

- There was a feedback survey sent out before the break to see how everyone's term is going and how MUSSA can do better
  - Gained 13 responses
  - More feedback in the future would be ideal
  - Students are fairly aware of events and activities - Average responder knew of 8/15 of the events
  - Those who attended reported that they enjoyed themselves
  - Reasons for why some people didn't attend was because of : zoom fatigue, overwhelmed, unavailability, and having no connection to attendees
  - MUSSA facebook and newsletter is best way to get info across
  - Feedback:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oIDcF4qjHYnsv818VK96n7R1UGipiCVwivE3n0q5biU/edit?usp=sharing>
  - Would like to encourage more announcements this term on bbcollab within classes
- c. Spring Election Updates
- Election dates will be approved in next meeting in February
- III. Treasurer (Jessica)
- Income: \$1212.71 (39.9%) came form raffle ticket sales,
  - Expenses: \$2707.02 (105.4%) came form raffle prizes, donations, and banking fees
- a. Melissa Reimbursement Reminder
- If you have spending costs they be submitted for reimbursement and must be submitted within a month of the purchase date
- IV. Social Team (Chantelle/Natalie)
- a. Conference Planning
- iConference will be held virtually -- held for entire faculty and is looking for themes of resilience and adaptation
  - Will be centered around a keynote speaker
  - Will need social media to send out info
  - Other event being planned is to help students who are looking for jobs
  - And also planning an end of term celebration
- V. Social Media Team (Hanna/Sarah)
- After Holiday Party Countdown there was evidence of some programs more popular than others
  - Will be incorporating more events that were popular last term
  - Will start doing Meet MUSSA posts again - [forms.gle/PUZrWlf9CqPkdm5d9](https://forms.gle/PUZrWlf9CqPkdm5d9)
- VI. Second-Year Representative (Melissa)
- a. Merch Update
- Now offering free shipping because of some of the reimbursements that were obtained

- Are looking to reimburse those who already received items and paid for shipping
- VII. First-Year Representative (Annabelle)
  - Will be hoping to do more in class announcements
  - Wanted to push for more communication between students so we can address problems as they come up
- VIII. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sara)
  - MISC has updated their website so they can do merch payments through there and place orders online
  - Next meeting is on Saturday
  - Been trying not to do many social events (because of zoom fatigue etc.)

### 3. Committee Updates

- IX. Musings (Jaime/Erika/Mia)
  - Going to start publishing on Feb. 1
  - Hosting a blogger boot camp for those who want a refresher
  - Lots of amazing articles written last year!
  - Social team will keep up with call to new writers
- X. Tech Fund (Magali/Helen)
  - a. Updates and Report
    - Requiring a vote from MUSSA - need to approve replacement of some equipment from inventory
    - Needs replacement of six 13" Macbook Pros -- will be a total of \$18,733.14 for the computers
    - Trying to donate old equipment
    - One of the Microsoft Surface Pros have been lost -- suggestion to increase stock from 1 to 3 -- each is close to 3k, total of 6.5k
    - Votes: All in favour of new Macbooks, Magali doesn't vote, Zero opposed -- 15 votes of approval in total
    - Votes: All in favour of Surface Pro, Magali doesn't vote, Zero opposed -- 15 votes of approval in total
    - Had first request from student of lightbox for professional photos
- XI. Alumni Association (Chantelle)
  - Looking to have a speaker on April 19 -- can be further discussed on social team meeting
- XII. Admissions Committee (Natalie)
  - No meeting yet this term,
  - December numbers: discussed that there were large number of applicants - over 100
  - Lots of international applicants - over 60 in one week!
  - Higher number of applications than last year
  - Number of MMSt applications have been identical
- XIII. Programs Committee (Christina)
  - a. Spring and Summer Courses
    - Previous years MMSt didn't have a lot of summer offerings

- All students will survey interest on course loads
  - Any course requests? -- communicate by emailing with the program director or reply to survey
  - Needs at least 15 students interested or enrolled for a course in order to make it work
  - Trying to plan for virtual classes because they want to consider students outside of Canada
  - Any questions? Direct to MUSSA or Stephanie Rose
- b. Irina's MMst Update
- Still collecting data
  - Things report should be done of September 2021
- c. Data Collection of the Landscape Study
- February will be next meeting
- XIV. Committee on Standing (Louisa)
- XV. Faculty Council (Melissa/Jordan)
- a. COVID Reminders
- Any Bissell building visits needs to be approved first before you can enter
  - Make up day for classes on Good Friday because of the longer break
- b. MI Programs Committee Representative
- Master of information rep want to increase people on the committee
  - Advocate for more representation to be increased to 2 - increasing official representations will do open forums so there won't have to be a formal position
  - Next meeting in February
- XVI. Awards Committee (Melissa)
- XVII. UTGSU (Jordan)
- a. January Meeting Update
- Emergency meeting called Jan 18, 2021 to discuss a executive member's conduct
  - Member been sent to an impeachment trial because of compromising student's safety
  - Concerns raised about marginalized students not having anywhere to go to voice their concerns
  - Fiance commissioner was replaced and taken over and given in 50% of the work but ended up doing more and needs to be financially compensated
- XVIII. Truth & Reconciliation Working Group (Amanda)
- a. Reviewing the Terms of References Outlined in the Initial Document
- b. Figure out Deliverables
- What support people will need going forward ?
  - Will be creating an action plan to move forward
- c. Discussion Threads Brought Up

- Looking at Lakehead U's learning outcomes for their perspectives. Looking for more Indigenous perspectives in teaching  
[teachingcommons.lakeheadu.ca/indigenous-content-requirement-learning-outcomes-or-objectives](https://teachingcommons.lakeheadu.ca/indigenous-content-requirement-learning-outcomes-or-objectives)
- Hoping to stay aware of unconscious biases (ex. The word "Indigenous")
- Don't want to make anymore paper policies without pushing action

#### 4. Announcements/Updates

XIX. Open Announcements

- Museum studies program review session will take place Tues, Feb 2, @ 12-12:45pm
- Reminder: fill out poll availability ASAP

**Meeting adjourned at: 12:59 pm**