



# MUSSA February, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 9, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 pm

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

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**Meeting called to order at:** 1:04pm

**In Attendance:** Chantelle Perreault , Melissa Mertsis, Jordan Vetter, Annabelle Kolomeisky, Christina Ugge, Cassidy Latimer, Hanna Schacter, Jessica Parsons, Louisa Simmons, Magali Degado Santana, Natalie Scola, Sara Frontes, Sarah Cavaliere, Erika Serodio, Jefimija Vujcic

**Regrets:** Amanda Berardi, Jamie Meier, 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) :)

III. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

ii. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Natalie Scola
- Annabelle Kolomeisky

IV. Approval of Minutes

iii. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Hanna Schacter
- Sarah Cavaliere

## 1. Exec Updates

I. President (Melissa)

a. Safe Space Reminder

- Feedback is always appreciated on how to better MUSSA as a safe space
- If you need personal or professional support, reach out to Jordan or Melissa for help.

b. Attendance Expectations

- Please send an email if you cannot make a meeting

- Try to make events when you can
  - c. External MMSt Focus Group
    - Thank you to those who participated!
    - Review will be open to everyone at some point soon
  - d. Meeting with Dean Duff
    - Jan 22, meeting with the Dean took place
    - Discussed information on the iConference and details regarding it
    - Next meeting for Feb 19
  - e. Meeting with Prof. Mihalache & MPOC
    - Jan 20th meeting
    - Teaching position will also be a research position
    - Students will be allowed to meet with the candidate before hand to ask questions and gain more information regarding their work
    - 2 upcoming events for the Museum activism course
    - Panel discussion in April - "A seat at the table" hosted by Prof Mihalache
    - Virtual museum tours organized by the facility -- touring the Woodland cultural centre
    - If anyone has any ideas about to conduct virtual tours please reach out to Melissa or Jordan
    - Exhibition Q&A panel of Feb 24 - hour long session talking about logistic side of exhibitions and student perspective
    - Hiring new assistant professor at the end of February - <https://jobs.utoronto.ca/job/Toronto-Assistant-Professor-Contractually-Limited-Term-Appointment-Museum-Studies-ON/544242017/>
    - MPOC worked on a series about decolonization - launching activism and action campaigns and launched a website! <https://museumpoc.wordpress.com/>
  - f. March and April Meeting Dates
    - March 9th - 1pm
    - April 6th - 1 pm
- II. Vice President (Jordan)
- a. MUSEletters
    - No Museletter going out for reading week
    - Have to send updates to Jordan ASAP before reading week
  - b. Spring Election Dates (Vote)
    - Dates need to be approved by council before moving forward
    - Open for 2 weeks - all candidates meeting in the middle
    - Campaigning will begin on Tuesday after Easter - allows people more time to campaign if they choose to do so
    - MISC/MUSSA liaison position - appointment between both MISC and MUSSA - call for nomination begins the same day before nominations close

- Transition period will occur to get people familiar with their positions
  - Some of the dates might change
  - Nomination dates approved by all in attendance abstained by Melissa and Jordan, no disapprovals.
- III. Treasurer (Jessica)
- Income: \$1740.38 (57.2% of expected income)- came from merch sales and reimbursement from the tech fund for the winter party raffle prizes
  - Expenses: \$2902.86 (113.1% of total budget)- spent on merch shipping and reimbursements, and a musings reimbursement
- IV. Social Team (Chantelle/Natalie)
- Solidified date on the alumni panels
  - Parentines are coming out!
  - A conference will be held on April 16th, speaker has been secured - [eternitymartis.com](http://eternitymartis.com) will be the speaker
- V. Social Media Team (Hanna/Sarah)
- Feel good february posts are continuing
  - Made a spotify playlist to share
  - Work from home and self care tips posts
  - Friendship films list will be put out soon
  - Pet parade - opening submissions will take place on 26th! Submit pictures pleaaaseee!
  - Meet MUSSA posts - [forms.gle/BAuVk5rxqhVo48Gf8](https://forms.gle/BAuVk5rxqhVo48Gf8)
- VI. Second-Year Representative (Melissa/Jordan)
- a. Merch Update
- Lots of merch left
  - Offering free shipping
- VII. First-Year Representative (Annabelle)
- Announcements are happening bi-weekly
  - Any questions or concerns? Can reach out anonymously if you have any issues
- VIII. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sara)
- a. Social Team - Social programing
- Doing more programming and planning - still continuing to support and promote the clubs
- b. Accessibility and Diversity working groups grants
- Able to do workshops for professors on how to teach for accessibility.

## 2. Committee Updates

- IX. Musings (Jaime/Erika/Mia)

- New writers
  - Hosted blogger boot camp
  - Planning some events to discuss in the future
- X. Tech Fund (Magali/Helen)
- Donating all old equipment because they gained new ones
  - Know any institutions that need old tech? Get in touch with MUSSA or Magali
  - Wants to create mental health workshop for next term
  - Purchasing of the computers that was approved during the last meeting is ongoing
- XI. Alumni Association (Chantelle)
- XII. Admissions Committee (Natalie)
- a. Meeting Update
    - Self study update - Dean Duff wants to track concentrations to see if there is any changes
    - International applications are up 170%
    - More students want library sciences and archives programs offered
    - 32 offers and 28 accepted in MMSt - lots of applications being sent in!
- XIII. Programs Committee (Christina)
- Next meeting on Feb 11th
- XIV. Committee on Standing (Louisa)
- XV. Faculty Council (Melissa/Jordan)
- a. Next Meeting: Feb 4th
    - Confirmed summer courses will be online
    - Different options for the fall, maybe mixed classes
    - Faculty of information - hiring for 7 positions
    - Wanted to improve opportunities to work with Indigenous communities
    - 2 new hires for student coaching of careers - looking to improve communication for internships
    - Iskills workshops are very popular and lots of people want to participate
- XVI. Awards Committee (Melissa)
- XVII. UTGSU (Jordan)
- Will find out more about impeachment process
- XVIII. Truth & Reconciliation Working Group (Amanda)
- a. A Cluster Hire of Indigenous faculty
    - How this might need to be its own Committee with the Office of Indigenous Initiatives
  - b. Establishing a Reciprocal, Generous, Non-burdensome Indigenous Honoraria Policy
    - How this might need to be its own Committee with the Office above
  - c. Investigate areas lacking and offer more support to Indigenous folks during the admissions process
  - d. Possibly having a course on Indigenous metadata with Stacy Allison-Cassin

e. Altered and expanded some of our terms of reference C & D

### **3. Announcements/Updates**

#### XIX. Open Announcements

- Jordan and Melissa are working on a Musings article on how great Museum Studies are! - please fill it out if you have anything cool to share
- Any general feedback on MUSSA? Let us Melissa and Jordan know
- Louisa is helping with landscape study with Prof Michalache - will be having a feedback session on March 2, 12:15-1pm. Students can attend if they want

**Meeting adjourned at: 1:43pm**