



# MUSSA March 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 9, 2021

**Time:** 1:00pm

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

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**Meeting called to order at:** 1:06pm

**In Attendance:** Jordan Vetter, Louisa Simmons, Hanna Schacter, Melissa Mertisis, Natalie Scola, Annabelle Kolomeisky, Sarah Cavaleire, Jefimija Vujcic, Jessica Parsons, Magali Delgado, Jaime Meier, Erika Serodio, Helen Yao, Chantelle Perreault, Cassidy Latimer

**Regrets:** Christina Ugge, Amanda Berardi, Sara Frontes

## 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](#) :)

III. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

i. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Sarah Cavaliere
- Natalie Scola

IV. Approval of Agenda

ii. Motion approved by (2 MUSSA members):

- Annabelle Kolomeisky
- Sarah Cavaliere

## 2. Exec Updates

I. President (Melissa)

a. MUSSA is Safe Space!

- Feedback is always appreciated!
- If you need personal or mental health help, please reach out to Melissa or Jordan if you're experiencing any troubles

b. MUSSA Attendance Expectations

- Thank you for everyone making an effort and sharing your updates when unable to attend
- Attend social events when possible

- c. Meetings with Dean Wendy Duff
    - Feb 19: Talked about a new element to help with the programs committee.
    - Annual or bi-annual meetings with each concentration for program feedback
    - External review was generally positive and changes will be made to the academic board
    - No updates on the new Dean
    - Wanting to hire a hearing officer - help work through issues of concern, needs to be approved by the faculty council. Would help with student issues.
    - Working with MISC and doctorate students association to find who would appropriately fit this role.
    - Bissell building is undergoing construction
    - Working with DSA and MISC for peer mentorship for Masters to PHD. MUSSA will help provide support
    - Faculty is hoping to do an end of term celebration lunch -- need to brainstorm activities so breakout rooms can be more pointed.
    - Next meeting: March 19th
  - d. Exhibition Q&A Panel
    - Feb 24th: 25-30 students participated
    - Successful and gained some good feedback
  - e. Job Posting for Professor: CLOSED
    - No updates, so hopefully we'll get news soon
  - f. Transition Documents
    - 2 Position specific documents you should fill out. End of report.-- All templates are in Google Drive
  - g. April Meeting Date
    - April 6th, 1 pm
    - Send updates to Cassidy
    - Final Meeting :(
- II. Vice President (Jordan)
- a. Spring Elections
    - Nominations will be opening on March 23rd
    - New council begins on May 1st
    - More information for the positions available on MUSSA
    - Interested in running for a position? Attend all candidates meetings and look at MUSEletter for info on dates
    - MUSSA members must remain impartial on nominees
- III. Treasurer (Jessica)
- If you have any reimbursements the form needs to be submitted before April and within a month after the spending
  - Total income: \$1740.38 (57.2%)- no changes since last month

- Total expenses: \$2948.84 (114.8%)- spent on shipping merchandise and banking fees
- IV. Social Team (Chantelle/Natalie)
  - Still working on alumni panel
  - Aiming to have around 4 panelists
  - Iconference submissions are closing on Friday
  - Still trying to figure out registration
- V. Social Media Team (Hanna/Sarah)
  - Working on advertising for the alumni panel and iconference
  - Feel Good February and Pet Parade was a success!
- VI. Second-Year Representative (Melissa/Jordan)
  - Last push for merch before signing over the council
- VII. First-Year Representative (Annabelle)
  - Continuing with bi-weekly announcements
  - Any concerns? Direct them to Annabelle
- VIII. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sara)

### 3. Committee Updates

- IX. Musings (Jaime/Erika/Mia)
  - Mia is doing weekly reviews on articles and it's going great!
- X. Tech Fund (Magali/Helen)
  - a. [Tech Fund Report](#)
    - Will be talking about funding and replacement of tech items at next Tech Fund meeting
- XI. Alumni Association (Chantelle)
- XII. Admissions Committee (Natalie)
- XIII. Programs Committee (Christina)
  - a. Updates on Prof. Mihalache's program landscape study
    - Held on March 2nd, open to anyone who wanted to participate
  - b. 2 MMSt courses are going to switch from being "special topics"
    - Will become standard courses because the number of times they've been taught and current enrolment rates
- XIV. Committee on Standing (Louisa)
- XV. Faculty Council (Melissa/Jordan)
  - a. Next Meeting: March 25
- XVI. Awards Committee (Melissa)
- XVII. UTGSU (Jordan)
  - a. Feb 16 Meeting Updates
    - [https://ischool.utoronto.ca/current-students/money-matters/fees/#tuition\\_exemption\\_covid](https://ischool.utoronto.ca/current-students/money-matters/fees/#tuition_exemption_covid) -- link for anyone who would have graduated by end of August last year but that had to continue their studies into their 3rd/4th year in September due to delays caused by covid

- New law coming from federal government that recognizes not for profit organizes - Have to apply to shift from provincial to federal legislation
- Group of students trying to extend tuition exemption
- Debate over SRCSS - body of the university not run by students, ruled against GSU. GSU doesn't want decisions to be impacted on student affairs
- Impeachment in process. Not sure if the case can processed because there was a resignation
- Virtual town hall, re-evaluating the base funding for scholarships, payment, and wages - <https://lnkd.in/g9JfHeP>
- University leave of absence policy - doing a review and looking for student feedback

XVIII. Truth and Reconciliation (Amanda)

- Cluster hire of Indigenous faculty. Might need to be its own faculty and committee.
- Work going on to investigate areas where there is a lack of support to Indigenous people
- Possible new course being offering next term

**4. Announcements/Updates**

XVIII. Open Announcements

a. (Melissa/Jordan)

- Intent to Convocate
- Second years must submit an Intent to Convocate Form before April 1st - [forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JsKqeAMvTUuQN7RtVsVSEAAHyMR1ka1FjZL5\\_JdGb1UN1MzV1NRT0dYUjBDWjJBTjhaWUY0QUU5Vy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JsKqeAMvTUuQN7RtVsVSEAAHyMR1ka1FjZL5_JdGb1UN1MzV1NRT0dYUjBDWjJBTjhaWUY0QUU5Vy4u)
- Please sign up for iConference!

**Meeting adjourned at: 1:41 pm**