

EC Meeting Minutes – January 2021

Call to order

A meeting of the MSA Executive Committee was held online on **January 7, 2021**

Attendees: **Aline Sierp, Jenny Wüstenberg, Jeffrey Olick, Stef Craps, Paco Ferrándiz, Alicia Salomone, Joanna Wawrzyniak, Tea Sindbæk, Hanna Teichler**

Assistants: **Laura Brouwers** and **Lorena Ortiz Cabrero** (minute taker)

Agenda Item

1. [Elections](#)
2. [Membership](#)
3. [dMSA](#)
4. [Website Committee](#)
5. [Mentorship & Career Plans](#)
6. [Seoul 2022](#)
7. [Warsaw 2021](#)
8. [Public Benefit Organisation \(PBO\)](#)

Decisions

1. Elections

- Right before the holiday period, the amended by-laws were accepted:
136 votes; 126 YES, 10 NO
- Members were asked to think about nominations.
- The membership will receive an email before the end of the month with a specific invitation to run for president or EC member.
- The Nominations & Regulations Committee (NRC) will be in touch with candidates and answer questions through their official email: elections@memorystudiesassociation.org.

- Elections will start in late February.
- Ethics & Financial Committees also need to be elected, but in order not to complicate the other elections, this will be postponed until March/April.

2. Membership

- The Membership Levels are too complicated/numerous at the moment, so the web designer proposes a simplified version (which would get rid of the ‘Sustaining Membership’ option).
 - Cons: the ‘Sustaining Membership’ is advantageous for the MSA as some members’ home universities reimburse membership fees. For this reason, the simplification cannot get rid of this option.
 - Decision: Website Committee will bring this issue up with the web designer, and look for an alternative simplification of the membership levels.
- Other standing issues:
 - Payment problems with credit card. → It is being addressed.
 - No mailing address in invoices. → It is being addressed.

3. dMSA

- Preliminary schedule:
 - January 29th, 18.00-20.00 UTC+1: *Necropolitical Dissonances*
 - Organiser: Paco Ferrándiz; Co-host: CSIC
 - Speakers: Jocelyn Martin, Paco Ferrándiz, Alexei Yurchak
 - Poster is on the way and will hopefully be ready mid-January
 - February: “Author Meets Critics”, to be confirmed
 - March: Career Event MSAForward, to be confirmed
 - April: focus on Asia, to be confirmed
 - May: focus on Latin America, to be confirmed
 - June: focus on Africa, to be confirmed
- The dMSA Committee is setting up an action plan to homogenise the advertising and livestreaming of all events.
- New official email address for dMSA purposes: dmsa@memorystudiesassociation.org
 - New proposals are already welcome at this email address.

4. Website Committee

- Meetings:
 1. Inaugural meeting with web designer (2nd week January).
 2. Meeting with WG/RG representatives (2nd week February).
- Action Plan:
 1. WG/RG (sub-)pages.

2. Redesign/Homogenisation of the dMSA page.
3. Revamping of the homepage.

5. Mentorship & Career Plans

- Still planned to be re-activated.

6. Seoul 2022

- Preliminary plans sound good and exciting, scheduled for the first week of July 2022.
 - Full week, accounting for the possibility of both online and hybrid events.
 - Goal: announce the dates and themes in Warsaw.

7. Warsaw 2021

- Dryfta's Community-networking Platform & Attendee Interaction Tools: are they worth the considerable additional expense?
 - Decision: ask Dryfta to provide a demonstration to the Local Committee. If no significant added value, to be declined.
- Conference Fees:
 - Decision: early-bird system with a staggered cancellation policy.
 - Ongoing consideration of including auditors/listeners.
 - Registration system will open mid-January.
- Publishers: to be contacted soon.
- Programme: still in the works.
 - Masterclasses & Workshops still need to be included in the timeline. Proposals, as advertised in the [December newsletter](#), are still being accepted at info@memorystudiesassociation.org.

8. PBO (Public Benefit Organisation)

- Full report on the possibility of applying for Dutch PBO status.
 - Pros:
 - Discount possibilities for Dutch citizens.
 - Point in favour when/if applying for both public and private Dutch financing options.
 - Cons:
 - At the individual level, only beneficial for Dutch members.
 - At the general/MSA level, relatively large amount of work.
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