

Open MSA Members Meeting

27th June 2022

Watch the full recording of the Members Meeting [here](#).

Welcome & News at the MSA

- Aline Sierp presents the background of the Association and its organisational structure.
- Wulf Kansteiner is presented as the new President-Elect.
- Johanna Vollmeyer presents herself as a new member of the Executive Committee, and liaison to the MSA Fellowship.
- Maria Kobielska presents herself as a new member of the Executive Committee, and liaison to the MSA Website Committee.

The Past Year at the MSA

- Aline Sierp presents the MSA Working, Regional and National Groups, highlighting their key role in the growth and development of the MSA.
- Finances Overview:
 - About 100.000€ in members fees and grants.
 - The Association has grown and is now able to have paid positions.
- Presentation of MSA Assistants and Interns.
- MSA Week of Virtual Events - July 2022, in lieu of the originally schedule Sixth Annual Conference in Seoul: daily interdisciplinary session from July 4 to July 8. Read about the Week [here](#).
- Researchers at Risk Fellowship: read about this MSA initiative [here](#).
 - Two fellowships, 4000€ each. One of them has already been granted to Dr Maryna Rusanova. The second one is in the application stage.
- Website & Social media:
 - Resources (e.g. job postings, grants and fellowships, publications, etc.) can be posted on the [members' area](#).
 - Working, Regional and National Groups now have their own website: <https://groups.memorystudiesassociation.org/>

- Social Media (including a forthcoming profile in Instagram) as work in progress. Mentions, messages and engagement are always welcome through our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
- MSA Publications:
 - [MSA First Book Award](#): this award is granted biannually (next edition: late 2022), and submission is only possible for MSA members.
 - For the next edition, the selection process will require the submission of abstracts in English, although the publication may be in any language.
 - Special issue of the journal *Memory Studies*, edited by the MSA yearly. In 2021, this MSA Special Issue (forthcoming) will be on *Mnemonic Wars*.
- Jenny Wüstenberg outlines the initiatives of Professional Development in the MSA:
 - MSA cohort PhD training school, not happening this year.
 - Annual Conferences always include methodology workshops & masterclasses. Next year's conference in Newcastle will also feature these opportunities.
 - Mentorship Programme will be re-launched in September with a workshop; [info available on the MSA website](#).
 - Transformative Inclusivity: a new branch of the MSA working to make it more inclusive and welcoming towards all.
- Jarula Wagner presents the status of the Transformative Inclusivity Committee:
 - 9 members
 - The initiative particularly concerns power dynamics.
- Jeff Olick presents the development of the [dMSA](#):
 - The MSA would like to have regular events, depending on the coming proposals.
 - Submission form [online](#) and per [email](#); wide diversity of subjects and formats are acceptable.
- Aline Sierp presents the joint partner project of [Contested Histories Onsite](#):
 - The project has been granted an extension. In addition to the [four successful tours of contested sites](#), the team is now working on toolkit and tutorials on how to conduct a tour of contested memories.
- Catherine Gilbert presents the next, Seventh Annual MSA Conference (Newcastle, UK, July 3-7, 2023):
 - Overarching theme: Communities and Change

- Cultural and academic programmes
- Call for papers will be open during summer; deadline, in October 2022.
- Visit the conference website here: <https://msa2023newcastle.dryfta.com/>
- The 2024 conference is still in the planning phase.
- Sarah Gensburger presents different ways to get involved with the MSA:
 - Any contribution/form of help/suggestions is always welcome via info@memorystudiesassociation.org
 - Working, Regional and National Groups can easily be joined or created (when there is already more than 1 member)
 - Members are warmly welcome to run for presidency
 - Other ways of engagement are:
 - Joining any project/group
 - Mentorship
 - Share online/Spread awareness

Questions, Comments & Proposals from the MSA Membership

- **Question:** Leslie F Zubieta: How is a new working group created? Who can we contact in particular? What are the requirements?
 - **Answer:** Please email info@memorystudiesassociation.org with a brief description of the potential group and the MSA assistants will guide you through the process.
- **Question:** Leslie F Zubieta: Who can we contact to apply for the Book Award?
 - **Answer:** Call for Submissions will be posted in late 2022. Keep an eye on the MSA's website and social media for more info. If you have a specific question, reach out via info@memorystudiesassociation.org.
- **Question:** Ann Rigney: Would it be possible for the MSA to cover the charges incurred by (some) colleagues in applying for visas for the Annual Conference in Newcastle?
 - **Answer:** The issue will be explored within the Executive Committee over the coming months.
 - Catherine Gilbert: it is on the cards but depends on the possibility of the budget.
 - Joanna Wawrzyniak (past MSA EC Members & organiser of MSA Warsaw 2021): a potential solution could be not to take a participation

fee from members/participants who cannot get visas. It would work more like a refund/fee waiver system.

- **Question:** Annie st. John-Stark: One concern is that scholars at risk may not be in a position to identify themselves as such, for reasons of safety, primarily. What are the thoughts of the MSA Executive regarding that reality? As well, it is good to see that scholars from areas other than those currently in a catastrophic situation are being considered within this initiative: what other areas are being considered, or will be considered?
 - **Answer:** Joanna Wawrzyniak (past MSA EC members & organiser of the MSA Fellowship): This MSA Fellowship is not able to help everyone, currently only covers 4 people. The ability of the MSA is only to fund scholars who have the ability to identify themselves, or have been identified, as scholars at risk, and with whom active cooperation is possible. Concerning the geopolitical question, all areas are considered. There is no geographical constraint on the calls.
- **Question:** Annie st. John-Stark: Is there a tie-in of the fellowship with the mentorship program?
 - **Answer:** Joanna Wawrzyniak: The scholars from hosting institutions who co-write the application with the scholars at risk are supposed to act as mentors. But of course, some additional expertise from the colleagues involved in the MSA Mentorship programme would be very welcome!
- **Question:** Tea Sindbæk: When is the next election and for what?
 - **Answer:** Jenny Wustenberg: Generally, elections are held in February, for the MSA Ethics Committee, and for a new President-Elect. These positions are then taken in July.
- **Comment:** Astrid Schmetterling: Would like to encourage the chairs of all Working groups to join the Working, Regional and National Groups' Chair meetings. Chairs who want to be added to the mailing list can email her at a.schmetterling@gold.ac.uk. Astrid also highlights and appreciates that the Working Groups are heard more within the MSA, particularly thanks to Jelena Đureinović.
 - **Comment:** Wulf Kansteiner: Commends the effort made on the website regarding the visibility of the Working, Regional, and National Groups, as well as the development of their individual pages.

- **Comment:** Jarula Wegner: The next meeting is 22nd July at 3 pm CET/1 pm UTC.
- **Question:** Samuel Muderhwa: Is there a possibility of having a conference in the DRC?
 - **Answer:** Wulf Kansteiner: Depends on the ability of local hosts, but it's an exciting possibility.
 - **Answer:** Sarah Gensburger: Depends on local engagement level and the possibility of space.
- **Question:** Where we can share a Call for Chapters for a COVID/ pandemic edited volume of Transdisciplinary Trauma Studies? On the MSA website, correct?
 - **Answer:** Send the proposal/CfP to info@memorystudiesassociation.org and/or tag the MSA on social media, and it will indeed be advertised through the main platforms.
- **Comment:** Gallous Atabongwoung: Stresses the importance of supporting the development of memory studies in Africa, and the need to map these studies on the region. The [first encounter of the MSA Africa Chapter](#) was a success and only the first step.
 - **Comment:** Wulf Kansteiner & Jenny Wustenberg: There is indeed a need to make important initiatives such as the MSA Africa Chapter's conference more visible. Social media and website promotion will continue to be one of the primary resources that the MSA can help with, but so are the Special Issues in the journal *Memory Studies* (both when edited by the MSA and as a regular submission to the journal).
- **Reminder:** Luz Maceira-Ochoa: The next Latin America Regional Group meeting will take place in Bogotá, next September, and will be hybrid (at least partially live streamed). Read programme [here](#).

Final Remarks & Goodbye