

IATM Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday 13 September 2026, 15.00 GMT

Attendance: Joachim Breuninger (Chair), Martin Bütikofer, Martin Ettlinger (new Board member), Oliver Götze, Meredith Greiling, Tiiina Lehtinen, Stephen Quick, Anja Schaluschke,, Jens Toftgaard, Peter-Paul de Winter.

Apologies: Elizabeth McKay, Sam Mullins , Andrew Moritz, Jiří Střecha.

Location: Ulster Museum Belfast

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomes all attendees.

2. Approval agenda

Approved.

3. Minutes of last meeting 04-06-2026

Approved.

4. Matters Arising/Actions

We have received an email from Peter Ovenstone, which has already been forwarded to all board members. The meeting questions whether this is relevant to the conference. We decide to note it for information purposes and take no further action.

5. Belfast conference, last preparations (complete program)

- Huge compliments to Meredith; the programme is in place and is now being explained in detail to put the finishing touches on it.
- An AV technician had to be hired for the Titanic experience at the last minute—a minor setback.
- About 58 participants are expected.
- There are no participants from Africa, though there are some from Asia (India).
- The programme is finalised; there are no concerns regarding it.
- However, there have been issues with the IATM email address over the past few months; it is unclear which emails were actually sent by the server and which were not. This also explains why the invoice was sent at the very last minute by the treasurer while they were sick in bed.
- We are looking for a new back-office staff member; the previous one was dismissed. She did absolutely nothing and provided no feedback on her activities.

6. Election new Vice-President

As Martin is stepping down from his board duties, a new vice-president needs to be elected. The President proposes appointing Meredith as the new Vice-President. All those present vote

unanimously in favor; Meredith is thus elected and will be officially appointed during the General Assembly. Congratulations, Meredith!

7. Conference 2027 Slovenia

The annual conference will be held in Slovenia in 2027. Natalija Polenec is preparing the event, and Meredith, Joachim, and Tiina have volunteered to assist her.

The meeting was asked to suggest possible themes for the conference. One proposal is "political influence in museums." However, it should be noted that this theme cannot be highlighted too strongly, given that many museums do indeed experience political influence on their governing boards, which makes the topic complex.

Everyone is asked to give this further thought and perhaps come up with other proposals.

8. Treasurer

- We were forced to incur an additional €1,000 in bank charges this year.
- We are projecting a loss of €4,000 to €5,000 on this year's conference.
- The treasurer proposes allocating a base amount of €30,000 to cover upfront conference costs; this "debt" will naturally be repaid using the revenue generated from conference fees. The meeting approved this proposal.
- From next year (2027) onwards, the conference will no longer operate at a loss.
- A stroke of luck is that no one utilized the Skillbridge program in 2026.
- The 2026 membership fee invoices have yet to be sent out.
- Our treasurer, Oliver, is stepping down next year and will not be renewing his term.
- Oliver asks the meeting for approval to bring in a colleague to run the back office; this has been approved.
- There is a possibility that Anne-Sophie will also leave now that her maternity leave has ended; she is already looking for other work.

9. Archival Strategy, update

There are currently no new developments to report. Sam is gathering everything; it will then be passed on to Robert, who will digitize it (or have it digitized).

Joachim is going to convince Sam that, even though he is no longer a board member, he needs to finish this task.

10. Any other business

- Peter Ovenstone's email has already been discussed.
- Three new members have joined; we will give them a warm welcome.
- The election of a new President is on the agenda for next year; are there any suitable candidates already in mind?

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2026 (note: the date has since changed to October 8). We are inviting Natalija to attend this meeting; Joachim will extend the invitation.

11. Closure

The meeting is closed by the Chairman.

Meeting schedule 2026

~~12-02-2026~~	~~WEBEX~~
~~12&13 April~~	~~on location, Belfast~~
~~4-6-2026~~	~~WEBEX~~
~~13,14,15&16 September~~	~~IATM conference in Belfast, Board meeting on Sunday: 12.00 am~~
1-10-2026	WEBEX CHANGED: 8-10-2026
3-12-2026	WEBEX

Time: 12.30 – 14.00 CET / 11.30 – 13.00 BST

Peter-Paul de Winter

Board Secretary