

Meeting Minutes:

- Produced by: Dakota H. Stevens

In Attendance:

- Carla Guerrón Montero
- Mónica Domínguez Torres
- Lois Stoehr
- Wendy Bellion
- Laura Helton
- Martin Brückner
- Mark Samuels Lasner

- *Introductions of new Advisory Committee members and affiliates:*

- Petra Clark
 - New to the Advisory Committee
 - Assistant Librarian and Instruction Librarian for Special Collections
- Kedron Thomas
 - New to the Advisory Committee
 - Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology
- Neri de Kramer
 - New Affiliate Faculty
 - Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology
- Maryam Vaziri-Pashkam
 - New Affiliate Faculty
 - Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
- Lois Stoehr
 - New Affiliate Faculty
 - Internship Coordinator, Arts & Humanities in the Student Success Center

- *Ongoing and New Initiatives:*

- CMCS/URP Interdisciplinary Research Cohort
 - Provides a great thinking and discussion space for students to cross disciplinary boundaries under the guidance of compensated (through CMCS monies) faculty mentors.
 - First cohort was formed in spring 2025 and met over summer 2025
 - A call for a second cohort will be disseminated by the end of the semester
- Undergraduate Working Group
 - An undergraduate student has been found to lead the working group.
 - The hope is there will be graduate students who would volunteer time to serve as mentors
 - The CMCS will recruit this grad student and provide modest compensation for their work.
- CMCS Collections Database

- CMCS is adding a page to the website that will contain links to all UD and UD affiliated collections (museums, libraries, archives, etc.)
 - If you know of a collection you would like us to include, please send it to materialculture@udel.edu
 - Please include a link and short description of the collection.
- Thing Tank Academic Year 2025-2026
 - Thing Tank will return next academic year.
 - The call for a Thing Tank Director will go out in the next couple of weeks.
- Additional new initiatives are in the works.
- *Announcements:*
 - Fall 2024 grant information
 - The CMCS plans to give out as much in award money as previous years.
- *Events for Academic Year 2024-2025:*
 - Cooch's Bridge: The African American Experience; October 11, 2024
 - The performance was excellent with a great turn out bring together new partnerships that will hopefully lead to more collaboration.
 - There was a substantial presence of public from the Delaware community in addition to the UD community
 - Book Holiday Party; Thursday, December 5, 2024; 5:30-7:30 pm in the Rollins Room of Jastak-Burgess Hall
 - Carla and Monica say it will be a good time, so please come out and celebrate our colleague's new books!
 - Thing Tank: The First Three Years (in collaboration with Special Collections); Thursday, February 27, 2025, in Class of 1941 or Room 114, Morris Library (depending on Library availability); 5:30-8:00 pm
 - A symposium celebrating the first 3 years of Thing Tank and the contributions it has made to the field of Material Culture Studies
- *Events for Academic Year 2025-2026:*
 - Celebration of 25 Years of CMCS: Week of November 10th, 2025, with a closing event on Thursday, November 13, 2025
 - Planning for this event is underway
 - Emergent Scholars Symposium: April 24 and 25, 2026
 - To be held at Winterthur
 - Planning underway
- *DELPHI 2025-2026:*
 - Information about the first information session on DELPHI will be coming out in the next few weeks.
- *Updates on the CMCS website:*
 - Currently working on updating many sections of the website
 - If any affiliates have updated to bio, title, or headshot please let us know and we will make the changes on the website
 - Spring 2025 course listings have been updated

- Next pressing update is the book pages
- If you have any material culture related news to share also, please send it our way to be featured on social media and the website.
- *New business and new ideas:*
 - CMCS to discuss the possibility of beginning a LinkedIn page for the Center to increase connections with alumni and faculty who move to other institutions.
 - Strategy of featuring the strength of the intellectual community of CMCS to reach out to faculty and students from departments not commonly engaged with CMCS as well as new faculty from departments traditionally connected to CMCS.
 - Featuring an intellectual community combined with social events that foster networking could be an approach to expand the reach of CMCS. To this effect, CMCS will collaborate with the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture to organize a social event.
 - Carla and Mónica will contact the AFRA chair and CHAD director to invite collaborations and connections.