

Present: with Carol Ryder in the chair were: Larry Clausen, Reid Cummings, Cassandra Dam, Patti Dibski, Dr. Daniel Doz, A. Stewart Hanlon, Iain Howe, Amanda Hu, Spil Kousinioris, Ashif Merani, Sheila Taylor, Rickee-Lee Webster, Bobby Yin

Regrets: Susanne DiCocco

Guests: Jill Brown, Vice President Administration; Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement; Dr. André Plante, Vice President Academic and Provost; Andrea Power, Secretary to the Board of Governors

The Chair welcomed all members and guests to the meeting, read the Treaty 7 Land Acknowledgement and then called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Dr. Doz and **SECONDED** by Mr. Clausen:

THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft April 15, 2020 Board of Governors agenda, as presented.
CARRIED

2. Consent Agenda

THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft February 12, 2020 meeting minutes, as presented.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

THAT the Board of Governors approve the draft March 17, 2020 special meeting minutes, as presented.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

THAT the Board of Governors appoint:

- Amanda Hu as Chair, Governance & HR Committee, for the term ending February 18, 2023.
- Susanne DiCocco as member of the Governance & HR Committee for the term ending February 18, 2023.
- Sheila Taylor as member of the Finance and Audit Committee for the term ending February 18, 2023.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

THAT the Board of Governors receive the Cabinet Report, as presented.

Approved by **CONSENT**.

In response to several questions on the Cabinet Report, the following was noted:

- Regarding job layoffs and the potential return to work, there have been layoffs of non-permanent employees and hourly paid staff. There is the potential to fill these positions when the campus is fully open.
- With respect to grading marks and the CR/NC alternate grading options, it was confirmed the university was offering a hybrid grading approach. Once students receive their mark, they can decide to keep their letter grade or elect for a CR/NC for the course.
- The online plans for Continuing Education are to be confirmed. There is however a trend to move continuing education programming online. Continuing Education has sent out a survey to over 1900 individuals. This is to assist in further responding to what the audience might be looking for in online options. 15 potential courses have been identified for spring or summer.

3. Board Chair's Report

The Board Chair reviewed the report with the Board noting that the report was appended. The Chair extended personal thanks to all the faculty, staff and students for their efforts. In addition to the report the Chair noted two additional items:

1. The Post-Secondary Institution (PSI) forecast and the support grant agreement. The base operating grant has been signed off by the President and CEO.
2. On April 14, 2020, the President and CEOs contract was signed off and is now fully executed. This new contract is for an additional 5 years.

4. President's Report

The President and CEO reported the following:

- The Sobey Art award for this year included 25 artists; two of which are AUArts alumni – Jason Jason De Haan and Amy Malbeuf.
- AUArts are still waiting on clarification on the IMA details. The three-year grant amount has been confirmed, but the final details are yet to be confirmed. The budget reduction remains at 6.1% for this year. The government is indeed increasing the reporting required, which will put a burden on the Finance team.
- The pandemic has been consuming our activities as well as the preparation for the budget. Key items noted are:
 - We will be making an announcement in the next couple of days with exciting news on financial student support.
 - This year marked the 10th year anniversary for the Administrative art exhibit. The Office of the President has traditionally purchased every year a few pieces of art for about \$2000. This year there was a jury composed of Carol Ryder, Natasha Pashak and Natali Rodriguez, who identified possible work for acquisition. The purchase for the 10th anniversary will be substantially increased to \$10,000 to further support students.
 - We will be holding convocation – as scheduled on May 20, but in a virtual format. The announcement will be made soon.
 - Due to the pandemic impact, we are currently re-forecasting the budget. Cabinet has been working on the financial figures and will continue to meet to confirm the budget.

- Confirmed applications for Fall 2020 are still trending 5% above where we were at this time last year.
- Work on the pandemic and the impact on the spring and fall terms. Perhaps even the winter semester will be reviewed. A meeting of Deans' Council is scheduled to discuss these issues and the work that needs to be done.
- The Council of Post-secondary Presidents of Alberta (COPPOA) noted that the government has started discussions on the PSI system review.
- All Alberta PSI continue to look for support from the province.
- In a meeting with the North American Institutions of Art, it was noted that the studio-based institutions are all struggling with how to move forward. There is a strong likelihood that students will try to stay closer to home. For 2019-20, AUArts has 63% of students from the Calgary area, 23% from the rest of Alberta. 5% of our students are international and 6% are indigenous. As students often rely on the money they make in the summer, this could have an impact on next year's enrolment. Federal government is putting a plan together for PSI students.
- The MacKinnon report suggested that there might be too many Post-secondary institutions in Alberta. In previous discussions with the government, there was a consensus that a merger was not practical as it would not deliver any substantial financial savings as the overall salary framework at AUArts is below most other institutions.
- AUArts is defined as a provincial institution and is the only art university in Alberta and the prairies. As AUArts do not have a counterpart in Alberta (such as SAIT/NAIT, Norquest/BVC...), this may provide the opportunity for further collaborations, over and above amalgamation.
- The 2020 Fall applications are tracking at 5% higher over last year with those who have paid a deposit. The application fee is \$100 and is non-refundable. Once they are admitted, they then pay another fee of \$330. 2nd and 3rd year students pay a fee to hold their place. Some institutions are delaying admission until July or early August. Fall numbers will not be confirmed until late this year. International numbers will be impacted substantially; however, some international students are already in BC. This will be reviewed to understand who is available to study in Canada or at a distance.
- The IMA is forcing AUArts and other universities to prepare budgets that may not be realistic. AUArts will be preparing a conservative budget with a wide delta as a result of the targets in the IMA for domestic and international enrolment.

5. Board Committee Reports

5.1. Finance + Audit Committee

The Committee Chair noted the following:

- At a recent meeting, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) walked through their proposed audit plan. The challenge is how to address the plan now that staff are working from home. The interim plan includes an initial meeting and then a visit in the summer. The OAG is asking for further meeting time over the next few weeks and AUArts will determine if and how the internal audit can take place.
- Spent time on the internal verification of process findings that were brought up last year.

There are short term concerns with complying with this.

- Budget and IMA were discussed at our last meeting and extended appreciation to Jill and her team for this very challenging task.
- Expecting to see adjustments in the investment portfolio and there are market value decreases and the Mawer strategy is in the works.

5.2. Advancement Committee

The Committee Chair noted the following:

- Crisis communication around the virus has been timely, demonstrating best practice and has been well done. Issues management is next, and we need to understand what is going on, which will then lead to the recovery phase.
- Internal communications will need to be formally reviewed, but this cannot happen at the time of a crisis. This project will eventually take fruition in the future.
- A protocol for government interactions needs to be developed. There is a lot of interaction now, but clear direction from the government is lacking which creates confusion.

5.3. Governance/HR Committee

The Committee Chair noted the following:

- Met last on March 31 and continuing the board policy review. Knowing Daniel's contract is in place will be helpful to ensure the delegation of authority of the President can next be put in place.
- The new Board policy framework has been established and there are several policies that were originally Board approved that will shift to other jurisdictions.
- Board evaluation/ feedback will be delayed this year with all the Board member changes. The offboarding and onboarding of members continues.
- Collective bargaining update with the FA and AUPE was in the Vice-President Administration report.
- Updates to signing authority matrix.
- The AUArts mandate statement was finalized for the Board.

6. Rescind: Respectful Workplace Policy and Procedure

The Chair, Governance and Human Resources, noted the need to rescind the Policy and Procedure in order to bring in the changes required. The new Policy and Procedures would now be under the jurisdiction of the President and CEO. The AUArts website has been set up for a smooth transition.

THAT the Board of Governors rescind the Respectful Policy and Procedures, effective immediately.

CARRIED.

7. AUArts University Continuity

7.1 Crisis Management Team (CMT) Update

AUArts have now moved from dealing with the crisis to where we are now – faculty, students and staff – working on bringing the semester to a close.

- AUArts are proud of Bryan Cera who built medical visors in the 3D Think Tank Lab.
- The bookstore is still operational with orders only placed online with curbside pickup.
- The Crisis Management Team (CMT) is moving to a decreased frequency of meetings. Starting next week, there will be one meeting per week. Currently we still have 19 students in SAIT residence. We much appreciate the care they are receiving and there is an anticipated exit of students at the end of the semester. Potentially some students may ask to remain longer if they do not have anywhere to go.
- Construction in the entrance area is moving ahead.
- Activity has shifted to supporting faculty to teach courses in spring and fall. The Director, Learning Services, is leading this initiative with the Director of CTS.

7.2 Emergency Student Funding

- There is a program established to support students in need, with funding until the end of June. Three parts to the program:
 1. Temporary financial relief bursary: for 65 students
 2. Scholarships for research projects and a relationship with a creative element: for 15 students at \$1500. The IKG will help to oversee the research projects.
 3. An information center for current students and alumni to assist with distilling the information available from a local, provincial and federal levels.

8. 2020-2021 Investment Management Agreement

- This continues to be a moving target but adjusted to the end of May. Government recognizes that we will need to adapt to the new structure; especially the thresholds. Some of the targets may not be realistic and the variance may be adjusted. In the next few weeks the government will be sending back the adjusted IMA; which has resulted in a move of the next F&A meeting.

8.1 2020-2021 Budget Scenarios

- There are three ways to look at Fall 2020:
 1. Return with normal in-person classes and activities
 2. Return with some in-person but with substantial physical restrictions.
 3. Return with no in-person classes and activities, with the hope that Winter 2021 is back to normal.
- With no vaccine, there will need to be consideration for putting everyone back in the building.
- Highly likely that in person will not happen, but there is an opportunity for a hybrid model.
- In the US, there is a growing number of PSI planning to have in person only for Fall 2021.
- It is essential that even in a hybrid model, we ensure our students have a great experience, so we do not jeopardize our reputation.
- Continuing Education is also looking at a hybrid model sooner.

9. Reports

9.1. General Faculties Council Report

Dr. Daniel Doz provided the following update:

- Two meetings in the last month.
 - March 25 – approved the Terms of Reference for the School Councils. The language in the academic plan needed to be clarified for diversity and inclusion. Most of the meeting was focused on a discussion of pandemic planning.
 - April 6 - special meeting of GFC to approve the new revisions to the grading and progression procedure; which provided the opportunity for students to select their grade or an NC/CR – with no GPA impact.
 - GFC will meet next on April 22.

9.2. AUArts SA Report

Rickee-Lee Webster provided the following in addition to the report submitted:

- A bunch of thank yous to several individuals as their actions mean a lot to students - \$10,000 purchase of art, Student relief fund, and the administration for CR/NC.
- SA are looking to partner with external organizations for food security with the potential to buy hampers for students.
- Hope the university can share the information on budget projections so the SA can plan accordingly for their budget.

9.3. AUAFA Report

Cassandra Dam provided the following in addition to the report submitted:

- Lots of thank yous as well for everyone - administration, CMT, and CTS and faculty.
- The proposed changes for courses in the fall will require a real shift of perspective for faculty to be more forward thinking. Online course procedures will be required for LOU #2 in the collective agreement.
- Concern for observer status on the Board and GFC. It was noted that GFC observers will be permitted as of April 22.
- Faculty are now looking forward instead of reactionary.

9.4. AUPE Report

Iain Howe provided the following in addition to the report submitted:

- This is a period of challenge during the pandemic for staff who are trying to work with flexibility and creatively at a busy time of year. There is concern for the future for many of the AUPE staff. Appreciate the continued communication.
- Thanks to the new Registrar, CTS, and project management staff.

10. Business Arising

Matters Arising from the Dec 11, 2019 Minutes: Andre Plant provided a note on the exact numbers for enrollment in the Crescent Heights Program.

11. 2020 Board of Governors Student Awards

The PowerPoint of the award winners was a part of the meeting package outlining each student award winner. These awards are selected annually by jury as established by institutional procedure. The award is presented to one graduating student in either each major or each stream within a major and one graduating student in each graduate program. There are two student nominees for each category. Each member does their own evaluation and they come together to make a final decision. The Board should be very proud to acknowledge the award meeting students.

12. Membership: Crisis Management Team

- Dr Daniel Doz, Overall Accountability
- Jill Brown, CMT Lead
- Joanne Deaver, Recording Secretary
- Marion Garden, Communications
- Nicole Hamilton, Continuing Education & Professional Development
- Ira Hanson-Ralph, Computing and Technical Services
- Wendy Harding, Human Resources
- Jamie Leong-Huxley, Government Relations/Reputation Management
- René Martin, Learning Services
- Jeff Meighen, Health, Safety, Security and Environment
- Kimberley Neutens, Student Services
- Dr André Plante, Academic and Research
- Andrea Power, University Governance

13. Email Vote: AUArts Approved Mandate Statement

On Friday, March 26, 2020 the Board of Governors, by e-vote, approved the revised AUArts Mandate Statement. The Board Chair has sent the approved mandate statement to the Advanced Education Ministry for inclusion in the Investment Management Agreement. AUArts will be informed when Advanced Education have approved the mandate statement for inclusion in the IMA.

14. Email Vote: Appointment University Registrar

On April 5, 2020 the Board of Governors unanimously appointed Ms. Susie Kennedy, by e-vote, as the AUArts Registrar, effective April 6, 2020.

15. In Camera Session

The Board went in camera at 5:55pm.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.