

Present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Dr. André Plante, Jill Brown, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Scott Cressman, Paul Robert, Dr. Benedict Fullalove, Heather Huston, René Martin, Nicole Hamilton, Susie Kennedy, Sondra Meszaros, John Gaucher, Mitch Kern, Mike Kerr, Barbara Sutherland, Bryan Cera, Tyler Rock, Lisa Lipton, Richard Gorenko, Justin Waddell, Dr. Chris Frey, Dr. Sarah Alford, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Suzanne Lermeyer, Lisa Blackwell, Kayla Gale, Dr. Mark Clintberg and Dr. Yoke-Sum Wong.

Guests: Dr. Alex Link, Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs; Andrea Power, Secretary to General Faculties Council; Carissa Matthews, Director, Office of the Provost; Kim Neutens, Associate Vice-President, Student Affairs; Su Soyer, Recording Secretary.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm and confirmed quorum.

1. Acknowledgment of the Land

The President read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land statement to members and guests.

2. Approval of the Agenda

M. Clintberg moved / H. Huston seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the February 24, 2021 agenda, as presented.

Carried

The presenter for Item 14: MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM) will be Paul Robert, not Alex Link as previously noted.

3. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021

T. Rock moved / H. Huston seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting as presented.

Carried

4. Business Arising

4.1 GFC Question 2021-1

A. Plante addressed the question regarding MFA admissions and program sustainability, brought forth by GFC member M. Clintberg:

- The MFA Committee met on Feb. 4th to discuss sustainability and admissions to ensure the program is sustainable and resilient.
- It was noted that when calculating target enrolment - capacity of departments, structure of program, and cost associated with program must be taken into consideration.
- Enrolment as of date is up in comparison to prior years and the current target is 12 students for the upcoming academic year.

5. Report from the President and CEO

- The Alberta Post-Secondary system is under review and will be going to the Alberta Provincial Cabinet in March. A symposium will be set-up in April to introduce the system review. It was noted that instead of the California model (super boards), there has been a shift towards the New Zealand model (with industry counsel). More information to come at a later date.
- The Council of Post-Secondary Presidents met in preparation for the upcoming budget announcement and to discuss system review.

6. Report from VP Academic and Provost

- AUArts celebrated its 2nd anniversary as a university earlier this month.
- Unit plans are currently under review.
- Calgary formed a consortium of universities (with 7 post-secondary institutions) working on a Work Integrated Learning (WIL) common platform to allow all students to have the same interface across institutions. Funding for this project is provided by the Calgary Economic Development and a private foundation.
- Plans for Fall 2021 and potential return to campus are going through Academic Planning and Oversight Committee (APOC), recommendation to be made to the RMT and then final approval by the President's Cabinet. More information to come by the end of March.

7. AUArts Students' Association (SA) Report

K. Gale provided a verbal report:

- Tuition passed by the Board at 7% and the Students Association had advocated for 6%.
- Met with the Minister regarding targeted enrolment.
- Advocated for Elders to be on the Board of Governors.

8. GFC representative to the Board Report

M. Clintberg provided a verbal report. The Board meeting was on February 10, 2021:

- The proposed tuition increase was approved.
- The Board passed the Honorary Degrees Procedure, the Board will be reviewing honorary degrees, but nominations are the responsibility of all members of the AUArts community.
- It was noted that funds/assets of the University are not directed to political parties.

9. University Continuity

9.1 2021 Admissions Update

K. Neutens presented on Admissions and Recruitment:

- AUArts has more confirmed applications this year compared to this time last year.
- Applications to First Year Studies is slightly down compared to the previous year with a total 551 applications to date.
- AUArts has seen an overall 2% decrease in overall applications, a 9% decrease in domestic applications but a 27% increase in International applications, and a 120% increase in confirmations to date.

- AUArts plans for higher participation in international recruitment fairs in 2021 and is also actively engaging with partners for Transfer Articulation Agreements.

10. School of Craft + Emerging Media Council (SC+EM)

Minutes included in meeting package.

A few members of GFC noted concerns with the word 'bias' in the January 6, 2021 SVA/SC+EM Approved School Council Meeting Minutes, #5. Discussion/open Q&A and asked that it be noted that students also have concerns regarding racism occurring in the classroom.

With respect to a query regarding who a student should go to when they have a concern for racism, it was noted that students should go to the School Council Chair.

11. School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS)

Minutes included in meeting package.

12. School of Communication Design Council (SCD)

Minutes included in meeting package.

13. School of Visual Art Council (SVA)

Minutes included in meeting package.

14. MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)

The Chair gave a brief verbal report.

- R. Brown is on leave and P. Robert is taking over the responsibilities along with L. Rice, who has a de-load to assist the program.
- 2 domestic and 5 international admissions are pending budget approval, bringing the total to a potential 15 MFA students in Fall 2021.

15. Dean's Council

Verbal update.

16. Undergraduate Degree Review Workgroup (UDRW) Update

H. Huston provided an update on the timeline and upcoming tasks. Curriculum work includes reviewing degree level learning outcomes, revising course outcomes, and curriculum mapping.

17. Research Committee: RBC Inspiring Speakers Series (March – April 2021)

A. Link announced that a proposal from RBC was approved by the committee for a speaker series on contemporary issues around Black Canadian identity and presence in the artistic community. Artist bios are available in the meeting package.

18. Academic Policy Committee: Work Plan for the Potential Fall Break

Documents are available in the meeting package. S. Kennedy noted that a virtual open consultation will be scheduled.

19. Adjournment

The February 24, 2021 General Faculties Council was adjourned at 3:30pm.