

**Voting Members** present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Dr. Alex Link, Jill Brown, Jamie Leong-Huxley, René Martin, Nicole Hamilton, Susie Kennedy, John Gaucher, Mitch Kern, Paul Hudson, Sarah Alford, Martina Lantin, Suzanne Lemermeyer, Barbara Sutherland, Bryan Cera, Tyler Rock, Lisa Lipton, Richard Brown, Justin Waddell, Dr. Christopher Frey, Dr. Yoke-Sum Wong, Portia Scabar, Rickee-Lee Webster, Ian Fitzgerald

**Regrets:** Rita McKeough

**GFC Resource Members:** Carissa Cameron Matthews, Director, Academic Resources; Tammy Paul, GFC Resource; Andrea Power, Secretary, General Faculties Council; Su Soyer, GFC Resource

**Observers:** Sarah Grodecki, AUArts SA Executive Director; Kim Neutens, Dean of Students

**Guest:** Heather Huston, Chair, Undergraduate Degree Review Workgroup (UDRW)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03pm, confirmed quorum and then read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land.

### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved / Seconded**

***THAT the General Faculties Council approve the September 15, 2021 agenda, as presented.***

***Carried***

### **2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2021**

**Moved / Seconded**

***THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft minutes of the May 26, 2021 meeting as presented.***

***Carried***

### **3. Business Arising**

#### **3.1 2021 Fall & 2022 Winter GFC meeting format**

GFC will meet online via MS Teams for the Fall semester and the meeting format will be reviewed by Steering for Winter 2021 in November 2021.

#### **3.2 MS Teams Chat**

At the May 2021 GFC meeting there was a motion that stated: *“THAT the General Faculties Council ask Steering Committee to have another discussion regarding MS Teams Chat at future GFC meetings.”* The Steering Committee (SC) considered the use of MS Teams Chat for online GFC meetings at their September meeting and confirmed that MS Teams Chat will not be available at the September 15, 2021 GFC meeting. The SC have composed a small taskforce (Bryan Cera, Portia Scabar and Andrea Power) to examine the feasibility and potential format for a Teams Chat Protocol.

#### **4. Report from the President**

The Chair welcomed all members and guests to the new academic year. In the Report the following was noted:

- Covid rapid testing with Shoppers Drug Mart has been put in place and will be available as of September 22, 2021.
- New members to the Board of Governors were welcomed: Ian FitzGerald, Justin Waddell, Jamie Russett (renewal for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term), India Dmytriev and Adrian Stimson (external/public appointment who is also an AUArts alum).
- It was announced that a virtual Board retreat is being held on September 25 and will be discussing the Strategic Plan. GFC members have been invited to join the meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan at 11am.
- The government has not resumed conversation about the Investment Management Agreement (IMA). The IMA related to Work Integrated Learning (WIL) will be worked on this year. The government definition of WIL is the “Proportion of approved programs that have work-placements identified as part of the program.”
- Updates regarding the building include a new entrance and updated furniture. New seats in the mezzanine, cafeteria, and student services. Updating signage is pending for the building and there is temporary signage now.
- There are currently two academic leadership searches underway: Dean, Academic Programs, and Associate Dean, Research, International and Graduate Studies. The firm, BIPOC Search, is engaged to assist with these searches.

#### **5. Report from AVP Academic Affairs**

The AVP Academic Affairs Report included:

- Welcome and congratulations to the four new permanent faculty: Henrjeta Mece (SCCS), Ghada Alatrash (SCCS), Kara Stone (SCCS), Naoko Masuda (SCD).
- Congratulations to Ashley Scarlett and Lisa Lipton for their show, Contingent Systems. This is the first AUArts hosted Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funded project.
- AUArts have transitioned to the new academic leadership structure. School Council meetings have been set – SCCS on Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, SCD and SVA/SCEM on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Link will chair each School Council meeting and report to GFC.
- The restructured BFA degree, as prepared by the UDRW, has been presented to the Academic Planning and Oversight Committee (APOC) and will next go to an ALL faculty meeting next week.
- An Academic Affairs Newsletter update was sent out today and another one will be coming out tomorrow.

#### **6. AUArts Students' Association (SA) Report**

The AUArts Student Association (SA) Report was included in the meeting package, and the SA Vice President, Academic noted the following:

- The Students' Association currently has ongoing elections, and a new Student Leadership Council (SLC) will be announced on Oct. 1.
- The SA are working on promotion with SAITSA to encourage everyone to vote at both the Federal and Municipal elections.
- The SA financial statements are on target to go to the Board for information in December 2021.
- The SLC has been moving forward with strategic intentions and spent a significant amount of time invested in learning about anti-racist organizational change. The goal is to establish foundational awareness around decolonizing the workplace and anti-racist work practices.
- The programming team has been working all summer and extending an invitation to everyone to attend upcoming informational community events.

### **7. GFC representative to the Board of Governors**

The new GFC representative to the Board of Governors, Ian FitzGerald, noted the following in the report:

- Ian FitzGerald will be in this position for September 2021 – June 2022 while Dr. Clintberg is on sabbatical.
- Ian FitzGerald had a meeting with the Board Chair and will continue to build a better rapport and encourage more open communication between GFC, Board of Governors and faculty.
- Everyone is encouraged to attend the Board of Governors meetings as they are open meetings. The full schedule of meetings is available online.

### **8. Draft GFC Standing Committee Terms of Reference – Revisions for 2021-2022 only – School Chair to School Director**

In spring 2021 the Academic Leadership was restructured which has necessitated a one-year revision in composition of several GFC Standing Committee terms of reference for 2021-2022. The revisions relate only to the change in title of School Chairs and the Associate School Chairs. The Academic Leadership positions will be complete in spring 2022 and it is anticipated a comprehensive revision to the GFC and GFC Standing Committee composition/terms of reference will be required at that time, which would be effective July 1, 2022.

On September 7, 2021 the GFC Steering Committee recommended the changes to the full GFC for approval. The changes to the GFC Standing Committee terms of reference composition will amend the title 'School Chair' to 'School Director' and 'Associate School Chair' to 'School Director'. The Terms of Reference to be amended for 2021-2022 are: Steering Committee, Academic Policy Committee, Academic Planning and Oversight Committee, Student Affairs Committee, Research Committee, Curriculum Committee, APOC: Transfer and Articulation Agreements (TAA) Sub-Committee, APOC: Undergraduate Degree Review Workgroup (UDRW), and School Council.

#### **Moved / Seconded**

***THAT the General Faculties Council approve the Draft General Faculties Council Standing Committee Terms of Reference, effective immediately, until June 30, 2022, as listed.***

***Carried***

### **9. Recovery Management Update**

The Vice Chair of the Recovery Management Team (RMT) noted the following:

- RMT has been very busy with rapid testing on campus and the university is on track to have the full return to campus on Wednesday, Sept 22. Announcements will be coming from Academic Affairs and the President in the coming days.
- With respect to student representation on RMT, it was noted that the SA does have representation in other areas with additional representation to be considered.
- There was a question regarding the feasible to have a transitional week for students and faculty and it was confirmed that the university must be firm and consistent for all. There will be a full return to campus next Wednesday.
- Rapid testing is in place as of September 22, 2021 and further announcements will be coming forward in the next day or two.

#### **10. Update: Undergraduate Degree Review Workgroup (UDRW)**

The June UDRW update was provided in the meeting package and further discussion noted the following:

- The UDRW presented to APOC and there is a need to reach out to the community for consultation, including managers of groups, the SA, and Elders' Council.
- It will be important in the work of the UDRW to make the necessary changes to FINA 400 to satisfy the requirements for WIL to ensure the university retains the base funding for operations.

#### **11. Other Business**

Questions raised during other business, include:

- The groundwork for the Indigenous Framework was completed in June 2021. The final Framework will be presented to APOC, GFC, and the Board of Governors (for endorsement), in due course. It was noted that more work needs to be done with within the internal community. Currently Troy Patenaude is working with Elder Casey for the refinement of the AUArts Community outreach. AUArts is a few months away from introducing the next reiteration to the community.
- In lieu of a dedicated curator there is an IKG Advisory Committee. In the meantime, there has been an IKG advising coordinator appointed, who was just announced – Dr. Ashley Scarlett.

#### **12. School Council Report**

Dr. Link noted there were various approved School Council meeting minutes enclosed in the meeting package. As a reminder, the position of School Chairs no longer exists in the Academic leadership structure. AUArts now has School Directors, which certain administrative duties. Key duties of the former School Chairs will be assigned to the two new Associate Deans, when hired.

#### **13. Dean's Council**

There was no report as Deans' Council has not met yet.

#### **14. Review of GFC Governance Documents:**

The GFC Secretary encourages all GFC members to review and familiarize themselves with the GFC Bylaws and Rules. If you have any questions, please reach out to the GFC Secretary directly.

#### **15. Steering Committee: Call for Nomination for GFC Vice Chair**

Nominations for the position of GFC Vice Chair will close at 4pm September 17, 2021.

#### **16. Results of GFC Election: SC Academic Staff Members\***

There are three new full-time academic staff members appointed to the Steering Committee: Bryan Cera, Dr. Chris Frey, and Tyler Rock. There were also two emergency academic staff members appointed to the Steering Committee: John Gaucher and Dr. Yoke Sum Wong.

#### **17. Results of GFC E-Vote: Cancellation of classes on September 30, 2021**

GFC unanimously approved the cancellation of classes on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and accordingly, the academic schedule for 2021-2022. There will be indigenous programming on the afternoon of September 30<sup>th</sup> with more information to come.

#### **18. Adjournment**

The September 15, 2021 General Faculties Council meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.