

Voting Members present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Dr. Alex Link, Jamie Leong-Huxley, René Martin, Nicole Hamilton, Susie Kennedy, Mitch Kern, Sarah Alford, Martina Lantin, Suzanne Lemermeyer, Barbara Sutherland, Bryan Cera, Tyler Rock, Lisa Lipton, Richard Brown, Rita McKeough, Justin Waddell, Dr. Christopher Frey, Dr. Yoke-Sum Wong, Portia Scabar, Ian FitzGerald, Silas Kaufman, Graham Boyd, and John Gaucher

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

Observers: Reeny Koh, SA Administrative Assistant; Sarah Grodecki, SA Executive Director; Lisa Cerny, AUArts AUPE Chapter 006, Chapter Chair; Dr. Benedict Fullalove, Associate Professor of Faculty, Liberal Studies

The Chair read the acknowledgement of the land, called the meeting to order at 2:02pm and confirmed quorum. The Chair then welcomed GFC members, guests, and observers to the GFC meeting. The Chair welcomed two new members to GFC: Silas Kaufman, School of Communication and Design; and Graham Boyd, Students' Association Vice President, External Relations

1. Approval of the Agenda

Item 12 (Revised Program Proposal: Bachelor of Fine Arts) removed and incorporated into item 5 (Report from Associate Vice President Academic Affairs).

Moved / Seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the December 15, 2021 agenda, as amended.

Carried

2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2021

Moved / Seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft minutes of the November 17, 2021 meeting, as presented.

Carried

3. Business Arising from the November 17, 2021 GFC approved minutes

The Chair did not have any items noted for Business Arising from the November 17, 2021 meeting minutes; however, it was noted that the visit from the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education hasn't yet been rescheduled.

4. Report from the President and CEO

4.1 GFC meeting format in Winter 2022: The GFC Steering Committee discussed the meeting format – online or in person – and have confirmed GFC will continue to meet online for January and February. The Steering

Committee will revisit the discussion of GFC meeting format for March – May 2022 at their February 2, 2022 meeting.

The President provided a verbal report and the following was noted:

- Conversations between the post-secondaries and the ministry are occurring at macro level regarding IMAs, their appropriateness and how some of them are contradictory.
- Update on hiring search progress for the following positions:
 - Dean, Academic Programs
 - VP Finance and Operations
 - Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and Internationalization
- Tables in cafeteria are gone to make space for new furniture.
- Update on enrollment. Stats from early December: First year applications are up 11% from Fall 2021 and International applications are up 24% from Fall 2021.
- Meeting with Auditor General last month for the annual audit, which went well. No new recommendations. The Annual Report is going to the Board today.
- Chair has assigned J Meighen with exploring possibility of an orange flagpole to fly on September 30th. The flagpole could also be used to fly a pride flag.
- Chair thanked AUArts community for the fall semester and entire calendar year.

5. Report from AVP Academic Affairs

The Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs gave a verbal report and the following was noted:

- Positive feedback from students regarding being back on campus and how faculty handled teaching during the pandemic.
- Fair amount of business has been making its way through GFC standing committees. New course FINA 401, revamped 4th year Photo curriculum, and revisions to 10 MFA courses have all been approved. Proposal for direct entry into a degree program, Design, has been endorsed unanimously by SCD Council and is now proceeding through the approval process. IKG Advisory Committee Terms of Reference have been approved.
- No report from Chair of UDRW today. Following some additional consultation meetings, including one with faculty on December 7th, UDRW concluded that faculty want a clearer understanding of the potential content of the proposed structure. During the winter semester, members of UDRW will undertake significant and additional consultation with faculty on how the structure will be organized and populated.

6. AUArts Students' Association Report

The Students' Association Vice President, Academic provided a written and verbal report and the following was noted:

- Sarah Grodecki, SA Executive Director is leaving.
- Past President Rickee-Lee Webster has left. Portia Scabar acting as interim President. Currently running a bi-election.
- Graham Boyd, VP External Relations is now the other member of GFC from the SA.
- Show and Sale went well. SA is looking forward to spring sale.

7. GFC representative to the Board Report

The GFC representative to the Board of Governors noted there was no Board of Governors meeting since the last meeting of GFC.

8. Steering Committee: Draft General Faculties Council E-Voting Protocol

The Steering Committee has recommended the protocol to GFC for approval at their December 2021 meeting. If approved, the document will be placed on the GFC website and shared with each standing committee. There were no questions.

As recommended by the GFC Steering Committee:

THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL E-VOTING PROTOCOL, AS PRESENTED.

Carried

9. Academic Policy Committee (APC): Fall Break

S Kennedy provided an update on the work that APC has been doing in relation to Fall Break and the Academic Date Setting procedure.

Motion #9.1

On behalf of the Academic Policy Committee:

THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT ACADEMIC DATE SETTING PROCEDURE, AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

Motion #9.2

On behalf of the Academic Policy Committee:

THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT 2022-2023 ACADEMIC DATES, AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

In discussion of the documents, the following was noted:

- The 13th week has historically been a week for additional class rather than assessment in SCD. Definition of what constitutes a summative evaluation event will need to be clarified, and shared definition developed.
- Conversation regarding September 30th. The academic schedule will be adjusted to accommodate when a final decision has been made by the President. With more notice going forward, AUArts will be able to make change to the schedule well before the term starts.
- Member noted SCD doesn't do midterm grading. S Kennedy will research potential inconsistency between procedure and SCD. Undergraduate Course Management Procedure to be consulted as well, that procedure is clear in requiring some measure of midterm assessment in writing that takes place for students. Update at January GFC.

10. Recovery Management Update

The Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs provided a verbal update on the Recovery Management Team (RMT) and the following was noted:

- RMT has concluded and will disband. Could be re-constituted if the pandemic situation changes. Discussion regarding ongoing pandemic response will take place at the President's Cabinet in consultation with J Meighen's team.

11. 2020-2021 Annual Library Report

René Martin, Director, Learning & Instructional Services, presented the 2020-2021 Annual Library Report, and it was noted that the Library is committed to producing an annual report.

- Report included in GFC package. Report highlights programming, partnerships, new initiatives and collections, brief overview of circulation, reference metrics and other count data.

13. Update: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Taskforce

Nicole Hamilton, Co-Chair, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Taskforce, presented an update and the following was noted:

- Growing appetite for EDI updates. Anticipate that there will be more updates in 2022.
- Taskforce agreed to Terms of Reference and their primary purpose, selecting and supporting the procurement of a consultant who knows the post secondary sector, has experience conducting EDI research and organizational planning. The consultant will gather information about our institution and with it develop a comprehensive EDI plan and recommendation.
- Role of the taskforce is to provide outreach and engagement, providing feedback and suggestions to the consultant in support of their work. Ensure that the institution receives appropriate recommendations based on our current contexts.
- Taskforce faced the reality of increased competition in securing EDI expertise. Taskforce has been successful in procurement process. Secured consultant, Higher Education Strategy Associates (HESA).
- Three prong strategy proposed by HESA: quantitative research (survey), qualitative subjective component and public forum.
- In the process of drafting a survey which was subjected to certification process. Process took longer than anticipated.
- Taskforce will reconvene in January and make a decision regarding methodological design for research. Survey testing to be done by four taskforce members, if testing goes well survey will be launched before end of January.

14. Other Business

Member thanked Chair for acknowledging the land and making sure that practice continues at all committee meetings. Need to work on how to keep land acknowledgement vital, besides repetition. Member read three sentences from Billy Ray Belcourt's memoir, A History Of My Brief Body.

15. School Council Reports

Approved meeting minutes included in meeting package for:

- School of Craft + Emerging Media Council (SC+EM)
- School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS)
- School of Communication Design Council (SCD)
- School of Visual Art Council (SVA)
- MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)

The materials from School Councils will show the bulk of the School Council meetings were used to discuss UDRW and direct entry for the Bachelor of Design program.

16. Deans' Council

The Chair noted that Deans' Council will next meet on January 27, 2022. Agenda items will include finalizing discussions regarding value of NASAD accreditation/equivalency for AUArts. As AUArts pursues Universities Canada and develops relationship with Campus Alberta Quality Council, NASAD equivalency becomes less necessary.

17. Steering Committee: Approved IKG Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

The Steering Committee approved the proposed IKG Advisory Committee Terms of Reference which were attached to the meeting pkg for information.

18. Curriculum Committee:

The Curriculum Committee approved three courses in three programs and the documents were shared for information.

- Master of Fine Arts: Modified Courses
- Bachelor of Fine Arts: New Course – FINA 401
- Photography: Modified Courses: 400-lvl PHTG

19. Adjournment

The December 15, 2021 General Faculties Council meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm. The next GFC meeting will be held on January 19, 2022.