

Voting Members present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Graham Boyd, Richard Brown, Bryan Cera, Ian FitzGerald, Dr. Christopher Frey, John Gaucher, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Dr. Lisa Lipton, Silas Kaufman, Susie Kennedy, Mitch Kern, Dr. Alex Link, René Martin, Rita McKeough, Scott Powell, Tyler Rock, Portia Scabar, Barbara Sutherland

Regrets: Dr. Sarah Alford, Nicole Hamilton, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Suzanne Lemermeyer, Justin Waddell, Dr. Yoke-Sum Wong

GFC Resource Members: Neny Kwasisu, Coordinator of Research + Academic Affairs *recording*; Carissa Matthews, Director, Academic Affairs and Research; Tammy Paul, E.A. President + CEO; Andrea Power, Secretary to General Faculties Council

Observers: Lisa Cerny, AUArts AUPE Chapter 006, Chapter Chair; Leia Gus; Gurman Sahota, Student Association, Executive Director

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm, 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 April 20, 2022 agenda, as presented.

Carried

2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022

moved / seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft minutes of the March 16, 2022 meeting, as presented.

Carried

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4. Report from the President and CEO

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

- End of Year: It is the final portion of the academic year, and everyone is wrapping up their work. The Grad Show is up until the end of the week, and all are invited to attend. Two thesis defenses have already taken place with two more to go by the end of this week.
- Enrolment: Currently in the last part of the admissions cycle. In general applications have been trending higher than the previous year. There are two areas with lower numbers – indigenous applications are lower, which could be attributed to the impact of the pandemic and minimal access to robust technology in some communities. The other area concerns transfer students. Transfer numbers are shrinking and that could be due to the pandemic causing people to choose to stay closer to home. It could also be that some of the institutions AUArts used to partner with

are now offering their own degrees. It is necessary to look beyond Alberta for student recruitment as currently 80% of our students are of Albertan origin.

- Open House: The first in person open house in two years is taking place next week. This is a very important opportunity to convert applicants into students.
- Balanced Budget: This is the last year of major government grant cuts. The budget is increasingly linked to performance metrics. This year 7% of the budget was tied to the first Investment Management Agreement (IMA) with the metric of Work Integrated Learning (WIL). Next year, the IMA will increase to 15% of at risk funding.
- Career Centre: The Centre softly launched and is a good initiative, given that it supports government-mandated WIL activities.
- Furniture Refresh: The interior furniture refresh is complete, with 10 of the old cafeteria tables retained, which will be repainted and repurposed.
- Academic Affairs Leadership: Finalizing senior academic hires and AUArts is currently in the final stages of contract negotiation. It is anticipated that announcements will go out in the coming weeks. Thank you to Susie Kennedy for accepting the role of Acting Dean of Students & Registrar.
- Centenary Project: In the process of identifying support for the centenary project. Interviews will be conducted next week in hopes for arrangements to be settled by the Fall.
- Convocation: The convocation will be in person with the current 2022 graduands and 50 graduands from the two previous years participating.
- COVID Update: The Province has removed most restrictions and Alberta is currently in the middle of a 6th wave. The use of masks, as of April 28, 2022, on campus will be optional. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask and get vaccinated. There has been no communication from the government since the restrictions were lifted.

4.1 Update: Indigenous Framework/Strategy

- There is a meeting tomorrow with the Elder's Council and hope to have an update for the next GFC meeting.

The following was noted in the discussion:

- In terms of transfer challenges, the institutions AUArts used to be partnered with, and which now give out their own degrees, include Bow Valley College, Red Deer College, SAIT, and Northwestern Polytechnic. There was a request for GFC members to receive, at the next meeting, a list of current transfer agreements on file at AUArts and note of which agreements may be impacted by the proposed revisions to the BFA program.
- It was noted that by being less specific with our majors, AUArts might attract more students as our program will be more flexible and be more accessible to incoming students.

5. Report from AVP Academic Affairs

The Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs provided a verbal report. The following was noted:

- The UDRW proposal has gone to the School Councils for discussion since the last GFC meeting and will also be discussed at today's GFC meeting.
- The work on implementing the direct entry proposal is ongoing with continued discussion on the implications and potential consequences on enrollment.
- Drafted Terms of Reference for a new Online Learning Committee are under development to adopt a set of standards for oversight of online course delivery and to maintain consistency across the university.
- APOC has discussed the need for a Sub-Committee to plan for strategic enrolment management as the committee has oversight responsibility in this area. Draft Terms of Reference for the

proposed Sub-Committee will go to APOC in due course.

- There is an upcoming meeting with the Calgary Board of Education, who has already had a tour of the campus.
- There will be a meeting tomorrow with the Canada Deans of Fine Arts Education.

6. AUArts Students' Association (SA) Report

The President of the Student Association provided a written report, and the following was noted:

- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place and was well attended. The SA have a full executive committee for 2022-2023.
- The Show and Sale will run from April 23-29, 2022.

7. GFC representative to the Board Report

The GFC representative to the Board provided a written report, and the following was noted:

- There are 2 new appointments to the Board – Sarah Anhorn and Chris Cran.
- It is hoped that Board meetings would be less quiet once they are held in person.
- There is a general preference for in person Board meetings although news of a 6th wave is worrisome.

8. Update: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Taskforce

The EDI taskforce thanked those who participated in the discussion groups and the following was noted:

- Student surveys have been sent out and will be open until April 26, 2022.
- The group of testers on the EDI taskforce are currently reviewing the employee survey and that work will wrap up this week. The expectation is that these surveys, including those for sessional instructors, will be sent out by month's end.
- Another survey will be sent to alumni, staff, students, and faculty asking for them to share their experiences.

9. Sexual Violence Policy Review

The GFC Secretary shared a PowerPoint presentation, and the following was noted:

- The review is being completed by a work group, several of which are expert internal members who have worked with sexual violence on campus.
- There are two reasons for the review – legislative requirements and an Alberta government mandate.
- The government is prioritizing this work and has provided \$2M to Alberta post-secondary institutions, with AUArts receiving \$67,000.
- It was noted this is a great draft policy.
- It is suggested that notices be put out around the library, as a sort of silent encouragement to let people know there is a safe space for reporting.
- Student Affairs will work with students on sexual violence and Human Relations will work with employees.
- The revised policy documents are now comprised of a stand-alone policy and two separate procedures, one for students and one for employees. Employees will continue to follow the procedure as outlined in the Respectful Workplace Procedure and students will follow the procedures as outlined in the non-Academic Misconduct, contained in the Student Conduct Procedure.

- It was noted there could be a provision in the policy for intersection between students and employees and this could be noted in the flowchart.
- The PowerPoint will be shared with GFC members.

10. Steering Committee: Revised GFC and GFC Standing Committee Composition

The GFC Secretary shared a PowerPoint presentation, and the following was noted:

- The PowerPoint will be shared with members of GFC.
- The Dean of Students should be added as a member of GFC, and it was noted that the addition of the Executive Director, People and Culture would bring an equity lens to discussions at GFC.
- In terms of adding more faculty, it is important to be mindful of service and workload. There is already an issue with absenteeism.
- Per the PSLA, sessional instructors on GFC and GFC Sub-Committees are not permitted as they are not “fulltime academic staff.” Further discussion could take place during the 2024-2025 governance review, which could also be an opportunity to review the addition of indigenous representation.
- A full governance review can consider all Terms of Reference for every committee and could be an opportunity for more efficiency.
- It was clarified that proportionate representation refers to academic staff who are full-time or have a limited term appointment within a school.
- It was noted that the GFC Vice-Chair should also be a member and Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee.

11. Revised Program Proposal: Bachelor of Fine Arts

The Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs provided a verbal report. The following was noted:

- The revised briefing note has been shared and discussed at the different schools. The record of consultation will be brought forward at upcoming school council meetings and move forward with the proposal.
- Feedback should be sent to ORAA.
- The status quo is not sustainable. The UDRW was charged with imagining a more sustainable degree structure. There is a needed change and GFC will vote on May 18, 2022 on the new proposed structure.
- It was suggested that the motion could be refined to read that the proposal still required some more work, or even that it could be experimented with as an internal decision. It was felt there should be continued consultation. In addition, it was felt there should be an external review before the GFC vote.
- This proposal is an opportunity to build a relationship with the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC), who look forward to reviewing and approving the revised BFA, once GFC approves the proposal.

11.1 GFC Member Question & Response

The GFC question form, to accompany the response on the BFA revision that was appended to the meeting package, was missing. The question form was shared with all members of GFC via email during the meeting.

12. Other Business

12.1 AUArts Career Services Centre

The Director, Learning & Instructional Services presented on the soft launch of the career centre, and the following was noted:

- A career coordinator was recently hired and although things are still in development a few actions have taken place; RBC future launch has funded free workshops on job seeking or even starting a business. The coordinator has already started meeting students to develop resumes and cover letters.
- The Career Centre is in a physical space across from the library for now.
- From the WIL perspective, they are working with the Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs and the Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development and have already met with three partners.

13. 2022 – 2023 Draft AUArts Budget and Investment Management Agreement

The GFC meeting went in camera for this discussion. Once the discussion concluded, the meeting resumed in open session.

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

Minutes included in meeting package.

14.1 School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS) presented by Chair

Minutes included in meeting package.

14.2 School of Communication Design Council (SCD)

Minutes included in meeting package.

14.3 School of Visual Art Council (SVA)

Minutes included in meeting package.

14.4 MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)

Minutes included in meeting package.

15. Dean's Council

There was no update as the Council has not met.

16. Adjournment

The April 20, 2022 General Faculties Council was adjourned at 4:10pm.