

**Voting Members** Present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Dr. Sarah Alford, Richard Brown, Bryan Cera, Ian FitzGerald, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Dr. Christopher Frey, John Gaucher, Nicole Hamilton, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Dr. Lisa Lipton, Silas Kaufman, Susie Kennedy, Suzanne Lemermeier, Mitch Kern, Dr. Alex Link, René Martin, Rita McKeough, Scott Powell, Tyler Rock, Portia Scabar, Barbara Sutherland, Justin Waddell, Dr. Yoke-Sum Wong

**Regrets:** Graham Boyd

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

**Guests:** Heather Huston

**Observers:** Quynn Covey, Students Association VP Academic; Caroline Becq, Administrative Assistant, Advancement; Kanwal Baluch, ORAA; Lisa Cerny, Educational Art Technician - Glass

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01pm, confirmed quorum and then read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land statement to members and guests. Thanks was extended to the GFC members who were finishing their terms, and this is their final meeting. SA representatives: Portia Scabar and Graham Boyd; faculty representatives: Mitch Kern, School of Communication Design and Tyler Rock, School of Craft and Emerging Media; and the GFC representative to the Board of Governors, Ian FitzGerald.

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

**moved / seconded**

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE MAY 18, 2022 AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.***

***Carried***

### **2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2022**

**moved / seconded**

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2022 MEETING, AS PRESENTED.***

***Carried***

### **3. Business Arising**

#### **Transfer Agreements**

The Registrar provided a written report on this item, noting that existing articulation agreements have been renewed or are in the process of being renewed.

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

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

##### **Approved Board of Governors Allocation of Internally Restricted Funds: Endowment**

There was a briefing note appended to the meeting package and the President noted this is the same briefing note that went to the Board of Governors. The Board motion was approved at the April 20, 2022 Board meeting and followed a similar process the Board used last year to fund a variety of activities. This year, and last year, the funds released were for one million dollars. Last year included funding for a variety of programs and bursaries/scholarships/endowments for MFA, WIL, and Lodgepole. It will take one year for the interest to come forward before the funds are available on an annual basis. The GFC Research Committee will be an active participant in the 2022 new allocation of funds.

In addition, the President noted:

- The grad show this year is a smaller one, but all are looking forward to the events and viewing the exhibits.
- The Faculty Association and Board Collective Agreement has been ratified by both parties; much appreciation to all.
- Thank you to all who participated in the first open house in 2 1/2 years with over 200 in attendance.

The following was noted in discussion:

- Will there be more combined studio courses coming from the Research endowment? No, the main point of the endowment is to provide release time for faculty by permitting AUArts to find instructor replacements to free up faculty time for research.

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

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

- The call has gone out for expressions of interest for school director in the academic newsletter and emails this week. It will remain open for 2 ½ weeks.
- Work is still ongoing for the implementation of direct entry to the BDes first year.
- There will be an APOC meeting soon to vote on terms of reference for the Online Learning Sub-Committee draft terms of reference as well as for the Strategic Enrolment Management Sub-Committee. APOC also discussed the best way to report to the AUArts community on the progress of the academic plan.

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

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

- The team is transitioning now and there are new executive positions.
- The team is currently planning next year's programs.
- Thank you to the President for coming to the Executive Committee meeting.

## **7. GFC representative to the Board Report**

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

- The Board met yesterday and there was a full agenda with both new members, Sara Anhorn and Chris Cran, in attendance.
- 3 internal and 2 external members will end their terms on the Board this summer.
- The budget and the IMA with the government were approved by the Board.
- The Board Emeritus policy and procedure for the Board Chair and President were approved.
- Review and update on the tuition and fees was provided and the new Tuition policy was approved.
- The Board of Governors student award winners were announced, and recipients will be at the grad show with their work available for viewing.
- An in-camera session was also held.

## **8. Academic Policy Committee: Undergraduate Final Grade Appeal Procedure**

As recommended by the Academic Policy Committee:

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT GRADE APPEAL PROCEDURE, AS PRESENTED AND EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022.***

***Carried***

The Registrar presented the motion, and the following was noted in discussion:

- Incomplete grades are not included in the procedure as a grade appeal suggests that work submitted for assessment had issues and an incomplete grade means the work is not finished so there is no need for it in the procedure.
- For sessional faculty who may be off contract, students will move to the next stage which will move to the director to get advice and then to the appeal committee directly. There is also the option for students to work with current complementary faculty or teaching assistant.
- Since the Registrar has been in office, they have had 2 to 3 per term. In the last 10 years there have been 11 grade appeals. The main reason for the updated procedure is to ensure clarity, transparency and a tightening of the process.
- The web link to the student code of conduct will be checked. It was clarified that the student code of conduct is not linked to the grade appeal procedure.

## **9. Academic Planning and Oversight Committee: Revised Program Proposal: Bachelor of Fine Arts**

As recommended by the Academic Planning and Oversight Committee:

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE REVISED BACHELOR OF FINE ART (BFA) STRUCTURE AS PRESENTED, EFFECTIVE FALL 2024 WITH APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED STARTING IN FALL 2023.***

***Carried***

The Vice-President, Academic Affairs and the Chair of the UDRW committee presented the motion, expressing thanks to the community and committee for work done. The following was noted in discussion:

- The proposal presents us with a vision to the curriculum and will lead to a more comprehensive relationship with the CAQC. It removes course stacking, ensures cross-disciplinary interaction and builds community.
- The modification affects the curriculum, and it was clarified that a simple majority vote was all that was required to pass the motion. The motion comes from a GFC standing committee.
- It was noted that there appears to be a lack of proper research on the competitiveness of the proposal.
- In terms of EDI elements re hiring, inclusion within the curriculum, H. Houston met with the Elders Council and Elder Casey separately to discuss the proposal and its connection with the Indigenous Strategy. What they want is Elder presence in classrooms and the inclusion of history as told from the Indigenous perspective. The curriculum developer the UDRW worked with is also Indigenous. The inclusion of EDI is an ongoing process.
- Incoming students in 2024 will be informed of the curriculum changes. Students in current programs will be able to complete programs they have already signed up for.
- The changes are informed by data beyond pandemic years and dated from 2015. AUArts will continue to have broad offerings to accommodate most interests.
- It was felt that the proposal could result in a loss of sustained discipline concentration, instructor diversity, and modality where students can focus on their interests.
- Students will still have access to WIL opportunities.

#### **10. Steering Committee: Draft GFC Bylaws and GFC Standing Committee Terms of Reference**

As recommended by the Steering Committee:

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC PLANNING AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE, STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, RESEARCH COMMITTEE, CURRICULUM COMMITTEE, SCHOOL COUNCIL AND THE DRAFT GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL BYLAWS, AS PRESENTED AND EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.***

The President and GFC Secretary presented the motion, noting that the focus is on composition only and that a fulsome review of the bylaws will be undertaken later. The following was noted in the discussion:

- The extensive GFC governance review will likely take over a year, perhaps in 2014-15.
- Students were consulted and feedback was sought as required from each Standing Committee.
- There was a request for an amendment of the main motion, removing the revised GFC Bylaws to have a more fulsome discussion of the addition of the role of the Executive Director, People and Culture as a voting member of the GFC because of the lens it provides the GFC.

Amended motion:

**moved / seconded**

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL AMEND THE MAIN MOTION TO REMOVE THE DRAFT GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL BYLAWS.***

***CARRIED***

Main amended motion:

**moved / seconded**

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC PLANNING AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE, STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, RESEARCH COMMITTEE, CURRICULUM COMMITTEE, AND SCHOOL COUNCIL, AS AMENDED AND EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.***

***CARRIED***

GFC then moved into a discussion of the revised GFC Bylaws, focused on the role of the Executive Director, People and Culture. The following was noted in discussion:

- The role of the Executive Director, People and Culture is a wholistic role that will allow GFC to view decisions through an EDI lens. If some HR related matter comes in GFC up that requires neutrality, the Manger of HR can step in to prevent any potential conflict of interest.

**moved / seconded**

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL BYLAWS, AS PRESENTED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022.***

***CARRIED***

### **11. Update: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Taskforce**

The EDI taskforce presented a verbal report, noting the following:

- The student survey is complete.
- Every employee is encouraged to complete the employee survey before the end of the week.
- There will be a survey going out this week to alumni and former employees.
- The EDI taskforce will meet before the summer break begins.

The following was noted in discussion:

- The taskforce is not able to share the student response rate just yet.
- The taskforce has access to the alumni database that is kept up to date pending people providing their personal emails to them.

### **12. Update: Indigenous Framework/Strategy**

The President presented a verbal report, noting the following:

- The last Elders Council meeting was focused on the Indigenous strategy.
- There are 2 students on the Elders Council who have taken the lead at looking at the draft strategy put together with the help of Troy Patenaud and Pe Metawe.
- The meeting tomorrow is focused on what should stay in the strategy, what should go and what should be added. They are considering adding indigenous artwork to the document and hiring a writer to unify the different voices in the document.

The following was noted in discussion:

- It was noted that Pe Metawe come from a different treaty group. For this reason, the Elders Council is putting a lens on which elements should stay or go to ensure the right treaty material is captured.

### **13. Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **14. School Council Reports**

#### **14.1 School of Craft + Emerging Media Council (SC+EM)**

Minutes included in meeting package.

#### **14.2. School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS)presented by Chair**

Minutes included in meeting package.

#### **14.3 School of Communication Design Council (SCD)**

Minutes included in meeting package.

#### **14.4 School of Visual Art Council (SVA)**

Minutes included in meeting package.

#### **14.5 MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)**

Minutes included in meeting package.

### **15. Deans' Council**

Items discussed at the April 28, 2022 Deans' Council meeting were:

- Administration and Disbursement of Student Awards and the new policy and procedures
- Revised Student Credit Tuition Procedure
- Presentation of the Sexual Violence Policy Review

### **16. 2022-2023 GFC and GFC Standing Committee Meeting Schedule**

The schedule was provided for information only. There is the potential for meetings to be online and in person meetings for 2022-2023.

### **17. Adjournment**

Appreciation and thanks were extended to the capable GFC minute taker, Nenyo Kwasitsu. The May 18, 2022 General Faculties Council was adjourned at 4:05pm.