

Voting Members Present with Dr. Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: Dr. Sarah Alford, Richard Brown, Bryan Cera, Allison Comrie, Quynn Covey, Dr. Christopher Frey, John Gaucher, Dr. Janis Goldie, Nicole Hamilton, Wendy Harding, Dr. Lisa Lipton, Silas Kaufman, Susie Kennedy, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Mike Kerr, Dr. Alex Link, Rita McKeough, Scott Powell, Paul Robert, Portia Scabar, Dr. Rob Stone, Barbara Sutherland, Justin Waddell

Regrets: Suzanne Lemermeyer, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Jamie Leong-Huxley

GFC Resource Members: Andrea Power, Secretary to General Faculties Council; Carissa Matthews, Director, Academic Affairs and Research; Nenyo Kwasitsu, Coordinator of Research + Academic Affairs *recording*

Observers: Fong Ku, Library

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02pm, confirmed quorum and then read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land statement to members, guests, and observer. The Chair then acknowledged and thanked Susie Kennedy, Registrar, as this was their last GFC meeting.

1. Approval of the Agenda

moved / seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the October 19, 2022 agenda, as presented.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2022

moved / seconded

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft minutes of the September 21, 2022 meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the September 21, 2022 GFC meeting

There was no business arising.

4. Report from the President and CEO

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

- **New Alberta Premier:** A new Premier was elected by the United Conservative Party (UCP) and a new Cabinet would be announced on Friday, October 21, 2022. There are no indications of any post-secondary changes. Calgary would be the battleground for the provincial election coming up in May 2023 and so post-secondary institutions are focused on shifting the conversation to

reducing the disparity in funding between Calgary and Edmonton, including that of private institutions. Currently Edmonton PSI receive more funding.

- AUArts Construction: Construction work is ongoing with the work on the air systems would be done by the end of the Fall 2022 break. The work on the mechanical room would be completed by mid-January 2023. The president expressed appreciation for everyone's patience to date. He noted that there might be a need to shut the building down for a few days, although the plan is to schedule that over the November Fall Break. The President closed by expressing appreciation for the regular facility updates.

5. Report from Deans

5.1 Academic Programs

The Dean, Academic Programs provided a PowerPoint report that would be included in the meeting package. The following was noted:

- The faculty show would take place next week.
- The Teaching and Learning Group is open to new members.
- There are new committees and working groups.
- The West Island partnership is being considered as a pilot and if all goes well, is something that could be extended to other high schools as a tool for recruitment/outreach. Incidentally, another high school has already reached out for a potential partnership.
- The enrolment snapshot incorporates Winter and Spring figures, with the student enrolment count showing as consistent from 2016.
- Full-load Equivalent (FLE) is also growing with more students taking classes.
- Events have been successful with many visitors and participants
- The Gallery Crawl is taking place November 4.
- The Research Soiree is upcoming as well, and all are welcome to participate in it to bring life back to campus.

The following was noted in discussion:

- In terms of FLE numbers, there is a need for a conversation about the make-up of part time students. It also means it is important to have flexible programming.

5.2 Students

The Dean of Students could not be in attendance but had provided a written report.

5.3 Innovation, Learning and Development

The Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development provided a written report.

The following was noted in discussion:

- It was clarified that there would be a very simple digital library survey like MS Forms to allow for broader outreach to students.
- It was clarified that the Lodgepole runs on a small operating budget. Currently there a search for new or ongoing sources of funding to support mentorship for indigenous students. The grants that have sustained it to date are now focused on supporting Indigenous-led institutions.
- The recent four-year institutional budget cut of \$3.5m has resulted in a need to diversify revenue as student tuition cannot support all expenses. The institution would explore more sustainable

funding options and further diversifying revenue.

- The Indigenous Student Community coordinator is leaving at the end of the month. The search for a replacement will start as soon as possible to ensure indigenous students are not left unsupported.

6. AUArts Students' Association (SA) Report

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

- Student leadership council meetings are scheduled and open to all to attend.

7. GFC representative to the Board of Governors

The GFC representative to the Board of Governors shared that the Board had not yet met, although there was a September Board retreat.

The following was noted in discussion:

- Board meetings would be held in person in the Boardroom and open to community observers to attend. The first meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2022 from 4-6pm. Only Board members can join by MS Teams if they are travelling.

8.1. Academic Policy Committee: Draft Awards Policy

8.2. Draft Awards Procedure

The Registrar presented the motion as presented in the briefing note distributed.

As recommended by the Academic Policy Committee:

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the draft Academic Awards Policy and Procedure, as presented, effective November 1, 2022.

CARRIED

The following was noted in discussion:

- The word 'stakeholder' may be problematic because of negative historical connotations. It is more appropriate to use the word 'partner' where the Indigenous are concerned. It was agreed that the word 'partner' would be incorporated in all future documents.
- It was clarified that in-bound exchange students are excluded as they pay tuition to their home institutions not AUArts.
- It was confirmed that potential tax implications would be promoted as well during awards season.

8.3. Draft Academic Date Setting Procedure

8.4. Draft 2023-2024 Academic Dates

The Registrar presented the updated motion as noted in the briefing note, noting that the date by which the Convocation should be set should be the Thursday after the Victoria Day Monday holiday.

moved / seconded

That the General Faculties Council approve the updated Academic Date Setting Procedure and approve the updated Convocation date on the revised 2023-2024 Academic Dates.

CARRIED

9. Steering Committee: Draft School Council Terms of Reference

As recommended by the GFC Steering Committee:

That the General Faculties Council approve the draft School Council Terms of Reference.

The President shared that the terms of reference were revised with the addition of the two associate deans as non-voting members.

The following was noted in discussion:

- In terms of composition, it was noted that it is hard for terms of reference to provide for every possible scenario.
- There was a request for a minor amendment to the Draft School Council Terms of Reference to add the words 'assigned to a program under the School' for all limited term appointments. The following amendment was presented.

Amendment:

moved / seconded

That the General Faculties Council amend the draft School Council Terms of Reference to read: #3. Composition, Voting Members - All Limited Term Appointments "assigned to a program under the School."

CARRIED

Main Motion:

moved / seconded

That the General Faculties Council approve the main motion for the draft School Council Terms of Reference, as amended.

CARRIED

10. Update: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Taskforce

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

- The taskforce reviewed the 40 recommendations on October 18, 2022. According to the consultants, 40 is not an unusual number of recommendations. They did note it is important for individuals to embrace EDI and enable change outside of institutional level changes.
- The taskforce would meet next week to decide on the format for the four pending presentations to the Board, students, faculty, and staff.

The following was noted in discussion:

- It was noted that the current taskforce will be dissolved after the presentation of the recommendations; however, this does not mean the work is ended. EDI spans the entire institution from HR, academia, staff and students and there are different recommendations that speak to these different aspects of university life.
- Funds have been earmarked for EDI activities so there are some available funds.
- It was clarified that speaking to the role of individuals in promoting EDI does not absolve the institution from its role.

11. Update: Indigenous Framework/Strategy

The President presented a verbal report, noting that they would be having their next meeting with the Elders Council on October 27, 2022 and the document is already two-thirds complete.

The following was noted in discussion:

- The indigenous framework was born out the need to have a safe space for indigenous students. The second piece was on educating non-indigenous community members.

12. Cyclical Review of Academic Programs

12.1 Draft Policy

12.2 Draft Procedure

Dr. Goldie presented on this item included in the meeting package, noting that the word 'stakeholder' in the documents would be changed to 'partner' to acknowledge the negative historical connotations of the former word.

The following was noted in discussion:

- One review is already underway, beginning with the MFA in CM. An extension has been granted to December 2023. Kurtis Lesick is directing the MFA in CM review and has started the work. The plan is to have this wrapped up by next Fall.
- In terms of curriculum change, it is unusual to have a program review on at the same time. It is a good opportunity to have an external overview of the curriculum review as part of the program review.
- It is important to have better ways of collecting alumni contact details especially with centennial planning, as well as for programming, advancement, and fundraising reasons.
- Even though the use of the word 'program' in the document is not how some at the university use the word, the documents define how program is used in a cyclical review context.

- Each program review is faculty-led, and it is important that faculty focus on EDI in their appointments.

13. Other Business

13.1 Feedback: Board & GFC September Retreat

The President noted the need to keep the Strategic Plan alive. One of the ideas from the retreat was the need for mid-season reporting. For that reason, the President will be reporting back in January/February. As always, feedback is highly sought, and members can connect with the President directly or with the GFC Secretary.

14. School Council Updates

The Dean, Academic Programs shared that P. Roberts has agreed to be the school director for SCEM, effective January 2023. A Good News component has been added to school council meetings where faculty share either their or their students, past and present achievements. These would be shared with advancement and recruitment.

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

Approved minutes included in meeting package.

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

No minutes included in meeting package.

14.3 School of Communication Design Council (SCD)

No minutes included in meeting package.

14.4 School of Visual Art Council (SVA)

Approved minutes included in meeting package.

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

Approved minutes included in meeting package.

The Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies reported on the MFA in CM Committee and the Research Committee, noting the following:

- Kurtis Lesick, as coordinator for the MFA Self Study, is constituting a working group that can soon meet with the different areas of the University that the study will draw upon and begin looking for appropriate externals.
- A PAPRS Load Change form is currently being prepared by Carissa Matthews which will allow the university to show the Work Integrated Learning components of each program.
- Recruitment strategies are being explored and implemented for the MFA to include advertising, the involvement of alums and current students, as well as collaborations with colleagues in ECU and OCADU. Also, a review of language for the Slide Room front page.
- The AGES scholarship of \$11k per student is coming up. There are two awards and three students. Any help in helping mitigate this situation would be much appreciated.

- The consolidated procedure document has been filleted out into separate policy statements all starting with the word 'Graduate'; for ease of discovery and to indicate the future widening of the Graduate provision. These will be reviewed at the next MFA meeting.
- The MFA in CM Committee will appoint a representative to the GFC in its next meeting.
- There was a brief report on discussions with Ursula Gobel ahead of her visit on behalf of SSHRC on November 23 and 25.
- The Research Committee will review a procedure document regarding the review and adjudications of applications to the Rawlinson Research Fund.
- The first round of reviews/allocations by the Faculty Professional Affairs Committee of applications to the Faculty Professional Affairs Fund took place on October 12. Recipients have been informed.

The GFC thanked the Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies for their presentation.

15. Dean's Council

The President spoke to this item, sharing that at their last meeting they had discussed among other things, the necessity for revenue diversification.

16. 2021-2022 GFC and GFC Standing Committee Annual Reports

The President reminded all that the GFC and the GFC standing committees annual reports from 2021-2022 were included in the meeting package, noting that bicameral governance has empowered the academic side of the institution.

16.1. General Faculties Council

16.2. Steering Committee

16.3. Academic Planning and Oversight Committee

16.4. Academic Policy Committee

16.5. Curriculum Committee

16.6. Research Committee

16.7. Student Affairs Committee

17. Board Honorary Degrees Committee: Call for Nominations

The President reminded all to please use the Honorary Degree Nomination Form and submit it with supporting documentation on or before November 4, 2022 in either hard copy or digitally to the Secretary to the Board of Governors.

The following was noted in discussion:

- The typical number of honorary degree recipients is usually one/year. In honor of the Centennial celebrations though, there would be more than one recipient in 2026.

18. 2021-2022 Board of Governors Annual Report

The President presented on this item, included in the meeting package. The President reminded GFC members of the October 29 Open House, noting will be the first in-person one in several years.

19. Adjournment

The October 19, 2022 General Faculties Council meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.