

Voting Members present with Dr. Janis Goldie in the chair were the following: Arif Ansari, Richard Brown, Allison Comrie, John Gaucher, Karl Geist, Wendy Harding, Silas Kaufman, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Mike Kerr, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Dr. Alex Link, Dr. Lisa Lipton, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Scott Powell, Paul Robert, Tyler Rock, Portia Scabar, Dr. Rob Stone, Barbara Sutherland, Justin Waddell

Regrets: Sarah Alford, Bryan Cera, Quynn Covey, Dr. Daniel Doz, Dr. Christopher Frey, Nicole Hamilton, Suzanne Lemermeyer, Rita McKeough

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm, confirmed quorum, welcomed Arif Ansari as the new Registrar and Karl Geist as the new member from the School of Communication Design. The Chair then read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land statement to members.

1. Approval of the Agenda

moved / seconded

THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 16, 2022 AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2022

moved / seconded

THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2022 MEETING AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4. Report from Deans

4.1 Academic Programs

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

- The November 4 Gallery Crawl saw a total of 900 attendees. Many thanks to all who supported this event coming together.
- Work on Work Integrated Learning (WIL) in the MFA Craft Media has begun and came before APOC yesterday for discussion. It will come before GFC at the next meeting.
- In terms of new professional development opportunities for faculty, 5 faculty are participating in a

- year-long course on decentralizing whiteness in the curriculum.
- Work is ongoing on renewing and creating new study exchange programs for AUArts students.
- The faculty research soiree will take place November 30, 2022.

4.2 Students

The Dean of Students provided a written report, included in the meeting package. He noted the following:

- The new counsellor has settled in and is working actively with students.
- The search for a new Coordinator, Indigenous Student Community has begun.
- The academic advising team is extremely busy with students.
- Consultation on the Indigenous strategy is ongoing.
- The last Open House was a success.
- The pilot Art History tutorial sessions are ongoing.

4.3 Innovation, Learning and Development

The Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development could not be in attendance but had provided a written report. The following was requested for follow up at the next meeting:

- The hours have been reduced for Mosaic support and there have been issues that have not been addressed in a timely manner.

5. AUArts Students' Association (SA) Report

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

- The Student Leadership Committee (SLC) meeting schedule will be placed on the community hub and faculty are encouraged to attend.
- The Show and Sale will take place as scheduled.

The following was noted in discussion:

- It was clarified that the Friday event had an entrance fee of \$25, the Saturday and Sunday events will be entry by donation.

6. GFC representative to the Board of Governors

The GFC representative to the Board of Governors provided a written report and noted the following:

- The Board focused on the EDI report, noting that the Board and GFC will have to take an active role in implementing the recommendations.
- Nominations have closed for honorary degrees.
- New members were taken on a tour of the campus.
- The Board took their annual photograph.
- The November 1, 2022 meeting was the first in person Board meeting since February 2020.

7.1. Academic Policy Committee: Draft Cyclical Review of Academic Programs Policy and Procedure

The Chair of APC and the Dean, Academic Programs presented the motion in the briefing note:

***THAT THE GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT CYCLICAL REVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS POLICY AND PROCEDURE AS PRESENTED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.
CARRIED***

The following was noted in discussion:

- Ensure all mentions of the word 'stakeholder' be removed and replaced with the word 'partner'.
- The composition of the self-study team and external peer reviewers should take into consideration EDI qualities.
- GFC member, Justin Waddell, voted against the motion and asked this be noted in the minutes.

8. Update: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Taskforce

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

- Many thanks to faculty and staff for attending the report presentations.
- The student session has been postponed for now due to low attendance.
- The last taskforce meeting was held this week.
- The next steps are for the research and recommendations to go before the Deans' Council and Cabinet. After this, a high-level executive summary will be released along with the full report.

The following was noted in discussion:

- It was clarified that the EDI report will be published internally at first.
- It was clarified that per the terms of reference of the taskforce, operationalization of the recommendations will go before the Deans' Council, then on to Cabinet to decide on the allocation of resources and then onwards.
- The question was raised as to what an authentically inclusive and just, EDI-based approach to EDI policy and implementation would look like at AUArts. Also, could such investigation form the basis of a research strategy?
- Any person leading EDI initiatives at AUArts must be a leading expert in EDI.

9. Update: Indigenous Framework/Strategy

The Dean of Students noted that this work is ongoing with the most recent draft dated October 27, 2022 and had been presented to the Elder Council. They are currently working to tweak the language to make it more student and Indigenous focused and it will also include images of student work.

The following was noted in discussion:

- After the document has been reviewed by the different groups, it would go to the Board for endorsement.
- This framework is a living document.
- EDI work has to be done in concert with the Indigenous framework.

10. School Council Reports

The Dean, Academic Programs shared that SVA/SCEM Councils are working on common courses to go with the BFA review with a plan for it to come before the Councils in December.

SCD yesterday approved a lot of pre-requisite changes that would go before the Curriculum Committee next week and then on to GFC.

SCCS is focused on continuing work on decolonizing the curriculum and taking the lead on developing a pilot study abroad course.

The Committee noted that that the inclusion of good news in school council meetings is a good idea.

10.1 School of Craft and Emerging Media Council (SCEM)

No minutes included in meeting package.

10.2. School of Critical and Creative Studies Council (SCCS)

Minutes included in meeting package.

10.3 School of Communication Design Council (SCD)

Minutes included in meeting package.

10.4 School of Visual Art Council (SVA)

No minutes included in meeting package.

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

Minutes included in meeting package.

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

- Discussions have begun about the possibility of offering new Masters-level degrees such as a 'Craft'-led MDes degree, drawing in other colleagues and sensibilities from elsewhere in the University, and a form of Creative-Critical Practice degree which could bring historical, theoretical, and philosophical study with studio-based enquiry in ways which aren't repeated elsewhere in Canada. Beyond these initial considerations, how should an investigative body into these possibilities be constituted?

The following was noted in discussion:

- The Tri-Agency, SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR are focused on proposals that promote EDI in institutions. For example, Emily Carr received an EDI grant that has led to them having a mature EDI plan in place.

11. Deans' Council

The next meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2022.

12. Update: Infosilem Timetabling Project

Paul Robert presented on the project, which is intended to improve the student experience. He acknowledged the useful human resources that have already been in place and expressed appreciation to faculty for responding to the survey sent out.

The following was noted in discussion:

- Even though Infosilem can provide a degree of flexibility where courses are broken up over a week, the plan is to minimise severe changes especially for the upcoming academic year with small steps initially.

13. Adjournment

The November 16, 2022 General Faculties Council adjourned at 3:00pm.