

2022-2023

**General Faculties Council Standing Committee Annual Report
Student Affairs Committee (SAC)**

1. MEETING DATES IN 2022-2023

The **Student Affairs** Committee met 8 times in 2022-2023.

2022: September 8th, October 13th, November 17th

2023: January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, May 11th

2. COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

Composition

a. Voting Members:

- i) Chair: Dean of Students
- ii) Registrar
- iii) Two (2) Academic Staff members, appointed by the Dean, Academic Programs
- iv) Three (3) Student Association representatives, appointed by the Student Association
- v) Director, Learning and Instructional Services or designate
- vi) Director, Student Services & Wellness
- vii) Coordinator, Indigenous Student Community

b. Non-Voting Members:

- i) Studio manager
- ii) Secretary, General Faculties Council

Membership

- Dr. Pablo Ortiz-Hernández, Committee Chair and Dean of Students
- Arif Ansari, Registrar
- Susan Solway, Coordinator, Indigenous Student Community
- Barbara Sutherland, Academic Staff Member
- Karl Geist, Academic Staff Member
- Quynn Covey, Student's Association Representative
- Juli Song, Student's Association Representative
- Kimberly Brocanier, Director, Student Services & Wellness
- Tara Niscak, Studio Manager
- Andrea Power, Secretary, General Faculties Council

Meeting Resource

- Kanwal Baluch, ORAA Meeting Resource

3. ITEMS DISCUSSED

SAC Governance Documents:

- The SAC reviewed and discussed its Terms of Reference, its annual Work Plan and the 2021-2022 SAC annual report.

Student Conduct Policy, Non-Academic and Academic split:

- The SAC received an update on the work being undertaken to revise the Student Conduct Policy to split out academic misconduct and non-academic misconduct. It was reported that a Working Group will be constituted to support this.
- The Committee discussed the consultation process and proposed timeline.

Student Wellness:

- The Committee discussed:
 - Plans to offer a course or workshops a few times throughout the year on building resiliency. It was suggested that a session/workshop could be built into orientation.
 - The I.M. Well app and how to increase awareness/usage, and that the Finch app could be a good alternative, as it has more features.
 - Implementation of the accommodate software, which will streamline the accommodation contracts, organising student information and files all in one place.
 - There are plans for a multi-faith room in response to students requesting a designated space for prayer.

Gender-based and Sexual Violence Policy and Procedures

- The Committee learned that the updates to the Policy and Procedure are in the stages of final review and that the review was prompted by a mandate from the provincial government to assess sexual violence policies in all post-secondary institutes in alignment with national best and promising practices. Funding will be available to promote the information contained in the Policy and Procedure and there is intent to create a supportive video for the website along with information on resources. A survey will also be sent to students in early 2023 and will be jointly issued by AUArts and the Ministry of Advanced Education.
- The Committee recommended that this policy and procedure be added to the HR onboarding list of key policies and procedures.
- The Committee provided feedback on the website to improve usability.

Student Enrolment Management Update

- The Committee received the admissions statistics for Fall 2023 and learned that the number of applications received are up, and as of February 9, total applications sat at 647 (vs 570 prior year), and 136 (53% increase) confirmation deposits had been paid.
- There are also several recruitment and retention initiatives being worked on including an improved communication plan, geo tracking, marketing ads, social media posts, virtual recruitment sessions, University Preview Day etc.

Home Studio Distribution and Accessibility

- It was reported that the technical team is looking at revising the home studio allocation process. The current process prioritizes home studios to students who are taking 4 "core" studio courses in both 3rd and 4th year, but this process does not consider students with accommodations taking fewer than 5 courses per term.
- The Committee reviewed the space limitations.
- The Committee discussed the various options to change the process and suggested priority be considered around the courses students are taking versus the year and the different needs of different concentrations.

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The Committee received updates on:

- The UPass and myfare app (once)
- Registration and waitlist numbers
- Changes to the Web Service student interface
- Student and Staff Chosen Name
- The AUArts Open House
- The Lodgepole Center activities and staffing
- Development of the Indigenous Framework
- Convocation Planning and Grad Show
- AUArts New Career Centre

Terms of reference for the SAC can be found [HERE](#).

Submitted by: Dr. Pablo Ortiz-Hernández, Chair
Student Affairs Committee

Date: August 31, 2023