

Voting Members: Carol Ryder, Chair, Patti Dibski, Vice-Chair, Morgan Calenso, Quynn Covey, Chris Cran, Dr. Daniel Doz, John Gaucher, Tom Graham, Chi Iliya-Ndule* – arrived during Item 14 Evan Legate* - left during Item 14, Cassandra Paul, Tammi Price, Adrian Stimson, Sheila Taylor, and Justin Waddell.

Regrets: Sara Anhorn

Guests: Hamad Aljufairi, Institutional Data Analysis – present for Item 3.

Observers: Jenny Conway Fisher, Director, Marketing & Communications.

Management & Resource Members: Joanne Deaver, Executive Assistant to the President (Scribe) – present for Items 1-13, Dr. Janis Goldie, Dean, Academic Programs - present for Items 1-11, Nicole Hamilton*, Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development - present for Items 1-11, Wendy Harding, Executive Director, People and Culture – present for Items 3 - 11, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement - present for Items 1-11 & 15, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Dean of Students present for Items 1-11, Scott Powell, Vice President Finance and Operations present for Items 1-13, Cherie Tutt, University Secretary.

*via Teams

The Chair provided the land acknowledgement, welcomed members to the December 12, 2023 meeting, introduced Tammi Price, a new Public Board Member and thanked Patti Dibski on this occasion of her last meeting for her service and contributions to AUArts.

The Chair gifted all members of the Board of Governors a box of Kraft Dinner to donate to the Student Pantry and encourage future donations or contributions to the [Boost-A-Student Fund](#).

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agendas

Moved / Seconded

That the Agendas for the December 12, 2023 Board of Governors meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

It was reported that Item 15 on the Agenda contains decisions pertaining to Sheila Taylor and Tammi Price and that they will refrain from discussion and voting for the appropriate items. The Board Chair will refrain from voting on Item 16, due to a conflict of interest for one of the nominations.

3. Institutional Analysis: Academic Programs

Dr. Janis Goldie presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Dean of Academic Programs provided a presentation sharing institutional application and enrolment data trends.
- In response to questions, it was explained that:
 - Not all data is shared publicly by the other art universities, but there is some data available through the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design (AICAD). AICAD recently released its Fall 2023 enrolment report, which showed that many schools in the United States enrolment rates are decreasing, but there were positive enrolment trends for the four Canadian art universities.
 - The data presented is used in planning to predict and target enrolment numbers and to assess if changes should/can be made to recruitment and/or application requirements. It is also used to assess class scheduling and identify student service needs to improve student retention.
 - Data regarding time to completion shows that many students are taking 4 – 6 years to complete their degree.
- The Board discussed the value of comparator data, the possible different reasons for students dropping out of university and for requiring additional time to complete beyond four years. It was noted that it is difficult to obtain reliable information that speaks to root causes of this, and that the university will be participating in the Canadian Student Wellness Survey to collect information on student wellness, and it is hoped this data can inform this topic.

4. Adoption and Receipt of the Open Consent Agenda Items

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

The following Consent Agenda items were adopted:

4.1 October 24, 2023 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

That the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on October 24, 2023 be approved.

Adopted

The following Consent Agenda items were received by the Board for information:

4.2 Board Standing Committee Reports

- Advancement
- Finance and Audit
- Governance & HR
- Honorary Degree

4.3 Board Work Plan

4.4 Constituent Reports

- General Faculties Council
- Students' Association
- Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
- Faculty Association

4.5 Cabinet Reports

- Dean, Academic Programs
- Vice President Advancement
- Vice President Finance & Operations
- Dean Innovation, Learning & Development
- Dean of Students
- Executive Director, People & Culture

4.6 EDIA Board Retreat Presentation

4.7 Death of a Student Policy and Procedure

5. Annual Report to Government

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tom Graham, Chair, Finance and Audit Committee and Scott Powell presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Ministry of Advanced Education requires all post-secondary institutions to submit an annual report that provides an overview of the organization's operations, including a review of progress toward stated goals and outcomes reached, highlights of achievements over the past year, and the audited financial statements. It was noted that the content contained within the Financial Discussion and Analysis has been updated this year.

- The Finance Team and the Advancement Team were recognized for their work in preparing the report.
- There were no questions.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the 2022-2023 AUArts Annual Report, in the form provided to the Board, and authorize the Vice-President Finance and Operations to make non-substantive changes prior to submission to the Government of Alberta, and as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Carried

6. Extension of the Strategic Plan for the Future 2020-2026

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz, President and CEO presented this item.

Highlights:

- The President reported that in follow-up to the discussion started at the September Board Retreat a formal motion is being brought forward to the Board to extend the *Strategic Plan for the Future 2020-2026* by one year.
- This change will allow AUArts to focus its resources, while also leveraging the centennial year to collect information and to guide the next strategic planning process and the future of AUArts as it enters its second century.
- There were no questions.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the extension of the AUArts Strategic Plan from 2026 to 2027, as presented to the Board.

Carried

7. Revisions to the Presidential Reappointment Committee and Presidential Search Committee Terms of Reference

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Cherie Tutt, University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- The University Secretary reported that the proposed changes to the composition section of the Presidential Review Committee and Presidential Search Committee Terms of Reference aim to ensure composition of these bodies is considered at the outset of either process to

reduce the chances of changes once the processes have commenced and to mitigate delays caused by government appointment requirements.

- There were no questions.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Presidential Reappointment Committee and Presidential Search Committee Terms of Reference, as presented to the Board, effective immediately, and as recommended by the Governance and Human Resources Committee.

Carried

8. Revisions to the Honorary Degree Procedure

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz, President and CEO and Chair of the Honorary Degree (HD) Committee presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that, last year, the HD Committee suggested research be conducted on revocation processes for HDs at other post-secondary institutions and that based on the research the HD Committee is recommending additional content be added into the HD Procedure to provide further clarity around the process for revoking an HD.
- It was confirmed that the HD Committee will review the facts of the case and will recommend to the Board if an HD should be revoked or not.
- It was suggested that the University Secretary consult with other post-secondary institutions to see if HD nominees are alerted to the fact that the HD can be revoked. It was confirmed that HD nominees will be provided with a link to the HD Procedure.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Honorary Degree (HD) Procedure, in the form provided to the Board, effective immediately, and as recommended by the HD Committee.

Carried

9. Board Chair Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The Board Chair presented this item.

The Board Chair reported on her recent meeting with the Board Chair of OCAD University, noting that their enrollment is growing.

There were no questions.

10. President's Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Doz presented this item.

Dr. Doz reported that it has been a great semester and that there is excellent energy with everything being back in person.

11. Motion to Adjourn the Open Session and Move into the Closed Session

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors adjourn the Open Session and move into the Closed Session.

Carried

The Committee adjourned the Open session at 4:49 p.m.

Secretary's Note: The Agenda for the Closed Session was approved at the beginning of the meeting.

The Committee commenced the Closed Session at 5:00 p.m.

12. Enterprise Risk Management Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tom Graham and Scott Powell presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported the following:
 - Risk is assessed along the following lines – Academic, Operational, Financial and Administrative
 - During the reporting period, no new risks were identified, eight areas saw a decrease in overall risk and two items were removed from the risk register – the COVID-19 Pandemic and the effective academic administrative structure.
 - The highest risk priorities are the budget for student recruitment; retention rates between first- and second-year students, and graduation rates.
 - After the Enterprise Risk Management report was completed for this cycle, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) returned a recommendation, that was provided to 98% of the post-secondary institutions in the province, regarding Cyber Security. AUArts was already conducting work included within the scope of the OAG recommendation. The OAG's recommendation will not be referenced in any public documentation due to the risk that this would create.

- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - There is not a specific pandemic or Act of God risk identified in the report at this time, as these are hard to predict. The organization is preparing for this type of event through refocusing on its business continuity planning and incident response plans. There is intent to do tabletop exercises this year to plan for these types of events.
 - The OAG has not raised financial sustainability as an area of focus of their unit, and it is believed their focus is on cybersecurity currently. The Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO) is working to develop standardized financial health metrics and ratios for all post-secondaries, due to their not being Canadian standards and provincial unalignment.
 - The Finance and Audit Committee reviews the risk report on an annual basis.

13. Motion to Adjourn the Closed Session and Move into the In-Camera Session

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors adjourn the Closed Session and move into the In-Camera Session.

Carried

The Committee adjourned the Closed session at 5:21 p.m.

Secretary's Note: The Agenda for the In-Camera Session was approved at the beginning of the meeting.

14. Centennial Update

15. Appointments: Vice Chair of the AUArts Board of Governors, Chair, Advancement Committee, Member, Finance and Audit Committee

Moved / Seconded

That Board of Governors appoint Sheila Taylor as the Vice-Chair, for a term equal to her term as a Board member, as recommended by the Governance and Human Resources Committee, effective January 1, 2024.

Carried

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors appoint Sara Anhorn as the Chair of the Advancement Committee for a term equal to her term as a Board member, as recommended by the Governance and Human Resources Committee, effective January 1, 2024.

Carried

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors appoint Tammi Price to the Finance and Audit Committee for a three-year term, effective immediately.

Carried

16. Honorary Degree Nomination Recommendations

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the slate of Honorary Degree Nominations, including Jillian Tamaki and Geoff McFetridge, as presented to the Board and as recommended by the Honorary Degree Committee.

Carried

17. Board Succession Planning

18. Board Meeting Survey

19. Presidential Performance Review Update

20. Other Business

21. Adjournment

The Board of Governors adjourned the December 12, 2023, Board Meeting by consensus at 6:27 p.m.