

**Statutory/Ex Officio Members:** Dr. Daniel Doz, Chair, Dr. Janis Goldie Vice-Chair, Arif Ansari, Nicole Hamilton, Michelle Housley, Dr. Alex Link, Dr. Rob Stone

**Statutory/Elected Members**

**School of Communication Design:** Tivadar Bote, Nick Johnson

**School of Craft and Emerging Media:** Kurtis Lesick, Anahita Mosayebi, Paul Robert, Tyler Rock

**School of Visual Art:** Alana Bartol, Megan Dyck,

**School of Critical and Creative Studies:** Dr. Troy Patenaude

**By Degree Area:** Naoko Masuda, Dr. Kara Stone

**Statutory Student Members:** Abbey Leach, Tanya Mryglod

**Other Members:** Dr. Pablo Ortiz

**Appointed Members:** Mackenzie Kelly-Frère

**Regrets:** Wendy Harding, Dr. Ghada Alatrash, Jamie Kroeger, Richard Clements, Marty Kaufman, Scott Powell, Laurel Johannesson

**Non-Voting Members:** Cherie Tutt, University Secretary

**GFC Meeting Resource Members:** Su Soyer, Academic Coordinator, Undergraduate Studies

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the March 24, 2025 General Faculties Council meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**2. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared.

**3. Approval of the February 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on February 24, 2025 be approved.

**Carried**

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

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz included the following in his report:

Highlights:

- An overview of the provincial budget was provided. It was reported that there are no significant changes to the Campus Alberta Grant from last year's budget.
- The Provincial Priorities Act and Regulation documentation is included in the meeting documents. Any federal funding that public institutions receive will first need to be vetted by the Provincial Government, however the majority of research proposals are exempted from this, but there will be an increased reporting requirement.
- The Alberta Government is conducting a review of Alberta's post-secondary education system, focusing on funding, competitiveness, and the impact of federal policies, and it was noted that the university has been asked to report on equity, diversity, and inclusion spending.

Dr. Daniel Doz thanked all members for their work and service and highlighted the importance of the bicameral governance system. The March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting is the last for Dr. Doz as President and CEO and Dr. Janis Goldie will be taking over the role of GFC Chair as the President and CEO of AUArts as of April 14, 2025. A call for a new Vice Chair will be sent after this meeting.

**5. Student Affairs Strategic Plan**

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

Highlights:

- The AUArts Student Affairs Strategic Plan 2025-2030: Diverse and Creative Pathways for Student Success was presented, and key points of focus were highlighted. The plan focuses on services, programs, and supports that promote academic and personal success as they are a critical part of the student experience.

**6. A. Libkey**

**B. Open Research Platform: Prism**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Keltie Ross presented this item.

An overview of the Libkey and Open Research Platform: Prism initiatives was provided. It was noted that resources with more information will be circulated following the meeting.

## **7. Non-Credit Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the Arts Pilot Modules**

Michelle Housley and Dr. Rob Stone presented this item.

Highlights:

- Art Launch, a co-curricular project with 10 modules including networking, artist grants, and interview skills will be available to students through Moodle. These modules will not be graded and will lead to an e-portfolio.
- In April, video vignettes with faculty and alumni will be filmed. Students will need to produce an output for modules to be reflected on their records as cocurricular. The modules will be marked as complete or incomplete.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
  - Students can access resources in the writing centre to assist with the development of artist statements.
  - An honorarium has been provided to subject matter experts who helped develop the content for the modules and their participation was voluntary, a copy of the videos they participated in were also made available to them. It was noted these are non-credit modules and not part of the credit curriculum.
  - The intent is to launch the modules for September 2025.
- It was suggested that:
  - The title of the set of modules should include craft and design in addition to art and that all areas are thought of in the breadth of materials developed.
  - The content be reviewed regularly and that it could be good to grow the list of options to provided students flexibility to tailor the modules to their needs.
  - The content be available year-round for students to complete and not just in Fall and Winter terms.
  - The content may be valuable to recent alumni.

## **8. Reports from the Deans**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Janis Goldie, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, and Nicole Hamilton presented these items.

### **Academic**

- An overview of recent curriculum approvals was provided including animation, comics studies and game design concentrations. The Bachelor of Creative Industries (previously titled the Bachelor of Arts in Storytelling) is moving through governance.
- The Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) Institutional Review took place on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> with external review team and CAQC representatives. The initial feedback was positive. Next steps include the review team submitting a report to CAQC, CAQC will review and share with AUArts, and then AUArts will have 2 weeks to respond. The final response for CAQC will come for committee approval in May 2025.

## **Students**

- Mental Health Mondays have been a success with students with attendance in the +20.
- On March 18th, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) delivered a workshop for our student community on Mental Health Awareness. This session was intended to breakdown the misconceptions of surrounding mental health and illness while promoting a proactive and preventive approach to wellness. Students gained a comprehensive introduction to stigma, common warning signs for mental health concerns, and the resources available for help.
- CMHA will be on campus again on April 2nd to deliver a session on Stress Management and Healthy Coping.
- Applications are down due to international mostly. Conversion activities are effective. Currently 220 offers of admission have been sent.
- Approximately 180 students will graduate this spring, including six students from the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program.
- In response to concerns raised by students during the Minister's 2023-2024 campus tours, Advanced Education has completed a policy review of mandatory non-instructional fees (MNIF). An important step in this review was holding discussions directly with student leaders on this topic.

## **Innovation**

- The Learning Commons bookings and usage are in high demand.
- Moodle usage is up, and more upgrades and plug-ins are being looked into. Faculty suggested that consultation on timing of updates occur, as previous updates made just prior to the start of a new term can be challenging for faculty.
- 25 new professional micro-credentials have been approved at the Academic Planning and Oversight Committee.

## **9. Students' Association (SA) Report**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tanya Mryglod presented this item.

- On Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> the SA approved raising the health and dental fees, along with its membership fees, for the 2025/26 academic year in a way that minimizes additional strain on students.
- The General elections voting is now open. Successful candidates will be notified on March 28.
- The SA Annual General Meeting will be held on March 26, 2025 in the cafeteria.

## **10. School Council Minutes/Notes MFA, SCD, and SCCS**

## **11. APOC Approvals**

Documentation for these items was included in the meeting materials for information only.

## **12. AUArts Good News Moment**

Members of the GFC shared information on positive happenings around campus, including upcoming student and faculty events.

## **Adjournment**

The GFC adjourned the March 24, 2025 meeting by consensus at 3:14 p.m.