

Statutory/Ex Officio Members: Dr. Janis Goldie, Chair, Arif Ansari, Michelle Housley, Dr. Alex Link, Scott Powell, Dr. Rob Stone

Statutory/Elected Members

School of Communication Design: Tivadar Bote, Nick Johnson

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

School of Visual Art: Alana Bartol, Richard Clements, Megan Dyck, Laurel Johannesson

School of Critical and Creative Studies: Dr. Ghada Alatrash, Dr. Troy Patenaude

By Degree Area: Dr. Kara Stone

Statutory Student Members: Tanya Mryglod,

Other Members: Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Vice Chair, Wendy Harding

Appointed Members: Mackenzie Kelly-Frère

Regrets: Nicole Hamilton, Jamie Kroeger, Abbey Leach, Naoko Masuda,

Non-Voting Members: Cherie Tutt, University Secretary

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

Observers: Anna Kinderwater, Executive Director Students' Association

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

<p>Moved/Seconded</p>

<p>That the Agenda for the April 28, 2025 General Faculties Council meeting be approved.</p>
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<p>Carried</p>

2. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

3. Approval of the March 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

Moved/Seconded

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

Carried

4. Report from the President and CEO

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Janis Goldie included the following in her report:

Highlights:

- Members of GFC were thanked for their efforts over the Winter term.
- Welcome to Dr. Pablo Ortiz, the GFC's new Vice Chair.
- Since starting in the President and CEO role on April 14th Dr. Goldie has been conducting extensive external outreach with government, post-secondary institutions (PSIs), industry partners, donors and other key Calgary agencies such as Calgary Economic Development and the Calgary Chamber of Commerce.
- The President will be participating in a funding review panel discussion initiated by the Minister of Advanced Education and led by Dr. Jack Mintz. The funding review focuses on:
 - current and alternative funding mechanisms,
 - impacts of federal immigration policies on Alberta's post-secondary institutions (PSIs),
 - the cost of the administrative and regulatory burden on PSIs, and
 - the overall competitiveness of Alberta's higher education system.

5. Approval of Changes to the Undergraduate Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Procedure

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Arif Ansari presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that the revisions to the Undergraduate Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Procedure simplifies the PLAR process for faculty and students and removes redundant operational content.
- In response to a question, it was clarified that PLAR is separate from transfer credit and includes informal learning only not document by another PSI.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the changes to the Undergraduate Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Procedure, in the form provided to the GFC, effective for Fall 2025, as recommended by the Academic Policy Committee.

Carried

6. Approval of Changes to the Final Grading Procedure

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Arif Ansari and Dr. Rob Stone presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters explained that the Final Grading Procedure was created last year and pertains to both undergraduate and graduate students, when this was brought forward last year the descriptions tied to the letter grade scale for graduate students was missed, descriptions have now been added and the undergraduate descriptions also updated.
- In response to a question, it was reported that all policies and procedures that fall under General Faculties Council and/or Academic Administration will be reviewed over the summer to ensure references to “Dean, Academic Programs” is updated to “Vice-President, Academic” where appropriate.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the changes to the Final Grading Procedure in the form provided to the GFC, effective Fall Term 2025, as recommended by the Academic Policy Committee.

Carried

7. Approval of Changes to the Undergraduate Academic Standing and Graduation Policy and the Creation of a Graduate Academic Standing and Graduation Procedure

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Arif Ansari and Dr. Rob Stone presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reported that the proposed changes to the Undergraduate Academic Standing and Graduation Policy, align with efforts to create universal policies which apply to both undergraduate and graduate students with specific procedures for each group of students. The presenters then provided an overview of the Graduate Academic Standing and Graduation Procedure.
- There were no questions.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the changes to the Academic Standing and Graduation Policy, the creation of a Graduate Academic Standing and Graduation Procedure and rescind Sections 4 and 8 of the Consolidated Graduate Procedure, as set out in the documents provided to the GFC, effective Fall Term 2025.

Carried

8. Bachelor of Creative Industries

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Nick Johnson, Dr. Kara Stone, Dr. Alex Link and Dr. Janis Goldie presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of the new program proposal to create a Bachelor of Creative Industries (BCI) program. Pending internal approval from GFC, the proposal will be submitted to the Ministry of Advanced Education for final approval. The proposal is in front of GFC for discussion

and will be brought back in May for approval, pending recommendations from Curriculum Subcommittee and the Academic Planning and Oversight Committee.

- The proposed BCI is a program that bridges the gap between art, craft, design, industry, and technology. Designed for students looking to build careers in media, entertainment, digital content creation, and cultural entrepreneurship, the program offers a unique blend of creative practice, industry knowledge, and professional skills development.
- In response to a question, it was noted that recruitment and admissions regularly receive questions/interest regarding liberal arts program offerings. This program will provide a chance to diversify and grow the University's markets and increase the employability of AUArts students.
- Members of GFC commented on the quality of the proposal and noted that the efforts put in are evident.

9. GFC and GFC Standing Committee Schedule

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- An overview of the GFC, Standing Committees and School Council schedule for 2025-2026 was provided, noting that the pattern remains similar to 2024-25, with the majority of meetings on either a Monday or Wednesday afternoon.

10. General Faculties Council (GFC) Annual Membership Distribution

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The University Secretary presented this item.

Highlights:

- An overview of the GFC Annual Membership Distribution was provided with the main change being a reduction of 1 member for SCEM and 1 additional member for SCD.

11. Reports from the Deans

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

Academic

- Summer Residency applications and Scholarly Research and Creative Activities (SRCA) applications have doubled.
- Two new Studio Managers have been hired.
- The SSHRC SIG funding has increased. SIG funds are intended to help Canadian postsecondary institutions strengthen research excellence in the social sciences and humanities.

Students

- Two (2) workshops in partnership with Canadian Mental Health Association Calgary were hosted.

- The Early Alert Team had their first meeting to identify strategies and have reached out to students who have withdrawn from AUArts after their first term for feedback.
- The Mental Health Strategy Committee held their first meeting.
- Spring Convocation 2025 update: expected graduating class of 195 students including 5 MFA students. There are 180 students registered to attend Spring Convocation.
- University Preview night will be held on April 25, 2025.

Innovation

- Documentation for this report was included in-package only.

12. Students' Association (SA) Report

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

Highlights:

- On March 21, 2025, the Student Legislative Council approved motions to increase student Health & Dental fees, as well as Membership fees, by 10% for the 2025-26 Academic Year.
- The Association is working through the process of withdrawing membership from Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). The leadership has determined that CFS does not adequately support membership needs and interest.
- Elections were concluded and results announced on March 28, 2025. The new members will be effective May 1, 2025.
- It was noted that Micro Grants will reopen for applications in Fall 2025.
- The AUArts' SA is currently working on finalizing the 2025-26 Operating Budget.

13. APOC Approvals

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

14. AUArts Good News Moment

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

15. Adjournment

The GFC adjourned the April 28, 2025 meeting by consensus at 3:09 p.m.