

Statutory/Ex Officio Members: Dr. Janis Goldie, Arif Ansari, Dr. Alex Link, Scott Powell

Statutory/Elected Members

School of Communication Design: Tivadar Bote, Nick Johnson, Narges Rezaian

School of Craft and Emerging Media: Marty Kaufman, Kurtis Lesick, Anahita Mosayebi, Paul Robert
arrived during item 5

School of Visual Art: Alana Bartol, Megan Dyck

School of Critical and Creative Studies: Dr. Troy Patenaude, Dr. Adam Carlson

By Degree Area: Jamie Kroeger, Dr. Kara Stone

Statutory Student Members: Evan Palmer

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

Appointed Members: Mackenzie Kelly-Frère

Regrets: Abbey Leach

Non-Voting Members: Cherie Tutt, University Secretary

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

Guest: Tanya Mryglod, SA President

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the October 27, 2025 General Faculties Council meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

3. Approval of the September 29, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on September 29, 2025 be approved.

Carried

Secretary's Note: It was requested that the specifics relating to the Good News moments are captured in the minutes.

4. Report from the President and CEO

Dr. Janis Goldie included the following in her report:

Highlights:

- Awaiting updates related to the IMA and upcoming mandate changes.
- Mintz Funding Panel Report has been released publicly.
- Organizational update: Dr. Dawn Johnston has been appointed as the new Vice-President, Academic, with a start date of January 2026.
- Key Meetings and Events
 - Internal and External: Board of Governors Retreat, Joint Consultation Session, 1000 Miles Apart Conference, Klassen Gallery event, AFA.
- Upcoming Events
 - Open House, October 25, 2025
 - Gallery Crawl, November 7, 2025
 - Show and Sale, November 14 & 15, 2025

5. Approval of Changes to the Undergraduate Transfer Credit Procedure

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

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the updates made to the Undergraduate Transfer Credit Procedure.
- In response to a question, the Registrar explained that it is standard practice to convert “pass” grades to a “C”, which allows for the applicant to receive the transfer credit but has no weight in terms of GPA for the transcript.
- Amendment: Correct the typo in the *Intent* section.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council approve the changes to the Undergraduate Transfer Credit Procedure, in the form provided to the Committee, effective for Fall 2026 application cycle as recommended by the Academic Policy Committee with the requested amendment.

Carried

6. Approval of the Extension of the Academic Plan from 2025 to 2027

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

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an overview of the rationale for extending the Academic Plan and provided an overview of key items added over 2025-2027. This emphasizes maintaining focus on key priorities, identifying what is realistically achievable, and ensuring ongoing alignment and re-focusing as needed.
- It was confirmed that the document is a guide and that it can be refocused as necessary.
- It was noted that the University is working on a mobility agreement with Concordia University in Montreal, and that there is potential for faculty exchange opportunities.
- Members of the GFC expressed their support for developing more faculty exchange opportunities. The Dean of Students reported on potential opportunities in Latin America and faculty were encouraged to reach out to him with any questions.

Moved/Seconded

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the extension of the 2020-2025 Academic Plan to 2027 in the form provided to GFC, and as recommended by the Academic Planning and Oversight Committee.

Carried

7. Idea Exchange Session

Secretary's Note: *Members of GFC divided into groups to have a discussion on key areas of interest /questions across the university. Key themes and discussion points were presented back to GFC.*

Highlights/Themes:

1. Technology

- The role of technology in the classroom and the broader intersection of technology and academia.
- AI focused Teaching and Learning sessions for faculty.

2. Curriculum Development

- Advance efforts toward decolonizing the curriculum across all four Schools.
- Opportunities for curricular exchange between Schools, potentially through an event similar to a Teaching and Learning Day but focused on curriculum conversations. Increase faculty sharing and collaboration to better understand what each School is working on.

3. Space Use, Institutional Operations

- Examine current space usage and booking systems, including space utilization across Schools.
 - Consider a space utilization study to address under and overused areas, and changing academic needs.
- Explore ways to improve systems that support better space collaboration, coordination, and integration with curriculum planning and technical needs.

4. External Connections and Industry Engagement

- Strengthen AUArts' connections with industry, particularly the film sector, recognizing Calgary's growing film ecosystem.
- Highlight and build upon existing faculty connections with external organizations, universities, and community partners.

5. Exchange Opportunities

- Increase visibility and access to student exchange opportunities.
- Explore the feasibility and structure of faculty exchanges.

6. GFC Processes

- Provide more robust orientation for new GFC members, including clarity on roles, voting rights and rules, and the process for raising new topics.
- More context for items brought forward for approval. More small group conversations to support better engagement on major motions.
- Ensure follow-up mechanisms are clear, so members understand what action has been taken when issues and questions are raised.

8. Reports from the Deans

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Alex Link and Dr. Pablo Ortiz presented these items.

Academic

- Ashley Scarlett is the new Teaching and Learning Coordinator. The Teaching and Learning Day is scheduled for February 19, 2026.
- The Curriculum Committee has approved FINA 400, a Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) course in the BFA program equivalent to DESN 400. It will run for the first time in Spring/Summer 2025.
- Additional School Council meetings for SCEM, SVA, and SCCS will be scheduled in November/December to address upcoming curriculum items.
- The ministry has confirmed approval of the Bachelor of Creative Industries degree, and it has been forwarded to Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC). AUArts will now proceed with preparing and submitting Part B, which requires more comprehensive and detailed documentation.

Students

- Open House on October 25, 2025 was successful, with over 300 attendees, including 165 prospective students.
- Indigenous Initiatives: The Orange Shirt Day workshop was held on September 29.
- Student Services: The Tutoring and the Writing Centre has exceeded their appointment capacity. A new Accessibility Coordinator has joined the team. It was noted that requests for accessibility services have doubled.

- Counselling Services: Two new counsellors have been hired, and appointments are currently booked through the end of November.

Innovation

Secretary's Note: The Innovation report was provided in package only.

9. Students' Association (SA) Report

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

Highlights:

- SLC Meetings are scheduled throughout the fall semester.
- Fall by-elections have concluded, resulting in 15 new SLC members. This represents the best voter turnout and the highest number of filled positions since the pandemic.
- Show and Sale will be on Friday, November 14 and Saturday, November 15.
- Fall 2025 microgrant applications remain open until all available funds are allocated.
- The community pantry continues to accept non-perishable food donations as well as household supplies.

10. School Council Minutes/Notes MFA

11. APOC Approvals

- OBDF Concentration Name Change
- Arts 400 Changes

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

12. AUArts Good News Moment

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

- Kurtis Lesick has a show opening in Greece.

Adjournment

The GFC adjourned the October 27, 2025 meeting by consensus at 3:16p.m.