

Present: with Daniel Doz in the chair were the following: André Plante, Jill Brown, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Scott Cressman, Paul Robert, Benedict Fullalove, Heather Huston, René Martin, Nicole Hamilton, Susie Kennedy, John Gaucher, Mitch Kern, Mike Kerr, Barbara Sutherland, Bryan Cera, Tyler Rock, Lisa Lipton, Richard Gorenko, Sondra Meszaros, Chris Frey, Sarah Alford, Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Suzanne Lemermeyer, Lisa Blackwell, Kayla Gale and Mark Clintberg

Guests: Richard Brown; Alex Link, Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs; Andrea Power, Secretary to General Faculties Council; Carissa Matthews, Director, Office of the Provost and Office of Research + Academic Affairs; Morgan Scully, Recording Secretary; Kimberley Neutens, Associate Vice-President, Student Affairs

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:04pm and confirmed quorum. He then welcomed GFC Members, Guests and Observers to the first GFC meeting of the 2020/2021 Academic Year and introduced new GFC members: John Gaucher, Bryan Cera (renewed), Barbara Sutherland, Justin Waddell (renewed), Lisa Lipton, Chris Frey and Mark Clintberg, in a new role as GFC Representative to the Board of Governors.

### **1.00 Acknowledgment of the Land**

The President read the AUArts Acknowledgement of the Land statement to members and guests.

### **2.00 Approval of the Agenda**

There was a request to add an item for information from the Academic Policy Committee: Revision to the 2020-2021 Academic Schedule.

**H Huston moved / S Cressman seconded**

THAT the General Faculties Council approve the September 16, 2020 agenda, as amended.

*Carried*

### **3.00 Approval of Draft GFC Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2020**

**S Cressman moved / H Huston seconded**

THAT the GFC approve the draft GFC minutes of the May 27, 2020 meeting.

*Carried*

### **4.00 Business Arising from the May 27, 2020 GFC approved minutes**

Item #20 Summary of Calendar Addendum – Covid-19 modifications for courses has been provided for information, as approved by the four School Chairs, as delegated by GFC in May 2020.

### **5.00 Report from the President**

- Last year was our first full year operating as a University, under a bi-cameral structure. GFC has been charged as a governance body to manage the academic and the student matters.
- Last year we developed our Strategic Plan and Academic Plan. Tasked Deans' Council with shepherding the process. Curriculum renewal and EDI are key priorities for 2020-2021.
- Impressed by how the post-secondaries and non-profits are working together and how well everyone at the institution worked to finish the last academic year.
- Funding front: the government's dual approach to dealing with financial component of post-secondary.

1. Substantial reduction in funding to post-secondary, 20% to the system over three years.
  2. Performance based funding, postponed for a year because of the pandemic.
- This semester is primarily work from home. Trying to finalize Winter and Spring semesters considering pandemic.
  - Government has started the PSI review. Meetings and surveys, most of the conversation is focusing on output. What our students are learning and what they do when they graduate. Focusing on output without addressing the input inequity in the system doesn't produce a very effective system.
  - Building the new entrance on the north side of our building.

#### **6.00 Report from the Vice President and Provost**

- Thanked everyone for great work and effort, for the benefit of students this Fall.
- Creating Unit plans from Strategic and Academic plans for implementation. Unit plans being written this Fall. We've worked over the summer on the Indigenous Framework.
- Work Integrated Learning: Calgary institutions have formed a consortium. Decided to lobby government for platform everyone in the Calgary area can use. Government preference would be a provincial consortium. U of C working on fundraising to advance this.
- Signed an agreement with Mitacs, joined as a Junior Member. Next step is to understand what our role is and what their role is.
- First meeting of Academic Planning and Oversight Committee (APOC) took place to discuss Winter 2021. A recommendation will come to RMT early in October in order to have a final decision mid-October and then a formal announcement.

#### **7.00 AUArts Students' Association Report**

- Finished strategic planning, plan to advocate for more regulation in registration processes, course descriptions and student awards.
- Welcome days were good. First time AUArts and the Students' Association worked together successfully for an orientation.
- It is felt by the SA that the voices of the Indigenous community at AUArts are being minimized.
- Hired the MNG Coordinator and Communication Coordinator.
- Hosting elections right now.
- Acting in solidarity with artists of colour who spoke out against Contemporary Calgary. No longer partnering with them; cancelled the Grad Show to have been hosted at this location.

In discussion of the report, the following was noted:

- Concern was expressed for the Lodgepole Centre as an autonomous entity, which may not fit with our structure as an institution. It was felt the Lodgepole Centre is not the problem, the structure of the institution is the problem.
- Course outlines are on InfoLab, which are not accessible to students. If students can't see the learner outcomes, it's hard for them to know what to expect until the first day of class. ORAA is working with the RO on a system solution. Request to have course outlines made available for the Winter semester in advance of the beginning of the term.

### **8.00 GFC representative to the Board Report**

Board Retreat last Saturday morning where the Strategic plan was reviewed. A discussion of the program and curriculum innovation, and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion plans of the institution. No formal decisions made, meeting was for information and to receive feedback. It was also an opportunity for the new Board members to meet all the Board. It was noted that all reports from the GFC Board of Governors representative will be verbal.

### **9.00 Undergraduate Awards Responsibility**

Kimberley Neutens spoke to the motion that came forward from the GFC Steering Committee. Proposing status quo for new internal awards (institutionally funded), revisions to procedures (the how-to) and on-going administration of award for undergrad students (internal and external). Responsibility for new donor funded awards to Advancement in consultation with Student Affairs. Elevating Policy to GFC or the appropriate committee (status quo and in line with colleagues in Alberta Post-Secondary space).

#### **THAT the General Faculties Council approve:**

- Delegation of the strategy, planning and processes (policies and procedures) associated with Undergraduate Awards (Scholarships, Awards, Prizes and Bursaries) to Student Affairs.
- Delegation of responsibility for the approval of the Terms of Reference for new donor-funded undergraduate awards and updates to the Terms of Reference for existing donor -funded undergraduate awards to Advancement, in consultation with Student Affairs.
- Delegation of responsibility for the approval of the Terms of Reference for new internal undergraduate awards and updates to the Terms of Reference for existing internal awards to Student Affairs.
- Administration of Undergraduate Awards rests with Student Affairs.

*Carried*

### **10. University Continuity: Recovery Management Team (RMT)**

Update since written report was received by the AUArts community. In the update, the following was noted:

- Terms of Reference of Academic and Studio Resources Subcommittee revised to include four additional members, the Associate Chairs of the four schools.
- Looking forward to the recommendation from APOC for Winter 2021, RMT will look at recommendation from operations and health and safety perspective.
- There was never an assertion that AUArts was going to follow provincial guidelines to strict adherence in terms of what they provide as possible. RMT adopted guiding principles. Hard pressed to find post-secondary in the province that has opened to the capacity that the guidelines allow.

In discussion of the RMT update, the following was noted:

- The restrictions we're facing are not in response to Covid-19, they're in response to AHS guidelines.
- Request for additional faculty representation on RMT.
- Some GFC members felt the access request process inhibited the ability to get the job done.
- It was felt that we are restricting ourselves to a point that we'll put core business in peril.
- Sign of a system that's working well is a building being used and safe. Potential that the core function of the institution is at risk.
- New Access Coordinator started today. Student access target date is October 1<sup>st</sup> with priority being 4<sup>th</sup> years and MFA, then at midterm reviewed for 3<sup>rd</sup> year options.

### **11. Academic Plan: The Academic Year Ahead**

Process and progress of the Strategic plan is under Deans' Council for implementation. Focus on:

- Priority #1 - programs and credentials, the structures that we've put together and evaluating whether they're working well. Program innovation at the program level. E.g.: We offer two degrees undergrad and grad, with the help of Con Ed we can repackage some courses to create new credentials (certificates, diplomas).
- Priority #4 - Creating framework to build a plan for EDI. Planning what the plan needs to look like. We're a small institution, we need to create a centralized strategy that allows the institution to align to that strategy in appropriate ways. EDI is a long-term investment, takes place at the individual and institutional perspective.

### **MINUTES FOR INFORMATION**

It was confirmed that only approved minutes would come forward to GFC.

### **12. School of Craft + Emerging Media Council (SC+EM)**

Martina Lantin will not be the SCEM Associate Chair for Fall, Tyler Rock will be the SCEM Associate Chair for both Fall 2020 and Winter 2021.

### **13. School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS)**

No approved minutes.

### **14. School of Communication Design Council (SCD)**

No approved minutes.

### **15. School of Visual Art Council (SVA)**

No approved minutes.

### **16. MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)**

No approved minutes.

### **17. Research Advisory (RAC)**

No approved minutes.

### **18. Graduate Studies Standing Committee (GSSC)**

No approved minutes.

### **19. Deans' Council**

No approved minutes.

### **20. Information: Summary of Calendar Addendum – Covid-19 modifications for courses**

The GFC Standing Academic Policy Committee met and approved a change to the academic schedule, dates and deadlines. The approval was for the Withdrawal deadlines in the 20/21 academic year to be moved from 2/3 through the semester to the last day of classes for Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Spring 2021, Spring intensive, Spring/Summer.

### **21. Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.**

The next GFC meeting will be held on October 21, 2020.