

**Voting Members Present** with Carol Ryder in the Chair were Sara Anhorn, Jolie Bird, Morgan Calenso, Chris Cran, Dr. Daniel Doz, John Gaucher, Tom Graham, Stewart Hanlon (virtual), Chi Iliya-Ndule (virtual), Ashif Merani, Portia Scabar, Adrian Stimson (virtual), Sheila Taylor, Justin Waddell

**Non-Voting, Ex-officio Member:** Andrea Power, Secretary to the Board of Governors

**Regrets:** Patti Dibski

**Guests:** Wendy Harding, Director, Human Relations; Nicole Hamilton, Dean, Innovation, Learning & Development; Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement; Scott Powell, Vice President, Finance and Operations; Dr. Janis Goldie, Dean, Academic Programs; Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Dean of Students; Joanne Deaver, meeting resource; Jonathan Williams and Naomi Nishimura, EDI Consultants.

Congratulations to Chi Iliya-Ndule and Dr. Daniel Doz for being awarded the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal by the Alberta Government. The Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal serves to honour Albertans for their significant contributions and achievements. The Chair then welcomed all Board members and guests to the meeting, read the Treaty 7 Land Acknowledgement and then called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

## **1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED and SECONDED:**

***THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVE THE DRAFT NOVEMBER 17, 2022 BOARD OF GOVERNORS AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.***

**CARRIED**

## **2. Consent Agenda**

- 2.1 May 17, 2022 Draft Board Meeting Minutes**
- 2.2 June 16, 2022 Draft In Camera Board Meeting Minutes**
- 2.3 Constituent Reports:**
  - 2.3.1 General Faculties Council**
  - 2.3.2 AUArts Student Association**
  - 2.3.3 Alberta Union of Provincial Employees**
  - 2.3.4 Alberta University of the Arts Faculty Association**
- 2.3 President's Cabinet Report**

***Approved by CONSENT***

In discussion, it was noted that a joint letter of congratulations had been sent to all new Provincial Cabinet members.

### **3. Board Chair's Report**

The Board Chair provided a written report, and the following was discussed:

#### **3.1 Feedback: Fall 2022 Board Retreat**

- Members commented on how wonderful it was to be together for the in-person retreat.
- There was particular appreciation for the afternoon session with Casey Eagle Speaker.
- The materials were very well prepared.
- It would be beneficial to see a summary of actions from the break-out sessions on the Centennial.
- The Governance & HR Committee will suggest potential guest speakers and topics for the 2023 Fall Retreat.
- The Chair of General Faculties Council (GFC) will confirm if the members of GFC have any feedback.

### **4. President and CEO Report**

A verbal update was provided, noting the following:

- The ceramic water pitchers, glasses and bowls at the Board meeting tables were all student made, showcasing their creative work.
- The exit meeting with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) for the year end June 30, 2022 was recently held and the auditors were very complimentary. Appreciation was extended to the Finance team.
- On October 29, AUArts held an in person Open House with 350 in attendance. 39 undergraduate student applications were received. Thanks was extended to the Student Affairs team.
- Two AUArts alumni were named in this year's Top 40 Under 40 by Avenue magazine.
  - Vicki Van Chau (BFA '08, Media Arts) is a champion for the arts community whose award-winning films explore Asian-Canadian stories from the prairies.
  - Simone Elizabeth Saunders (BFA '20, Fibre) is making waves in the international art world with her textile pieces that honour femininity and the strength and joy of Black lives.
- The November 3 AUArts flu shot/COVID booster clinic was postponed to November 17.
- The Alberta Post-Secondary Network will next meet on November 16 in Edmonton with several Ministers, the new Premier and several members of the official opposition, in attendance. AUArts are developing a list of questions and will be asking for assistance to deal with the high inflation.

#### **4.1 Update: Academic Leadership Restructure**

Hiring is complete for the three Dean structure. Dr. Janis Goldie, Dean, Academic Programs, and Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Dean of Students join Nicole Hamilton, Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development. The new Associate Deans are Dr. Alex Link, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies and Dr. Rob Stone, Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies.

**5. Board Committee Reports**

**5.1. Finance and Audit Committee**

A written committee report was presented by the Committee Chair, and it was noted that the Office of the Auditor General was very complimentary and pleased with the 2021-2022 audit. It was a dramatic improvement, and the level of preparation was tremendous. There were no questions on the chair's report.

**5.2 Governance and Human Resources Committee**

A written committee report was presented by the Committee Chair and there were no questions.

**5.3 Honorary Degrees Committee**

A verbal committee report was presented by the Committee Chair, and the following was noted:

- The committee met once to finalize the call for nominations. The deadline for nominations was extended to November 14, 2022.
- If any Board members would like to nominate an individual and would like assistance, they can reach out to the University Secretary.

It was noted the Advancement Committee will first meet on December 1, 2022.

**6. Finance and Audit Committee:**

**Audited Financial Statement for the Year Ended June 30, 2022.**

Per the Post-Secondary Learning Act (PSLA) and Alberta University of the Arts' bylaws, the Auditor General of Alberta is the auditor for the university. In keeping with the Finance and Audit Committee's terms of reference, the committee reviews and recommends Alberta University of the Arts' audited financial statements before submission to the Board.

The university produced an operating surplus for the year ended June 30, 2022, of \$0.7 million (prior year, \$1.9 million), compared to a budget of \$0.03 million. Revenues were lower than budget by \$0.3 million for the year ended June 30, 2022, primarily due to lower-than-expected recognition of grant funding. This decrease in revenue was offset by lower operating costs of \$0.9 million due to lower-than-planned staffing and facility operating expenses.

On behalf of the Finance and Audit Committee:

***THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPROVE THE ALBERTA UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS' AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022, AS PRESENTED.***

***CARRIED***

In presentation of the audited statements, the Vice President Finance and Operations noted a clean audit opinion had been received. There were no questions.

## **7. Business Arising from the May 17, 2022 Board Meeting**

### **7.1 Alumni Email**

At the May 17, 2022 Board of Governors meeting a question was asked about why AUArts could not provide email addresses to alumni. A briefing note was provided stating the estimate for adding Alumni email addresses would be approximately \$10,000 for 200 users, which is cost prohibitive for the university.

There were no other items of business arising.

## **8. Finance and Audit Committee:**

### **Update: Work Integrated Learning Consortium Legal Agreement**

Under the leadership of Calgary Economic Development, a consortium of local PSI stakeholders and technology partners are working together to demonstrate the viability of a regional approach to building Work Integrated Learning (WIL). There is a legal agreement being circulated for the group and AUArts legal counsel recommended that AUArts mitigate liability as we are a smaller institution. The Board will receive the final agreement in the new year as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

In discussion of the agreement, the following was noted:

- This agenda item was not discussed in camera because AUArts do not have the final legal agreement to review, but once the final document is prepared, the presentation will be in camera.
- AUArts students will require a unique WIL process.
- The consortium will be covering student liability.
- The students in a practicum will be compensated.

## **9. Update on the Indigenous Strategy**

The Elders Council met last week to work on the draft and the final title of the document was discussed. The bulk of the document is ready and there is continued working towards fine tuning. It is anticipated the final document will be completed soon. The group discussed how to make the document a living document. The final document will showcase AUArts indigenous student's work, whenever possible.

In discussion of the strategy, it was noted that the implementation will be phased.

## **10. Report Presentation: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

The EDI external consultants joined the meeting online to present the recommendations from the review. The work began 18 months ago by the EDI Taskforce, co-chaired by the Vice

President Advancement and the Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development. The consultants conducted numerous interviews and surveys were completed by students, faculty, and staff. The recommendations have been received and are now being shared with each group.

In discussion of the recommendations, the following was noted:

- The next steps are to share the recommendations with the various groups and then the plan will be to operationalize the recommendations. There has been budget provided for this purpose. Culture change is key.
- The EDI Taskforce has received the final report and recommendations and they have been presented to Deans' Council.
- With respect to publishing the report and recommendations, this first phase is wrapping up and public presentations will be conducted this week and then the report will be presented to Deans' Council and Cabinet. The report will be released internally, and the executive summary will be presented to the entire community. The Taskforce will decide on messaging in relation to the report and then the Taskforce will disband as it will have completed its work.
- Board members were concerned about publicizing the results and how it would look to the external community. Members suggested to include how the first 2 or 3 recommendations will be addressed when the report is publicized. The final report will be published in early December.
- Phase 1 of the EDI process will soon be complete and phase 2 will be to assist in operationalizing the recommendations and 'plan the plan' before an EDI leader is hired.
- AUArts needs to take a good hard look at what has happened, why, and what can be done to address these issues. AUArts have the data now and need to do something about it.
- EDI recommendations that were not specific to the Indigenous strategy will need to align. It is common for the EDI work to be treated separately but be complimentary.
- In closing, it was noted the EDI work is a journey and a process, and it will evolve and challenge the university. AUArts needs to embrace - with open mindedness – how it will conduct business and move forward.

The Chair adjourned the open session of the Board of Governors meeting, thanking all President's Cabinet members.

The Board went in camera at 6:04 pm.

## **11. IN-CAMERA MEETING**

The in-camera meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.