

Voting Members: Carol Ryder, Chair, Patti Dibski, Vice-Chair, Sara Anhorn*, Morgan Calenso, Chris Cran, Dr. Daniel Doz, John Gaucher, Tom Graham, Chi Iliya-Ndule, Evan Legate*, Cassandra Paul, Adrian Stimson*, Sheila Taylor, Justin Waddell.

Guests: Quynn Covey, incoming Students' Association Board representative, Paul Daniels is Iyarhe Nakoda and a member of the Bearspaw (Oh-zin-jah Thee-ha) band and member of AUArts Elders Council, Casey Eagle Speaker, Blackfoot Elder from Kainai Nation/Blood Tribe and member of AUArts Elders Council, Brendan Hamilton (Métis), Stephanie OneSpot.

Management & Resource Members: Joanne Deaver, Executive Assistant to the President (Scribe), Dr. Janis Goldie, Dean, Academic Programs, Nicole Hamilton, Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development, Wendy Harding, Executive Director, People and Culture, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Dean of Students, Scott Powell, Vice President Finance and Operations, Cherie Tutt, University Secretary.

Regrets: Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement.

**Via Teams for items 11 – 13*

The Chair welcomed members to the October 24, 2023 meeting, provided the land acknowledgement, called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agendas

<p>Moved / Seconded</p>

<p>That the Agendas for the October 24, 2023 Board of Governors meeting be approved.</p>
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<p>Carried</p>

Secretary's Note: Agenda Items 4 – 9 preceded Item 3 to accommodate the arrival of guests.

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

No conflicts were declared.

3. Indigenous Pathways Endorsement

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Paul Daniels, Casey Eagle Speaker, Brendan Hamilton, and Stephanie OneSpot presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Lodgepole Centre was launched in 2016, as AUArts first major step towards Truth and Reconciliation, today's sharing of and endorsement of the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways* is the next step.
- The development of the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways* was a long process to envision AUArts' road to truth and reconciliation. Casey Eagle Speaker shared the importance of moving forward with the recommendations in the *Indigenous Pathways*, noting that the eagle cannot fly backward and that the document is a living, never ending story which, the community will journey on together.
- The student members Brendan Hamilton and Stephanie OneSpot were recognized for their guidance and recommendations on the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways*.
- Casey Eagle Speaker, Paul Daniels, Stephanie OneSpot and Brendan Hamilton then provided their perspectives and stories regarding the development of the document and what it means for the AUArts community.
- Management noted that the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways* document is the foundation, and it is still being considered how the University enacts the Reconcili-Actions and how future progress will be reported back to the Board and this will take time.
- The Board participated in a smudge ceremony with a prayer and a song to bless the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways*.
- The Board Chair shared the commitment expressed by Management and the Elders Council to be part of the collective, accountable for the Reconcili-Actions in the document. It was noted that the sharing of the *AUArts Indigenous Pathways* at today's meeting was to demonstrate endorsement from the Board of Governors.

4. Adoption and Receipt of the Open Consent Agenda Items

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

The following Consent Agenda items were adopted:

4.1 May 24, 2023 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

That the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on May 24, 2023 be approved.

Adopted

The following Consent Agenda items were received by the Board for information:

4.2 Board Standing Committee Reports

- Finance and Audit
- Governance & HR
- Honorary Degree

4.3 Board Standing Committee Work Plans

- Finance and Audit
- Governance & HR

- Honorary Degree
- 4.4 Constituent Reports
 - General Faculties Council
 - Students' Association
 - Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
 - Faculty Association
- 4.5 Cabinet Reports
 - Dean, Academic Programs
 - Vice President Advancement
 - Vice President Finance & Operations
 - Dean Innovation, Learning & Development
 - Dean of Students
 - Executive Director, People & Culture
- 4.6 Updated Honorary Degree Nomination Form

5. Financial Statements, Year ended June 30, 2023

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tom Graham, Chair, Finance and Audit Committee and Scott Powell presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee noted the Committee is recommending the 2023 Financial Statements and that feedback from the Office of the Auditor General was complimentary and there were no unadjusted differences following the year-end audit process.
- The presenters then reported that the university produced an operating surplus for the year ended June 30, 2023, of \$1.5 million (prior year, \$0.7 million) compared to a balanced budget.
- Revenues exceeded budget by \$1.8 million for the year ended June 30, 2023, primarily an unbudgeted increase in student enrolment of 100 full load equivalents (FLE), increased investment and deposit income, and higher than budgeted provincial grants. The increase in revenue was offset by a small increase in supplies and services costs and amortization.
- There were no questions.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, 2023, in the form provided to the Board, as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Carried

6. Request to Change AUArts Financial Year End

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tom Graham, Chair, Finance and Audit Committee and Scott Powell presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee noted the Committee is recommending the change to the AUArts' financial year-end.
- The presenters reported that AUArts current fiscal year is from July 1 through June 30. Management is pursuing changing the University's fiscal year-end to March 31 to coincide with that of the Government of Alberta and other Alberta universities. The year-end change is proposed to be effective on March 31, 2025.
- This change will allow AUArts to eliminate reporting duplication, create more effective financial reporting, budgeting, and planning processes, and better align results with those of sector peers.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve changing the University's fiscal year-end to March 31, and authorize the Vice-President, Finance and Operations to determine the implementation timeline based on organizational readiness and feasibility of system conversion costs, as presented to the Board, and as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Carried

7. Review of Governance Documents: Board Bylaws, Standing Committee Terms of Reference, Board Work Plan

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The Board Chair and Chi Iliya-Ndule, Chair, Governance & HR Committee presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Board Chair provided an overview of the anticipated work for the year, noting that the Board Work Plan includes items flowing through the standing committees as well as other Board specific responsibilities known at this time, and will be updated on an ongoing basis.
- The Chair of Governance & HR then reported that the Committee is tasked with the annual review of the Board Bylaws and Standing Committee Terms of Reference and is seeking feedback at this time only, as a governance review is planned for 2025. The Governance & HR Committee suggested some changes to the Bylaws regarding the University Secretary and the number of individuals needed to request convening a special meeting, which will be tracked for 2025.
- There were no questions.

8. Board Chair Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The Board Chair presented this item.

The Board Chair was acknowledged for all the work she does on AUArts' behalf.

9. President's Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz presented this item.

The President highlighted recent visits from Minister Fir, the Minister of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women and Minister Sawhney, the Minister of Advanced Education.

10. Motion to Adjourn the Open Session and Move into the In-Camera Session

Moved / Seconded
That the Board of Governors adjourn the Open Session and move into the In-Camera Session.
Carried

The Committee adjourned the Open Session at 5:22 p.m.

Secretary's Note: The Agenda for the In-Camera Session was approved at the beginning of the meeting. The In-Camera Session commenced at 5:37 p.m.

The Board discussed the following items in the In-Camera Session.

11. Board Succession Planning

12. Minister of Advanced Education Debrief

13. Board Meeting Evaluation

The Board of Governors adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.