

Role of General Faculties Council (GFC)

GFC is responsible for the academic and student affairs of AUArts, subject to the authority of the Board of Governors. GFC acts as the voice of the academic community, providing vision and leadership to the academic community and bringing expertise and academic perspective to the governance of AUArts.

In fulfilling this role, GFC shall promote AUArts' teaching and research consistent with its mandate. Furthermore, it provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and informs the development of AUArts' academic plans, policies, procedures, regulations, and practices. GFC supports the tradition established in institutions of higher learning for debate, consultation, and collegiality.

1. MEETING DATES IN 2022-2023

The GFC met 8 times in 2022-2023.

2022: September 21st, October 19th, November 16th

2023: January 18th, February 15th, March 15th, April 19th and May 17th

2. COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

COMPOSITION

Ex-Officio Members:

- President and CEO
- Dean, Academic Programs
- Vice President, Finance and Operations
- Vice President, Advancement
- Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development
- Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies
- Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies
- Director, Learning and Instructional Services
- Registrar

Elected Faculty Members (by Proportional Representation):

- Twelve (12) full-time academic staff members, consisting of: four (3) members from the School of Visual Art; three (3) members from the School of Craft and Emerging Media; three (4) members from the School of Communication Design; and two (2) members from the School of Critical and Creative Studies.

Elected Faculty Members (by Degree area):

- Four (4) full-time academic staff members: one each to be elected from the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Design, School of Critical and Creative Studies undergraduate degree areas and MFA in Craft Media.

Elected GFC Board of Governor's Representative:

- One (1) full-time academic staff member from any of the schools.

Student Members:

- Two (2) students appointed by the council of the Students' Association. The Students' Association shall determine the procedure by which student members are appointed.

Other Members:

- Other voting members as may be added at the discretion of GFC.

Non-Voting Members:

- Secretary, General Faculties Council

MEMBERSHIP

- Dr. Daniel Doz, Chair and President and CEO
- Dr. Janis Goldie, Vice-Chair and Dean, Academic Programs
- Scott Powell, Vice President, Finance and Operations
- Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President, Advancement
- Nicole Hamilton, Dean, Innovation, Learning and Development
- Dr. Rob Stone, Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies
- Dr. Alex Link, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies
- Arif Ansari, Registrar
- Karl Geist, Faculty Member, SCD
- Mike Kerr, Faculty Member, SCD
- Silas Kaufman, Faculty Member, SCD
- Barbara Sutherland, Faculty Member, SCEM
- Bryan Cera, Faculty Member, SCEM
- Paul Robert, Faculty Member, SCEM
- Lisa Lipton, Faculty Member, SVA
- Richard Brown, Faculty Member, SVA
- Justin Waddell, Faculty Member, SVA
- Dr. Christopher Frey, Faculty Member, SCCS
- Sarah Alford, Faculty Member, SCCS
- Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Faculty Member, Bachelor of Fine Arts
- Suzanne Lermeyer, Faculty Member, Bachelor of Design Studies
- Quynn Covey, Students' Association Appointed Member
- Juli Song, Students' Association Appointed Member
- John Gaucher, Academic Staff Member, Appointed to the Board
- Dr. Pablo Ortiz-Hernández, Dean of Students
- Wendy Harding, Executive Director, People and Culture
- Andrea Power, Secretary, General Faculties Council

3. ITEMS APPROVED BY GFC

- That the General Faculties Council approve the draft Academic Date Setting Procedure, as presented, effective immediately. (*Recommended by APC*) – October 2022
- That the General Faculties Council approve the draft Academic Awards Policy and Procedure, as presented, effective November 1, 2022. (*Recommended by APC*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve the draft School Council Terms of Reference, as amended. (That the General Faculties Council amend the draft School Council Terms of Reference to read: #3. Composition, Voting Members - All Limited Term Appointments “assigned to a program under the School.”) (*Recommended by Steering Committee*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve the draft cyclical review of academic programs policy and procedure as presented, effective immediately. (*Recommended by APC*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve the rescission of the Academic Terms Procedure, effective August 1, 2023. (*Recommended by APC*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve the Academic Date Setting Procedure, as presented, effective July 1, 2023. (*Recommended by APC*) – March 2023
- That the General Faculties Council approved the draft Academic Scheduling Policy, as presented. (*Recommended by APC*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve the Draft Research Ethics Board Policy and the Revised Research Ethics Board Procedure, as presented, as amended effective immediately. (That the General Faculties Council amend the draft Research Ethics Board Procedure with the additional sentence in section C. Procedures 1.4. ‘It is the Obligation of researchers to determine whether their proposed research project requires ethics review and to submit it to the REB.’)
- That the General Faculties Council Approve the Draft Research Committee Terms of Reference, effective immediately. (*recommended by Steering Committee*)
- That the General Faculties Council approve a minor amendment to the General Faculties Council Bylaws, Section 4.2 to read ‘Elected faculty members (by proportional representation): Twelve (12) full-time academic staff members, consisting of members from the School of Visual Art; School of Craft and Emerging Media; School of Communication Design; School of Critical and Creative Studies.’ (*recommended by Steering Committee*)

4. ITEMS DISCUSSED BY GFC

At each meeting there was a report provided by:

- The President & CEO
- The Associate Vice President Academic Affairs
- The Students’ Association
- The GFC representative to the Board of Governors
- Deans’ Council

- School Councils
 - School of Critical + Creative Studies Council (SCCS)
 - School of Communication Design Council (SCD)
 - School of Visual Art Council (SVA)
 - MFA in Craft Media Program Committee (MFA in CM)
- Updates on progress and reporting on the AUArts Strategic Plan
- A draft of the Cyclical Review of Academic Programs Policy and Procedure
- Support for Mosaic Software
- Draft Research Ethics Board (REB) Documents

GFC received regular updates on ongoing work on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI)

- A report was issued, which included 40 recommendations, which require further finetuning.
- The Taskforce will dissolve following presentations of the recommendations to the Board, students, faculty, and staff, but the work will continue, and funds have been earmarked for this.
- Operationalization of the recommendations report will be tasked to Deans' Council and Cabinet
- GFC suggested that:
 - Any person leading EDI initiatives at AUArts should be an EDI expert.
 - EDI concepts should be reflected in curriculum review processes.
- A consultant to help navigate the EDI transition and the recommendations has been engaged.
- There is a plan for a keynote EDI activity in early Fall.

GFC received regular updates on the ongoing development of the Indigenous Framework including updates on:

- The composition of the Elder's Council
- That the Framework will showcase the University's approach to Indigenous Knowledge and will guide the community into interweaving Indigenous ways of knowing and being into the AUArts culture and recognizing the value of this.
- When ready the Framework will be presented to the Board for endorsement
- Recommendations to decolonize and indigenize the curriculum are being considered.
- The Elders' Council is working on revisions to the Elder Protocol Guidelines
- It is anticipated that the Framework will be ready by the end of summer with artwork incorporated.
- Ten actions have been identified as areas of focus for the next five years.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 2021-2022 GFC and GFC Standing Committee Annual Feedback Survey Response
- 2022-2023 GFC and Standing Committee Composition and Memberships

- 2021-2022 Board of Governors Annual Report
- Infosilem Timetabling Project
- Presentation and Update: Gender-Based and Sexual Violence (GBSV) Policy and Procedure
- MFA – WIL – IMA Metric
- BDes Prerequisite Course Changes
- 2026 AUArts Centennial Update
- Presentation: Board of Governors 2023-2024 Approved AUArts Tuition and Fees
- Approved Revised 2023-2024 Academic Schedule
- Approved Revised Animation Minor and Associated Course Changes
- Approved 2023-2024 First Year Studies Program Planning Guides
- Adjunct Professor Appointments
- 2022-2023 GFC Feedback

The GFC Bylaws can be found [HERE](#).

Submitted by: Dr. Daniel Doz, Chair
General Faculties Council

Date: August 24, 2023