

Voting Members: Adrian Stimson, Chair, Sheila Taylor, Vice-Chair, Sara Anhorn, Morgan Calenso, Patrick Chiu, Chris Cran, Dr. Daniel Doz, Tom Graham, Chi Iliya-Ndule (Teams), Mackenzie Kelly-Frère, Evan Legate, Cassandra Paul, Tammi Price, and Justin Waddell.

Regrets: Quynn Covey and Ruby Gupta.

Guests: Gitz Derange, Manager Indigenous Initiatives – present for Item 4
Taylor Knaff, Stephanie Arnot, and Stephanie Loewen – present for Item 5

Observers: Monique Auffrey, Ian Fitzgerald, Martina Lantin, Gurman Sahota, Tanya Mryglod, Richard Brown, Nurgul Rodriguez, Lia Golemba, and Paul Robert.

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, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, Dean of Students, Scott Powell, Vice President Finance and Operations, and Cherie Tutt, University Secretary.

The Chair welcomed members to the April 23, 2024 meeting, and introduced Patrick Chiu, and Ruby Gupta the new public members of the Board.

The Chair then provided the land acknowledgement, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agendas

Moved / Seconded

That the Agendas for the April 23, 2024 Board of Governors meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

No conflicts were declared.

3. 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 February 27, 2024, Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

That the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on February 27, 2024, 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

4.3 Board Work Plan

4.4 Constituent Reports

- General Faculties Council
- Students' Association, including April 30, 2023 Financial Statements
- 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

- In response to a question, it was confirmed that under the *Post-Secondary Learning Act* (PSLA) the Students' Association (SA) is a separate corporation and is required to annually provide audited financial statements to the Board. In response to a further question, Gurman Sahota, the Executive Director of the SA spoke to the audit report and the issues regarding the lack of supporting documentation for revenue received in 2023 and ways the SA is mitigating its financial deficit.

4. Indigenous Pathways Update

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Pablo Ortiz and Gitz Derange presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an overview of next steps following the launch of the Indigenous Pathways, focusing on the goals for the first year to move Indigenous inclusion forward, including assessing the plan, building awareness and capacity, elevating support services, cultivating collaborations, and sustaining and expanding. Examples of actions were provided

such as establishing an Indigenous Inclusion Taskforce, curating authentic student resources, and commemorating Indigenous heritage, such as through celebrating AUArts graduates at the Tsuut'ina Pow Wow.

- The challenges between managing the Lodgepole Centre (LPC) and moving the Indigenous Pathways forward were reviewed, and it was reported that there is intent to hire additional staff for the LPC within the upcoming year, which should help mitigate this.
- The Board discussed the financial resources allocated to support progressing the reconciliations outlined in the Indigenous Pathways.
- In response to questions, the presented explained:
 - That Board support is required for promotion and engagement with the external community. Our goal is to build bridges and relationships.
 - How settler ideology and Indigenous ideology differ. For example, recognizing family deaths and being supportive or the importance of knowledge sharing. Indigenous peoples have to defend their humanity repeatedly.
 - Collaboration and engagement with other post-secondaries and how AUArts approach differs.
 - There are plans to continue celebrating graduating students at powwows and there is engagement with Siksika Nation for 2025. It was confirmed that all Indigenous nations are welcomed at each other's powwows.

5. Student Work Presentations

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

Highlights:

- It was reported that annually the President sends out a call for submissions from students for a President's shawl, to be worn at convocation, glass pitchers and ceramic cups and bowls to be used at Board meetings.
- The glass pitchers were designed by Taylor Knauff. Taylor stumbled across glass working while filling up electives after transferring to Alberta University of the Arts from Selkirk College's Ceramics program. In hopes of finding some relatable information and connectivity to her ceramic practice, instead she was instantly attracted to the material and the possibilities it offered to play with opacity, light and shadow that is not possible with clay. Now she enjoys creating in both glass and clay, both separately and in collaboration when possible, creating pieces that are both unique and functional.

- This year two set of mugs and bowls were selected.
 - Stephanie Arnot produced the beautiful gray textured mugs and bowls. Stephanie previously studied volcanology, before graduating from Selkirk College's Ceramics program, and continuing to Alberta University of Arts to complete a BFA in Ceramics. Her ceramics often incorporate minerals and aggregates she has collected or created herself, bringing them to the forefront of how the viewer interacts with her work.
 - Anna Rapp produced the brown, blue and nature mugs and bowls with stippling. Anna, is a potter from Canberra, the capital city of Australia, who was on exchange in Calgary for the Winter term. Back home she teaches pottery to children and disabled adults and is involved in her local wood-firing communities. Anna's work is inspired by the colours and textures of the natural environment, and she has a particular interest in atmospheric firing techniques - specifically wood-firing and soda-firing. The cups and bowls are inspired by the coastal ecosystems of Australia's east, which the artist has enjoyed exploring since she was a child. They are fired in the soda kiln here at AUArts, and as such they each exhibit unique character; this is the magic of atmospheric firing processes.
 - This is the 20th Year for the President's Shawl competition by Stephanie Loewen. The new shawl is made of colourful silk and burn out velvet. Stephanie Loewen is an emerging artist and workshop instructor, based in Mohkinstis (Calgary). She is an interdisciplinary artist working primarily with textile, ceramic and photography. Stephanie takes special interest in community development and relationship building, keen to explore the intersections of craft, community, and culture. She enjoys researching and creating work from her community-based artist studio at Workshop Studios.

6. Board Chair Report

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

Highlights:

- March 20, 2024 was the official transition of the Board Chair position. Since that time the Chair has attended many onboarding meetings and events, including attending Portfolio Night providing an opportunity to connect with students.
- Members were encouraged to reach out to the Chair at any time.
- It was highlighted that a key priority over the next year will be leading the Presidential Search and work is ongoing to complete the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to select an Executive Search Firm to support the Presidential Search Committee.
- The Chair reported that there will be a luncheon prior to the May 22nd Board meeting, and members were encouraged to confirm their attendance to this as well as to Convocation on May 23rd.

7. President & CEO Report

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

Highlights:

- The Accessibility Report is attached with recommendations from the Accessibility task force. Next steps will be to cost out recommendations to move forward.
- It was highlighted that many of the craft areas have physical barriers for students, and that it would be beneficial for an Accessibility Taskforce to review curricular activity focusing on the physical aspects and delivery.
- Meeting with the equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) Consultants to develop a strategic plan for moving forward.
- The Alberta Government's new Bill 18 suggests that the AB Government must approve all federal dollars that post-secondary institutions (PSIs) would receive. For AUArts this primarily relates to research dollars which are held federally and managed by a third party. Minister Sawhney wants to respect academic freedom and will spend the summer gathering feedback from PSIs.
- In response to a question, it was reported that although the original focus for Bill 18 may have been municipalities, PSIs are included within the proposed legislation. Provincial faculty associations sent a letter to the Minister of Advanced Education highlighting their concerns for Bill 18. The Alberta Post-Secondary Network (APSN) is also gathering data on the impacts to PSIs and will notify the Minister of such.

8. Motion to Adjourn the Open Session and Move into the Closed Session

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors adjourn the Open Session and move into the Closed Session.

Carried

The Committee adjourned the Open session at 5:06 p.m. and called a 20-minute break.