

Voting Members: Adrian Stimson, Chair, Sheila Taylor, Vice-Chair, Sara Anhorn, Nurgul Balac, Chris Cran, Dr. Daniel Doz, Tom Graham, Chi Iliya-Ndule*, Evan Legate, Cassandra Paul, Mackenzie Kelly-Frere, Tammi Price, Tanya Mryglod, Ruby Gupta, Patrick Chiu, Murray Wittmeier.

Guests: Samantha Mirjah

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 and Jamie Leong-Huxley, Vice President Advancement*.

Observers: Gurman Sahota, Executive Director Students' Association.

*Via Teams.

Secretary's Note: Prior to the meeting the members of the Board participated in the annual Board Photo and a tour of the Learning Commons.

The Chair welcomed members to the October 22, 2024 meeting, provided the land acknowledgement, called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agendas

Moved / Seconded

That the Agendas for the October 22, 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.

- In response to a question regarding the Students' Association (SA) budget, the Executive Director and President of the SA provided an overview of actions being taken to address the deficit, including a potential increase to membership fees and provided an overview of work with its finance committee regarding other adjustments that can be made.

The following Consent Agenda items were adopted:

3.1 June 11, 2024 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

That the Minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on June 11, 2024 be approved.

Adopted

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

3.2 Board Standing Committee Reports

- A. Advancement
- B. Finance and Audit
- C. Governance & HR
- D. Honorary Degree

3.3 Board Standing Committee Work Plans

- A. Finance and Audit
- B. Governance & HR
- C. Honorary Degree

3.4 Constituent Reports

- A. General Faculties Council
- B. Students' Association
- C. Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
- D. Faculty Association

3.5 Cabinet Reports

- A. Dean, Academic Programs
- B. Vice President Advancement
- C. Vice President Finance & Operations
- D. Dean Innovation, Learning & Development
- E. Dean of Students
- F. Executive Director, People & Culture

4. Financial Statements, Year ended June 30, 2024

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 2024 Financial Statements and that feedback from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) was complimentary of the Finance team. The OAG issued an unmodified audit opinion with no issues identified and the two prior recommendations issued by the OAG have been addressed and implemented by Management and will be reported as such in the OAG report.

- Management reported that the university produced an operating surplus for the year ended June 30, 2024, of \$800,000 compared to a planned deficit and reviewed the factors contributing to the operating surplus, including a delay in the launch of the Creative Industries initiative, higher-than-budget spending on provincial grants, and greater investment and deposit income. A high-level overview of updates to the Public Sector Accounting Standards, which impact how reporting is conducted were reviewed.
- The timeline for the change to fiscal year end and the associated administrative preparations were presented.
- In response to a question, Management explained that a surplus is required for re-investing in the university. There is also an established set of ratios recognized across the sector, which sets out what percentage institutions should be aiming to re-invest.

Moved / Seconded

That the Board of Governors approve the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, 2024, in the form provided to the Board, as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Carried

5. Review of the Board Work Plan

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The Board Chair and University Secretary 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.
- Key items for this year will be the Presidential search and transition and the review of the Board Bylaws and Standing Committee Terms of Reference.
- There were no questions.

6. President and CEO Report

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. The President and CEO presented this item.

Highlights:

In response to questions raised in the June meeting survey, the President and CEO highlighted:

- AUArts' Capital budget fits into the overall budget, in the future we will include the Capital budget and make it clearer within the annual budget approval that is presented to the Board. The *Post-secondary Learning Act* dictates that the Board only needs to approve the Operating budget. The Financial reports do include Capital expenditures.
- The President's office purchases a few pieces of student artwork every year. The artwork is currently installed in the administrative office spaces with no pieces in storage. Most years the President's Office spends about \$2000 on new pieces, and for the past year 13 pieces were for the President's collection as it was the 13th year of the exhibition, the pieces are not associated with the Illingworth Kerr Gallery (IKG). The Illingworth Kerr Gallery has its own mandate, the previous IKG Director Ron Moppet stopped collecting work formally (in the 1960s and 1970s) due to lack of space and lack of funding. The IKG is not a collecting gallery.

7. Board Chair Report

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

- The Board Chair provided a high-level overview of activities since July and highlighted attendance at the Premier's Stampede breakfast where the Chair and President and CEO met the Minister of Indigenous Relations.
- The Board Chair noted that it was an honor to attend the Tsuut'ina convocation Pow Wow in July to celebrate AUArts recent Indigenous graduands.

8. 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 Closed Session.

Carried

The Board adjourned the Open Session at 5:03 p.m.