

**Statutory/Ex Officio Members:** Dr. Daniel Doz, Chair, Dr. Janis Goldie Vice-Chair, Arif Ansari, Nicole Hamilton, Michelle Housley, Dr. Alex Link, Dr. Rob Stone

**Statutory/Elected Members**

**School of Communication Design:** Tivadar Bote, Nick Johnson

**School of Craft and Emerging Media:** Kurtis Lesick, Anahita Mosayebi *arrived during item 3*, Paul Robert, Tyler Rock

**School of Visual Art:** Alana Bartol, Richard Clements, Megan Dyck, Laurel Johannesson

**School of Critical and Creative Studies:** Dr. Ghada Alatrash, Dr. Troy Patenaude

**By Degree Area:** Jamie Kroeger, Naoko Masuda, Dr. Kara Stone *arrived during item 5*.

**Statutory Student Members:** Abbey Leach, Tanya Mryglod

**Other Members:** Dr. Pablo Ortiz

**Appointed Members:** Mackenzie Kelly-Frère

**Regrets:** Wendy Harding, Jamie Leong-Huxley, Scott Powell, Marty Kaufman

**Non-Voting Members:** Cherie Tutt, University Secretary, Keltie Ross, Librarian

**GFC Meeting Resource Members:** Su Soyer, Academic Coordinator, Undergraduate Studies

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the January 20, 2025 General Faculties Council meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**2. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared.

### 3. Approval of the October 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was included in the meeting materials.

#### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the General Faculties Council meeting held on October 21, 2024 be approved.

**Carried**

### 4. Report from the President and CEO

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Daniel Doz included the following in his report:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility (EDIA) Update: Due to the unfortunate loss of AUArts' special advisor, Alden Habacon, AUArts is in discussions with the agency on a plan to continue work on the draft strategic framework, which will take into consideration the recent changes to EDIA language undertaken by other post-secondary.
- The provincial budget is expected at the end of February.

### 5. Approval of Revisions to the Parchment Procedure; Creation of the Transcript Procedure; Rescinding of the Transcript/Record Procedure

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

Highlights:

- The presenter reported that the Office of the Registrar is reviewing procedures related to student records and has updated the Parchment Procedure and developed a new, parallel Transcript Procedure to replace the outdated Academic Record/Transcript Procedure.
- An overview of the updated and new document was provided.
- There were no questions.

#### **Moved/Seconded**

That the General Faculties Council (GFC) approve the revisions to the Parchment Procedure, the creation of the Transcript Procedure and rescind the Academic Record/Transcript Procedure, as set out in the documents provided to the GFC, effective Fall Term 2025, as recommended by the Academic Policy Committee.

**Carried**

### 6. Accessibility Report Update

The Chair presented this item.

Highlights:

- Following a question from a member through the GFC Steering Committee, the report which outlines the AUArts Accessibility Task Force Recommendation projects was included for information.

- In response to a question, it was noted that the Students' Association (SA) has created an IDEA Committee and faculty and students interested in providing feedback on accessibility on campus can be directed to this group.

## 7. Reports from the Deans

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Dr. Janis Goldie, Dr. Pablo Ortiz, and Nicole Hamilton presented these items.

### Academic

- Update on curriculum work: The Drawing Concentration has been approved. A Comics Concentration, a new Video Game Design Concentration, Animation Concentration, and the Bachelor of Creative Industries degree are in-progress.
- DESN400 Designing for Work is a WIL course for fourth-year BDes students. All students registered have successfully found placements.
- Event updates:
  - Upcoming Teaching and Learning session, Connecting Creativity, and Industry: A Case Study in Course Design, by Anahita Mosayebi will be on January 29, 2025, 1-2 p.m.
  - Upcoming Research Talk, Syrian Art and Creative Expression as Resistance, by Dr. Ghada Alatrash will be on February 4, 2025 1-1:50 p.m.
  - Unsettling Pedagogies: Decolonizing Design: A Cultural Justice Guidebook is on February 26, 6-7:30 pm.
  - Research Soiree: Philosophy and Character Development by Dr. Alex Link, Nick Johnson, Silas Kaufman is on February 10, 2025 4- 6 p.m.
- The Campus Alberta Quality Council Comprehensive Evaluation on-site visit is scheduled for March 3 and March 4, 2025.

### Students

- Admissions and Recruitment update: international applications are 29% lower, the admit rate is +40%, which shows that conversion activities have been effective. The total number of applications are lower because of the recent IRCC changes to international students.
- New Student Orientation for Winter 2025 took place on January 6, 2025.
- Mental Health Mondays is a new initiative to promote mental health, which started the week of January 13.
- Indigenous Initiatives Updates:
  - The Indigenous Collective meetings are an ongoing event held every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1p.m to 2 p.m.
  - A Talking Circle with Elder Emeé Comstock was held on January 13, 2025.
  - Resiliency Talks with Jacqueline Pelland was held on January 17, 2025.
- Student Affairs launched the Understanding and Responding to Sexual Violence courses last fall. These courses are available for students to complete through Mosaic, and at the end of the second course, students receive a digital badge. To date, 60 students have completed the course.

### **Innovation, Learning and Development**

- AUArts' new Librarian, Keltie Ross, was introduced to GFC.
- There is an assessment underway looking at usage around materials and the goal is for the collection to be patron driven.
- The Learning Commons usage traffic is increasing.
- M. Housley's research proposal on using AI to increase public speaking skills has been accepted to the AI in Higher Education Conference in March 2025.
- Work is ongoing with APOC on micro-credentials. Several have already been approved and enrolment will begin in February.
- Work on the PPRL course is ongoing. This course will provide a way to meet needs of students for professionalization content. Once ready, it will be circulated to School Councils.
- The Learning Commons now provides VR headsets for students to practice interview skills and it provides real-world feedback.

### **8. Students' Association (SA) Report**

Documentation was included in the meeting materials. Tanya Mryglod presented this item.

- It was announced that Gurman Sahota, the Executive Director since January 2022, is moving on to new endeavors and the SA is currently in the final stages of hiring a new Executive Director.
- Show + Sale in 2024 was very successful and had an estimated gross revenue of \$67,000 and raised \$948 for the Community Pantry.
- Student Leadership Council (SLC) updates:
  - The SLC has re-appointed VP Student Life Daniela Szeoke.
  - Discussions on the Executive Director hiring process.
  - Working on the creation of an ad-hoc SCD Student Engagement Committee.
- Micro Grants are open for applications for the Winter semester.
- The Community Pantry is open and accepting donations for nonperishable goods.

### **9. Updated GFC Question Protocol Form**

As discussed at the October meeting and with the Steering Committee's feedback, an update to the GFC Member Question Form has been made. The University Secretary provided information on the form and its specific location on the GFC SharePoint site.

In response to a question, it was noted that the form is not anonymous, and the submitter's name and email address will be visible.

An editorial request to the form was suggested.

**10. School Council Minutes/Notes SCEM, SVA, SCD, and SCCS**

**11. GFC Member Board Report**

Documentation for these items was included in the meeting materials for information only.

**12. AUArts Good News Moment**

Members of the GFC shared information on positive happenings around campus, including upcoming student and faculty events.

**13. Adjournment**

The GFC adjourned the January 20, 2025 meeting by consensus at 3:25 p.m.