

TO: Members, Fine Arts Faculty Council

FROM: Tristan Khaner, Secretary, Fine Arts Faculty Council

DATE: March 8, 2024

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Please be advised that the next meeting of the Fine Arts Faculty Council will be held on  
**Friday, March 15, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in EV 2.776**

## **AGENDA**

1. Presentation (9:30 a.m. on [Zoom: https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/86324092138](https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/86324092138))

**Centre for Sustainable Practice in the Arts (CSPA)**

Guest: Ian Garrett, Co-Founder and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Practice in the Arts (CSPA) and Associate Professor, Ecological Design for Performance, York University

For Information  
(30 mins. incl. Q&As)

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|--|-----------------|
| 2. Call to Order   | Quorum Required |
| 3. Agenda for the Meeting of March 15, 2024  | For Approval    |
| 4. Minutes of Meeting of February 16, 2024   | For Approval    |
| 5. Business Arising from the Minutes of February 16, 2024                              | For Information |
| 6. Chair's Remarks   | For Information |
| 7. Appointments (FFAC-2024-03-D1)  | For Approval    |
| 8. Academic Programs and Pedagogy  |                 |
| 8.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy (FFAC-2024-03-D4)    | For Information |
| 9. Faculty Development and Inclusion   |                 |
| 9.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Faculty Development and Inclusion (FFAC-2024-03-D5) | For Information |

10. Research and Graduate Studies

10.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies  
(FFAC-2024-03-D6) For Information

11. Questions For Information

12. Other Business For Information

13. Next Meeting – April 12, 2024

14. Adjournment

An update with documents not included here will be sent prior to the meeting.  
Faculty Council documents are uploaded on the [Fine Arts Faculty Council web page](#).

**Concordia University**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty of Fine Arts Council**  
**February 16, 2024**  
**9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**EV2.776**

**Present:** A. Gérin (Chair), E. Adams, A. Cappelluto, E. Cheasley Paterson, G. Dimitrov, D. Douglas, N. Drew, F. Figols, S. Ghosh, J.R. Giersdorf, T. Khaner, S. Larmony, M. McGeough, H. McLaughlin, J. Latour, E. Murphy, C. Ready, S. Romano, E. Tsabary, V. Venkatesh

**Regrets:** P. Barr, C. Bruce, C. Keegan, M. Lefebvre, C. Moore, D. Pariser, J. Potvin, H. Wasson

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION:** (D. Douglas / N. Drew)

“that the agenda for the meeting of February 16, 2024 be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 15, 2023**

**MOTION:** (S. Romano / V. Venkatesh)

“that the minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2023 be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes of December 15, 2023**

The Chair will address any business arising from the minutes in her remarks.

**5. Chair’s Remarks**

- Approximately 100 faculty and staff joined the online Townhall on February 2. The Dean updated everyone on the budget situation, the tuition hike, and other governmental measures and she talked about the student strike which was in its 3<sup>rd</sup> day. Several brainstorming sessions with managers and department chairs have been held to rethink practices and services in ways that will alleviate the current budget pressures. The Dean invited Council members to reach out to their Chair or Tristan Khaner about any ideas they may have.
- Open House is on February 17. Recruitment efforts and taking time to connect with prospective students are of crucial importance. A QR code leading to [Implications of Tuition Change](#) web page will be displayed at each table and bookmarks with the code will be distributed at the Admission and Financial Aid booths. There will also be a ***Students from Ontario: Moving to Montreal*** information session presented twice that day.
- Cherine Zananiri, Director of Experiential Learning and Co-operative Education shared an article that was in The Montreal Gazette about [Concordia’s commitment to experiential learning](#) which puts it at the forefront of other universities.

- Senate Update:
  - Senate December 15 meeting:
    - The Credit/no Credit measure, presented by Provost Anne Whitelaw at the September Faculty Council, was approved. Implementation is for the 2024-2025 academic year. Students will be able to take a limited number of courses outside their program in a way that won't affect their GPA. Students will be informed on how to make the decision as they register.
  - Senate February 9 meeting:
    - In response to recent events on campus and around the world, Graham Carr and Nadia Hardy announced that Concordia will be launching a *University Task Force on Combatting Hate*. Task forces such as the [Task Force on Sexual Violence](#) and the [President's Task Force on Anti-Black Racism](#), have brought the community together and leveraged Concordia expertise. They are focused, result-oriented and they lead to actionable recommendations such as the ones for the un-naming and re-naming of a theatre and for the creation of a minor in Black Studies. It's expected that the task force will be co-chaired by two faculty members and a member of staff with Nadia Hardy and Lisa White spearheading and working in consultation with students, faculty and staff from across the community. The following groups have been identified:
      - anti-semitism
      - islamophobia
      - anti-Asian racism
      - transphobia
      - other groups may be added.

Those interested in participating or in sharing ideas are encouraged to contact Nadia Hardy or the Dean.
  
- Board of Governors (BOG) Update:
  - BOG December 14 meeting:
    - Discussions were mainly about tuition and the budget.
    - The Plan de Redressement to remedy the structural deficit was accepted by the government in December and it was approved at the BOG.
  - BOG February 8 meeting:
    - Discussions were about tuition and the budget.
    - The BOG approved launching the search for a new VPRGS, since Dominique Bérubé will be leaving for McGill University this summer.
    - The BOG approved the creation of the Evaluation Committee of the Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts. The Dean is committed to the community and to renewing her mandate should the committee's evaluation lead to a nomination for a second 5-year term. The consultation process will begin this spring. The Electoral College is in the process of striking the committee which will be comprised of:
      - Chair, Provost
      - One external member from the BOG

From the Faculty of Fine Arts:

      - Four full-time faculty members
      - One part-time faculty member
      - One representative of the administrative and support staff

- One graduate student
- One undergraduate student

The Dean shared some achievements:

- [Louise Lecavalier](#), the magnificent Montreal-based contemporary dancer and choreographer, was the guest speaker at the [Wild Talks Series on January 29, 2024](#) where she was interviewed by MJ Thompson. That same week, she conducted a master class with a group of Contemporary Dance students.
- The [Annual Art Matters Festival](#) is happening from February 24 to March 31. Art Matters is Montreal's longest-standing student-run festival. This year's theme is Play and Process and it will feature 70 artists who will present their work on campus and in venues across Montreal including [Produit Rien](#), [Ada X](#), [Galerie Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain](#), [Galerie Jano Lapin Gallery](#), [La Sala Rossa](#), and [Centaur Theatre](#). [Esse Magazine](#) is partnering.
- Alumni in the film industry [Sophie Dupuis](#), [Chloe Robichaud](#), [Justine Martin](#), Meryam Joobeur, Vincent René-Lortie and many others have been garnering significant recognition for their work. [Meryam Joobeur's film, "Là d'où l'on vient,"](#) was selected for the official competition of the [74th Berlin International Film Festival](#). And [Vincent René-Lortie's short film, "Invincible,"](#) category for this year.
- [Nelson Henricks](#), CUPFA member in the Department of Studio Arts, won the [Louis-Comtois Prize](#) in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the Montreal contemporary art scene over the last 15 years. Created in 1991 to promote excellence in the visual arts, the Prize is awarded jointly by the City of Montreal and the [Contemporary Art Galleries Association](#).
- [Ariane Moffatt](#) Quebec platinum-selling recording artist and [Ada Lea](#), an up and coming signer song-writer whose last album was nominated for the [2022 Polaris Music Prize](#), are [co-teaching a course in songwriting in the Department of Music](#) this semester.
- Jonathan Lessard, from the Department of Design and Computation Arts, has been appointed as the first Chair of the [Behaviour Interactive Research Chair in Game Design](#).
- Vivek Venkatesh, from the Department of Art Education, [co-authored an open-access paper](#) that highlights how art education enhances learning across various subjects, which was recently [published by UNESCO](#) and is being circulated worldwide.

Fine Arts students, faculty and staff are being recognized for their amazing work. Despite the difficult financial, political, and social moment we are living through, the community is strong, and it has much to offer to students and society.

## 6. Appointments (FFAC-2024-02-D1)

**MOTION:** (D. Douglas / N. Drew)

“that the appointment listed in document FFAC-2024-02-D1 be approved.”

CARRIED

## 7. Academic Programs and Pedagogy

### 7.1. Curriculum Changes for the Department of Art History (Dossier FA-ARTH-5506) (FFAC-2024-02-D2)

**MOTION:** (E. Cheasley Paterson / D. Douglas)

“that the curriculum changes for the Department of Art History be passed.”

CARRIED

**7.2. Curriculum Changes for the Department of Art History (Dossier FA-ARTH-5507)  
(FFAC-2024-02-D3)**

**MOTION:** (E. Cheasley Paterson / D. Douglas)

“that the curriculum changes for the Department of Art History be passed.”

CARRIED

**7.3 Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy (FFAC-2024-02-D4)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Elaine Cheasley Paterson](#).

The deadline for Distinguished Teaching Awards nominations has been extended by one week, to February 21, and faculty and students are encouraged to send in their nominations.

**8. Faculty Development and Inclusion**

**8.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Faculty Development and Inclusion (FFAC-2024-02-D5)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Haidee Wasson](#).

**9. Research and Graduate Studies**

**9.1 Report of the Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies (FFAC-2024-02-D6)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Eldad Tsabary](#).

- The submission deadlines for the [CUSRA](#) and [Brucebo](#) awards are coming up on February 26 and March 4, respectively.
- [Johathan Lessard is the appointed Behaviour Interactive Research Chair in Game Design](#). The partnership with [Behaviour Interactive](#) is centered on the development of a gamified urban simulation platform that is focused on sustainability. The \$2M gift will help to enhance Concordia's capacity in game design development and will create opportunities for students to develop skills in gaming design from an innovative academic area and in an industry-oriented practice.

**10. Questions**

A question came up about whether students could complete the francization requirements by taking advantage of the Credit No Credit opportunity. This led to the Dean updating Council members on recent developments. A consultation committee on francization with the Ministère de l'enseignement supérieur and members of McGill, Bishop and Concordia universities has been established. The Concordia representatives are Pascale Sicotte, Dean of Arts and Science, Isabel Dunnigan, Associate VP, Lifelong Learning and Denis Cossette, CFO. The committee will discuss how the francization plan is defined and how it will be measured. Universities are asking to remain autonomous with regards to how they will implement the plan. The Dean will continue updating Council members.

**11. Presentation:**

***Sustainability of Fine Arts (SoFA) Update***

Guest Alice Jarry, Associate Professor, Design and Computation Arts, Concordia University Research Chair in Critical Practices in Materials and Materiality (New Scholar), Design and Computation Arts, presented on the previous, current, and future actions of the Sustainability of Fine Arts (SoFA) committee. SoFA is a faculty-wide committee that was created by Faculty Council a few years ago. Its mandate is to promote in concept and in practice the application of sustainability principles across the Fine Arts. Discussions with the Office of the Dean are ongoing about the role SoFA can play in concretely furthering one of the FoFA Strategic Plan's orientations around sustainability, using its own expertise.

The SoFA committee is composed of the following members:

- Alice Jarry
- Meghan Moe Beitiks
- Mark Wieser
- Christine White (graduate student)
- Caroline Delisle (graduate student)

SoFA is focusing its efforts on three parallel actions:

1. Conducting a scoping review of local and international sustainable best practice within cultural and academic institutions, and looking at internal initiatives such as [Volt-Age](#) and [Plan/Net Zero](#) and how Fine Arts aligns with this.
2. Hosting a Sustainability Speaker Series at upcoming Faculty Council meetings:
  - Ian Garrett, Director, Centre for Sustainable Practice in the Arts (March 15)
  - Speaker TBC. Climate change in marginalized communities. (Date TBC)
3. Holding thematic focus group discussions (invitation email forthcoming):
  - Material/Digital Sustainability and Circularity  
March 14 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
  - Embodiment and Sustainability  
March 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
  - Environmental Justice and Community Collaborations  
March 22 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SoFA's Sustainability Action Plan will be launched in Fall 2024. The committee will report back to the community on a regular basis.

## **12. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **13. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on March 15, 2024.

## **14. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

[Fine Arts Faculty Council](#)

Submitted by E. Murphy

## **Appointments to be ratified**

### **Faculty Tribunal Pool (FoFA)**

- Richard Kerr, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2026
- Mark Corwin, Department of Music June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2026

### **Senate Research Committee**

- Joshua Neves, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2027

### **Senate Steering Committee**

- Roy Cross, Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema June 1 – May 31, 2024