May 10, 2006

TO: Michael Isaacson, Acting Dean
        School of Engineering

FROM: Leta Miller, Acting Dean
        Arts Division

RE: <u>Letter of Support for the Computing Gaming Major</u>

Dear Michael,

This letter will confirm our discussions (with each other and, independently, with EVC Dave Kliger) regarding the proposed Computer Gaming major. I am very enthusiastic about this collaboration and give my full support to the proposal. There are three major issues we discussed and I feel that we have developed reasonable responses to all of them.

The first is equipment. I will have Scotty Brookie prepare a detailed list of what we need in order to implement the program. My understanding is that you (and/or Steve Kang) will then approach private companies to fill this need. I was pleased by your optimism that we could acquire the necessary equipment from private sources. We should be able to have that list to you within a couple of weeks.

The second issue is staffing for extra course sections that would be needed in the Arts Division. Ideally I would like to see the equivalent of an FTE in TAS funding come to the Arts Division. This FTE would not be needed for 2-3 years—that is, until enrollments materialize. In view of uncertainties regarding campus growth at this juncture, EVC Kliger cannot make a commitment for such an FTE from the center at this time, though he was sympathetic to our needs. I am satisfied by the temporary solution you propose, namely that you would buy out additional course sections. However, if the enrollments you anticipate materialize and the Arts are faced with continuing student overload, I would like to reopen this discussion and explore the possibility of assigning an FTE equivalency in TAS funding to our Division. This FTE could come from the central administration or could be transferred from Engineering to Arts, along with associated I&R support funds.

The final issue is additional IT support. While we have received no firm commitment of such support, I felt confident after our discussions that the need is recognized and, if it materializes, we would be able to negotiate a solution.

In summary, then, I feel that there has been sufficient commitment on the part of the engineering division and the central administration to assure that any strains caused by the establishment of this program will be met. I am very enthusiastic about this collaboration and hope that other similar programs linking our two divisions will materialize in the near future.

Sincerely,

Leta Miller

cc: Director Scotty Brookie, Arts Computing
      Assistant Professor Jim Whitehead, School of Engineering
      Chair Ira Pohl, Computer Engineering
      Chair Frank Galuszka, Art Department
      Chair Chip Lord, Film & Digital Media Department
      Chair John Schechter, Music Department
      Chair Mark Franko, Theater Arts Department
      Chair Dominic Massaro, Digital Arts & New Media
      Professor Maggie Morse, Digital Arts & New Media (incoming chair)