June 14, 2006

ACTING DEAN ISAACSON
Baskin School of Engineering
CHAIR POHL
Computer Science Department

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Approval of Computer Science: Computer Game Design Bachelor of Science Major

I am pleased to announce campus approval of the B.S. degree and major in Computer Science: Computer Game Design. Enclosed are endorsements from the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) and the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB).

This interdisciplinary program will provide students with a deep understanding of the technical aspects of computer game engineering and a broad background in the artistic, narrative and dramatic elements of game design. This major builds on the existing computer game design concentration in the Computer Science B.A. program, and strong student demand is anticipated.

Per campus practice, new undergraduate majors are advertised one quarter before students may declare. Computer Science: Computer Game Design may be advertised immediately in the UCSC General Catalog and scheduling documents, allowing student admission to the major commencing Fall 2006.

The Computer Science Department will administer the major and regular assessment will be incorporated into the department’s external reviews. Given that the next review is scheduled for 2007-2008, and this is too soon after establishment to include the new major, the department should submit a brief three-year interim report to the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs by the end of fall quarter 2009. This interim report should include comments from the Division of the Arts regarding resource impacts, student demand data, an update on funding sources for the instructional game development laboratory and how the department is implementing the W requirement.

I commend the School of Engineering and the Division of the Arts for the successful collaboration demonstrated to develop this innovative interdivisional program.

Sincerely,

David S. Kliger
Campus Provost and
Executive Vice Chancellor

Enclosures

cc: (please see next page)
cc: Executive Director Browne
    Coordinator Claxton
    Director Dettman
    Chancellor Denton
    Interim VPAA Galloway
    CEP Chair Hughey
    Registrar Hunt-Carter
    Associate Vice Chancellor Irwin
    CPB Chair Koch
    VPDUE Ladusaw
    Chair Lord
    Vice Chancellor Michaels
    Acting Dean Miller
    Principal Analyst Moses
    University Librarian Steel
    Assistant Professor Whitehead