To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

**Charge:** To govern the College of Creative Studies in accordance with the provisions of Divisional Bylaw 40A [Am 25 Oct 01; 27 May 04], specifically:

1. To represent faculty in all aspects of the curriculum of the College.
2. To authorize the Dean, at the committee's discretion, to enforce all regulations concerning students, including the regulations governing transfer and academic disqualification.
3. To advise and assist the Dean in the administration of the College.
4. To appoint all committees of the Faculty not otherwise provided for.

**SUMMARY**

The Executive Committee of the College of Creative Studies (CCS) met 9 times during the academic year. The committee welcomed a new Dean and assisted him in a self-evaluation of the College as whole. The self-assessment included meetings with faculty and students and covered issues such as the CCS grading policy, faculty staffing models, course descriptions, CCS fellowships and the name of the College itself. The committee was also successful in renaming the emphasis in Chemistry to Chemistry and Biochemistry and reinstating the eight emphases as majors. Other business items focused on expanding the role of CCS in the campus community and positioning ourselves to be a greater asset to the campus at large. Along this vein, discussions were continued with colleagues in the Social Science to establish a major in Cultural Studies and talks were initiated with faculty in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering concerning the establishment of a related program in CCS.

**STRUCTURAL CHANGES**

- The former Provost, William J. Ashby retired at the end of the previous academic year. The Provost position was superseded by a Dean and was filled by Bruce Tiffney, first as acting Dean, then as the appointed Dean.

- The emphasis in Chemistry was renamed Chemistry and Biochemistry following approval from the appropriate Senate committees. The was done to reflect the name change of the cognate department in the College of Letters and Sciences.

- The eight emphases of the College were reinstated as majors after extensive consultation and following approval from the appropriate Senate committees and a vote of the Faculty Legislature. Additionally, new Divisional Regulations were created that define a major in the College of Creative Studies. This change now properly recognizes students for the outstanding work they perform during their tenure in CCS.

- The Bylaws of the College were amended to reflect the above changes. Additional Bylaw changes were proposed to clarify the voting procedures in the College. These changes are awaiting final approval from the appropriate Senate committee.

- A mid-residency review of students was instituted by the faculty in the Literature major to ensure adequate progress towards the degree.

**SELF-ASSESSMENT**

- **Grading policy.** The committee discussed the variable unit, pass/no record grading policy of the College. Several alternatives were discussed including a traditional grade based system. It was decided that the current method is the best possible solution that remains true to the unique educational philosophy of the College.
• **Mid-residency reviews.** With the establishment of a mid-residency review in the literature program and the existing mid-residency review in the art program, each of the majors was asked to consider a similar model. The goal is to improve further upon the strength of the academic advising in CCS with the hope that any academic problems be identified early in a student's career. Further discussion will continue in the following academic year.

• **Name of the College.** The College of Creative Studies has long been misjudged based on its name. The first impression for most is that CCS is an art school and many are surprised to learn that biology, chemistry and biochemistry, computer science, math and physics are majors in the College as well. A competition was announced to students, faculty and alumni to rename the College. Announcements appeared in 93016 and the Daily Nexus. The FEC will review the entries in the following academic year.

• **Course Descriptions.** Many students complain that the generic course descriptions used by the College are too vague, especially on transcripts. Creation of permanent course descriptions is problematic due to the rotating nature of many of the faculty in CCS. The committee discussed the creation of umbrella courses to solve this problem.

• **Faculty Staffing Models.** The committee discussed the current faculty staffing models, which revolve around LSOE, Non-Senate Faculty, Non-Senate Continuing Faculty and borrowed ladder faculty from Letters and Science and Engineering. Several alternative models were discussed and presented to the Dean.

• **CCS Fellowships.** Each year CCS offers several fellowships to promising high school students admitted to CCS. The committee discussed possible alternatives to maximize the recruiting potential of the existing fellowship funds.

• **Admissions to CCS.** Each major committee was asked to summarize the process used when evaluating applicants to CCS. This information will be compiled and discussed in the future in an effort to establish the best practices in the admissions process across disciplines.

• **General Education Requirements.** The committee discussed the enforcement of the general education breadth requirement between majors. Further discussions will take place in the following academic year to ensure comparable GE’s are met by all majors.

**RESPONSES TO OUTSIDE REQUESTS**

• **Proposed Senate Regulation on Academic Integrity.** The committee responded with suggested changes to proposed Regulation.

• **Workload Implementation Policy.** The committee felt that the present categories listed in the report were insufficient and suggested the inclusion of a fourth category based on student research.

• **Suggested Academic Units for 2007-08 Academic Program Review.** The committee passed along recommendations for review based upon association with CCS.

• **Draft Academic Plan 2006-2020.** The committee forwarded their comments to the Executive Vice Chancellor.

• **Review of changes to the Policy on TCD of programs.** The committee forwarded their comments on the proposed changes to Policies on Transfer, Consolidation or Disestablishment of a Graduate or Undergraduate Program Leading to a Degree or Certificate and to Transfer, Consolidate or Disestablish An Academic Unit.
• Proposed Student Freedom of Scholarly Inquiry Principles. The committee forwarded their comments on this issue.

• Review of Proposed Revisions to Systemwide APM Policies- 700, 710, 711 and 080. The committee reviewed the proposed changed and had no further comment.

ITEMS OF NOTE

• The CCS Summer Arts Institute is continuing for its second year. Led by Robyn Bell and Caroline Allen, local 7-10 graders will be on campus over the summer studying art, writing and photography.

• A CCS alumnus donated funds to create a sizable endowment to fund two annual prizes for Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research within CCS. The program will begin in the following academic year.

• Charles Ryavec retired after serving 25 years as a Math instructor in CCS. The committee welcomes Maria Isabella Bueno Cachadina who will serve as an LPSOE in CCS and the Department of Mathematics (50/50).

CONTINUING AND NEW ITEMS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2006-07

• Continue to expand the role of CCS on campus, including establishment of new majors
• Ensure proper enforcement of the General Education breadth requirement
• Mid-residency reviews of all students in the college
• Name change of the College
• Admissions procedures
• Expansion of the Summer Arts Institute to include Science/Math

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The chair of the CCS Executive Committee would like to thank the following staff members for invaluable assistance in reinstating majors in CCS; Karen Poirier – Assistant Dean, Administration, Debra Blake – Analyst for Undergraduate Education and Claudia Chapman – Executive Director of the Academic Senate.

MEMBERS

Gerardo Aldana, Chicano/Chicana Studies, Member at large
Robyn Bell, CCS Literature, Secretary
David Cannell, CCS Physics, Physics
Dan Connally, CCS Art, Non-Senate Faculty Representative
Daryl Cooper, CCS Math, Math
Omer Egecioglu, CCS Computer Science, ECE
Debra Fygenson, Physics, Member at large
Jeremy Haladyna, CCS Music Composition, Music
Armand Kuris, Ex-Officio & Associate Dean, CCS Biology, EEMB
Jane Mulfinger, CCS Art, Art
Bruce Tiffney, Ex-Officio & Dean, CCS Biology, Earth Science
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