COLLEGE OF CREATIVE STUDIES FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT: 2008-2009

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 2008-09 and addressed many issues. Prominent among these were:

- Update to the CCS Mission Statement
- CCS Research Week
- Worked to develop closer ties with the PRP office to ensure that CCS is included during cognate departmental reviews
- Appointment of a new Development Officer, Ann Hagan-Smoot and an assistant, Joel Aurora (50:50 appointment with Student Affairs)
- Addition of a new LPSOE position in the CCS physics major, Dr. Sathya Guruswamy (split 50:50 appointment with L&S Physics)
- Responses to various external queries.

STRUCTURAL CHANGES

Online Application. The FEC discussed and worked with faculty and staff to develop an online application to CCS. This will reduce the number of mailings that the college has to make. A PDF application form was developed that can be emailed in to the admissions coordinator.

New Major in Cultural Studies. The FEC and cognate departments decided to place the proposed major in Cultural Studies on hold until the budget climate is more favorable in accommodating new academic initiatives.

New CCS Majors in Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering: As with the proposed new major in Cultural Studies, this new CCS initiative has also been affected by the budget constraints, thus it too is placed on hold until the campus budget improves.

CCS Fellowship Policy. The current CCS policy on Fellowships required editing to remove the name of a specific donor. However the remaining principles for nominations and allocations remain unchanged.

SELF-ASSESSMENT

CCS Online Presence. The current CCS website is out of date and in need of visual revamping. Significant work by faculty and students was undertaken and a prototype web site was developed during
the academic year. The new site will be implemented with a content management system to allow individual programs to monitor and update content relative to their areas. The College will monitor and keep current all other content (course schedules, College policies etc…).

CCS Exit Survey. Graduating CCS students were sent links to an online survey concerning their experiences with the College of Creative Studies. The gathered information will be used to help further strengthen the College and to serve the needs of the students more efficiently.

RESPONSES TO OUTSIDE REQUESTS

Proposal to create an Undergraduate Minor in Education: “The Science and Mathematics Education Minor: The FEC was unanimously supportive of this effort and the only concern was that students choosing this minor should also have a major in a relevant area of mathematics or science.

Comments on Data Notebook for Department of Mathematics: The FEC was pleased that the Department of Mathematics recognizes CCS as a valuable and necessary component of their undergraduate mission. They also commented that the PRP may find it valuable to interview students in the CCS Math Major during the review process because this would lend insight to the unique academic program in the College.

External Review Committee: Department of Mathematics. The FEC was pleased with the success of the math program in CCS. The ERC reported also commented favorably on the CCS program. The FEC members applauded Dr. Maribel Bueno-Cachadina as the Report also commended her for her many efforts to establish a program in CCS that is now a “mark of excellence.”

Formalization of Upper-Division Course Prerequisite Requirement: The FEC was in agreement that there should be a distinction between upper and lower division course work at UCSB and they supported the proposed additional wording in the Senate Manual (Appendix III) as recommended by the Undergraduate Council.

Comments on proposed WASC Themes. The FEC initially commented in November 2008 on four themes that were proposed for the upcoming accreditation: Assessment, Undergraduate Research, Internationalization, and Sustainability. At this time the FEC opined that they did not think UG Research was a campus wide theme-and that the document said nothing said about Graduate Education and planning for the future. In April, 2009 the FEC was asked to review the Draft of the WASC Institutional Proposal which contained two themes that were selected by the WASC Steering Committee: “Enhancing Undergraduate Research,” and “Excellence in Graduate Education and Planning for Graduate Growth.” The FEC had no additional comments on the draft proposal.

Accountability Framework Report. The FEC reviewed President Yudoff’s April 2009 draft report entitled “The UC Diversity Accountability Framework.” They noted that the document was not really about accountability, but rather is an excellent summation of the substantial productivity of the University of California.

EAP Business Plan. The FEC had grave concerns over the proposed cuts to the UCEAP as outlined in the proposed plan. Specifically, if implemented as planned it would have a severe impact on the overall purpose of the Education Abroad Program and compromise the overall quality and educational value.

Instructional Technology Enhancement Initiative. The FEC was generally supportive of the proposal, some members recommended that the oversight of fund expenditures be spelled out more clearly.

Proposed Procedural Documents for International Agreements. The FEC reviewed the documents and expressed concern for how this might impact the Education Abroad Program. More information was requested to address this issue.
Proposal for the Creation of a Technology Management Program and a Minor in Technology Management. The FEC was supportive of this initiative but had concerns of 1) how the minor would be reviewed since Programs are not reviewed externally and 2) how the program could remain sustainable in the near term given the current financial situation.

Data Notebook for External Review: Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology (MCDB). The FEC noted that CCS was mentioned only briefly in the departmental self-assessment which was surprising given the amount of work that MCDB faculty contribute to the College. The faculty in MCDB serve as valuable teaching and mentoring resources for the CCS Biology students who focus on research as a major component of their undergraduate experience and work in MCDB faculty labs taking MCDB upper division courses. CCS students and MCDB faculty enjoy a very productive relationship and this highlights the dedication of the MCDB faculty who are providing them with meaningful undergraduate research experiences.

Selection of Departments for External Review for 2010-2011. The FEC recommended the Departments of Music and Film and Media Studies for a Program Review in the 2010-2011 cycle. These are in addition to Chemistry, Computer Engineering, Computer Science and Sociology as noted in EVC Lucas’ letter of June 2, 2009.

Nominations for the Program Review Panel: The CCS FEC had no new nominations to put forth.

ITEMS OF NOTE:
Lecturer with Potential Security of Employment in CCS Physics. After an open recruitment (search) Dr. Sathya Guruswamy was selected as a LPSOE in the CCS Physics Major, (50:50 with L&S Physics.)

New Development Officer. Ann Hagan Smoot joined CCS in November 2008 as the new Development Officer for CCS. She is assisted by a half-time Administrative Assistant, Joel Aurora who also holds a 50% appointment in the Division of Student Affairs.

2009 FEC Commendation of Excellence Award. The FEC voted unanimously for Donavan Ventimiglia, CCS Biology major as this year’s recipient. The award was presented at the CCS commencement ceremony that was held in June.

CCS Recruitment Strategies Committee: A committee consisting of CCS faculty was formed to discuss methods for stepping up recruitment activities in CCS. They will recommend specific strategies to the Dean for outreach and recruitment activities for all of the CCS majors, an effort that will benefit the College and the Campus.

CONTINUING AND NEW ITEMS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-10
Online Application: Work continues on implementing a more robust online application system.

CCS Research Week: Students awarded Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF) will be required to present their research project in poster form during the following Fall/Winter quarter. Their work will be on display in CCS during “CCS Research Week”. A reception will also be scheduled to provide a venue for students and their faculty research mentors, other faculty and students, and donors who provided support for their summer research to come together and see the results of their work.

Sustainability: CCS Students initiated the “Green CCS Committee” to ensure that the College functions in as sustainable a manner as possible. Signage is now posted in and around CCS to remind its occupants to conserve resources such as water and electricity, etc. Numerous recycling bins have been placed inside, as well as outside of the CCS Building. The CCS Sustainability group works in conjunction with A.S. Recycling, PACES, and the Ellison Sustainability Committee.

The Dean’s Award for Outstanding Student Service. The FEC recommended that an award be created to recognize a student whose efforts have had the greatest “impact on the CCS community during his or her
years as an undergraduate. Such efforts include: fostering an interdisciplinary sense of collegiality among the students; voluntarily assisting the faculty, students and staff with their time and expertise that will help accomplish the goals of the College. This recommendation was made at the last meeting of the FEC for 2008-09. The members asked that its implementation occur in the new academic year.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
John Latto, Biology (EEMB)
Bruce Tiffney, Dean, Biology (Earth Science), ex-officio
Peter Cappello, Computer Science
Kathy Foltz, Bioloyg (MCDB), Secretary
Gerardo Aldana, Chicano Studies, At-Large Member
Jeremy Haladyna, Music Composition (Music)
Leroy Laverman, Chemistry/BioChemistry, Chair
Robyn Bell, Literature
Leslie Hogan, Music Composition-NSF-CA Member
Maribel Bueno-Cachadina, Mathematics
Jane Mulfinger, Art
Harry Reese, Associate Dean, Art-ex-officio
Francesc Roig, Physics
Lisa Parks, Film and Media Studies, At-Large Member
Enda Duffy, English, At-Large Member