FAU

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Ben Lowe, Chair, Graduate Programs Committee
FROM: Manjunath Pendakur, Dean
DATE: September 23, 2010
RE: **Support for MFA Proposal**

I am writing this to strongly endorse the proposal to establish a new Master of Fine Arts degree in Media, Technology and Entertainment at FAU. This is a collaborative effort between the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies in the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters and the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering. The faculty in both of these units have worked diligently to create a much needed, advanced degree program in a growing field.

The proposed degree program meets strategic goal #2 of the university's Strategic Plan that aims to fulfill the state's objective of meeting professional workforce needs. It will also expand the College of Arts and Letters contribution to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education, building on the College's already existing undergraduate contribution to STEM—the BA in Multimedia Studies.

Your serious consideration of this proposal and approval are appreciated.

April 5, 2010

Graduate Programs Committee
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to support the School of Communication & Multimedia Studies proposal for an interdisciplinary MFA in Media, Technology and Entertainment.

The Department of Engineering & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science looks forward to collaborating with the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies on this innovative new degree. We have participated throughout the planning process, and we have been consulted in the inclusion of our courses and in the allocation of resources as they pertain to our faculty and facilities. We strongly support this collaboration between our faculties, and have already partnered in collaborative lab development with the School of Communication at the downtown Fort Lauderdale campus.

We are confident that faculty and students in this program will develop and be able to capitalize innovations in entertainment technology that will become new enterprises in South Florida. This is truly a groundbreaking program, and we are pleased to be an instrumental part in its delivery.

Sincerely,

Borko Furht, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
College of Engineering and Computer Science

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. Susan Reilly, Director of School of Communication and Multimedia Studies

FROM: Borko Furht, Chairman, Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

SUBJECT: New MFA in Media Technology and Entertainment

DATE: September 30, 2010

This memorandum is to express a full support for the new program MFA in Media Technology and Entertainment at FAU. This program has been jointly created as an interdisciplinary program by the School of Communication and Multimedia Studies (College of Art and Letters) and the Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (College of Engineering and Computer Science) at FAU. The proposed graduate degree will combine the topics in film, video, interactive media, and computer animation, and include innovative approaches to digital entertainment, Web design, and digital media production.

This program is fully interdisciplinary including advanced topics in entertainment, arts, technology, and computing. The program will also include an entrepreneurial component – at the end of the second year, students will present their projects to representatives from private and public companies and investors who are interested to commercialize the developed technology.

It is my opinion that this program will attract a number of students from both colleges as well as part-time students from industry, who will return to university to complete the program.

In summary, we fully support this program and our Department is committed to make the program successful.

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DATE: April 17, 2010

TO: Graduate Programs Committee

FROM: Linda Johnson,
              Chair, Department of Visual Arts and Art History

SUBJECT: M.F.A. in Media, Technology and Entertainment

The Department of Visual Arts and Art History is in support of the M.F.A. in Media, Technology and Entertainment degree program being offered as an interdisciplinary degree through the School of Communication in partnership with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Several courses with the ART prefix (ART 5685, ART 5686, ART 5690, ART 6692, ART 5691 and ART 6688) that have been taught in the Department of Visual Arts and Art History are part of this proposal. It is understood by the Department that the School of Communication will be requesting course prefix changes for these course once the M.F.A. in Media, Technology and Entertainment is approved.

The Department of Visual Arts and Art History will no longer admit students into the M.F.A. in Visual Arts with a concentration in Computer Arts in Animation as soon as the M.F.A. in Media, Technology and Entertainment is approved. Students who are currently enrolled in the M.F.A. in Visual Arts with a concentration in Computer Arts in Animation will receive the full support and assistance of the Department as they transition to the M.F.A. in Media, Technology and Entertainment.

(signature)