DATE: February 6, 2012

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: 11-12 CIC 9: Proposal for a School of Arts and Media

PURPOSE: Action by the Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate recommend approval of the proposal for a School of Arts and Media

**Background:** At its meeting of 12/01/11, CAPR considered a request by the Chairs of the Departments of Art, Music, Communication, and Theatre/Dance, and the Multimedia Graduate Program to establish a new academic unit in the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) to be called the School of Arts and Media (SAM). This proposal to create the SAM has the strong support of faculty from these departments (39 Y 4 N) as well as the Council of Chairs of CLASS (15 Y, 0 N, 1 A). It is based on more than two years of discussion, consideration at faculty meetings as well as open meetings, and review by a Proposal Review Team composed of faculty and staff from each unit. The creation of the SAM will provide a structure and coherent presence for a set of programs that have many commonalities, facilitating their working more effectively in a collaborative manner, for example, taking advantage of possibilities to leverage resources across programs and avoid duplication of spending. The departments will maintain their individual identities and their individual role in RPT and curricular approval. Due to the budgetary constraints facing all programs, the School is mandated to be created in a budget-neutral manner. The earliest possible "launch" date for this program will be Fall 2013 with inclusion in the 2013-14 catalog.

CIC considered the proposal at its meeting of February 6 and also recommends that the Senate recommend approval of the School of Arts and Media.