



SMU.

Steven C. Currall
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

1 November 2016

TO: Gary Brubaker, Director of The Guildhall
Marc Christensen, Dean, Lyle School of Engineering and Lyle Endowed
Professor of Engineering Innovation
Tony Cuevas, Director of Instructional Design and Clinical Associate Professor
Simmons School of Education and Human Development
Tom DiPiero (Chair), Dean, Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences and
Professor of World Languages
Scott Douglas, Professor of Electrical Engineering, Lyle School of Engineering
Sam Holland, Dean of Meadows School of the Arts, and Professor of Music
Ira Greenberg, Director, Center of Creative Computation and Professor,
Meadows School of the Arts
Jo Guldi, Assistant Professor of History, Dedman College of Humanities
and Sciences

FROM: Steven C. Currall, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Charge to Task Force on Creative and Interactive Technology

I write to invite you to serve on the Task Force on Creative and Interactive Technology (CIT). Your important work will influence the future of our university for decades to come.

The SMU's *Second Century Strategic Plan, 2015-2025* entreats the University to increase its emphasis on:

- "Interdisciplinary research."
- "Enhance teaching and learning through innovative curricula, pedagogies, programs, and methodologies that lead to creative thinking and innovative problem solving and are informed by research, along with utilization of advanced technologies."
- "Design, implement, and evaluate interdisciplinary programs combining fields generally considered distinct to match needs of the modern city, state, nation, and world."
- "Encourage widespread development of campus-wide interdisciplinary research projects and programs for graduate and undergraduate students and faculty."

1 November 2016

Page 2

The University's leadership is looking to the Task Force to provide joint *administration-* and *faculty-led* guidance on this initiative. Indeed, faculty involvement in this endeavor is crucial.

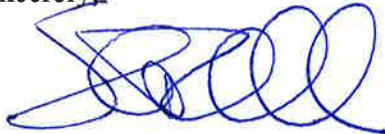
I envision that your report will be approximately 3,000 words in length and address the following topics:

1. "CIT" is a placeholder name. Conceive of a name that captures CIT's ambition and collaborative nature. Choose a name that differentiates SMU and positions the University for national and global leadership.
2. Explain how the initiative will be interdisciplinary, or even trans-disciplinary. The initiative must cross many academic units at SMU; it may not be based in a single College/School. The initiative must involve the administrative integration of existing programs at SMU such as Creative Computation, Guidhall, and perhaps others.
3. What type of "entity" should CIT be? Should it be a center, institute, or academic department, or some other type of entity?
4. What will be the governance structure of CIT? Who will lead it? Who will oversee it?
5. What are the research implications of CIT? How will it contribute to and advance research at SMU?
6. What are the curricular implications of CIT? How will it inform undergraduate and graduate curricula at SMU?
7. How do you anticipate that CIT will change the academic and intellectual culture of SMU?

The Task Force may wish to engage with a small number of selected individuals outside SMU to seek their thoughts and guidance. Please submit your final report to me by 1 February 2017.

Again, thank you for agreeing to serve on the Task Force. The impact of your work will be felt by the SMU community for decades to come.

Sincerely,



Steven C. Currall, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
David B. Miller Endowed Professor
Professor of Management and Organization
Professor of Psychology
Professor of Engineering Management, Information, and Systems

cc: President R. Gerald Turner