Minutes of 3D Modeling & Animation Advisory Committee Meeting

Recorded by Clay Atchison
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Date: Friday, October 13, 2023
Place: Zoom

Members in Attendance: Eloise Fouche, Michael Hazen,
Paul Press, Jeff Reynolds

Faculty in Attendance: Clay Atchison

Was there a quorum _X_ Yes (50% plus one) ____ No

1. Secretary Clay Atchison called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

2. Clay Atchison reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

3. Program Evaluation Review & Update

Our cluster Dean Victor Tam presented a review of the 3D Modeling and Animation program to the Academic Affairs Council (AAC) this August. Concern for the number of program graduates resulted in a recommendation to REVITALIZE the program.

This revitalization would focus on shrinking the program down to a new 16-unit certificate that removes the *APTECH 168 Intro to Virtual Reality* class, and potentially shifts this smaller certificate online to increase access to students and leverage SRJC joining the California Virtual College (https://cvc.edu/).

A brief revitalization plan is to be sent to the Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) Robert Holcomb with timeline and planned activities. The program will be reviewed again in 2 years to discuss progress.

This is part of the Program Review, Evaluation, Revitalization, and Discontinuance Committee's ongoing evaluation of certificates or majors in a six-year rotation.

This Fall the Academic Senate will contact the Program Coordinator and Department Chair so they can review the program with them as well, and make their own recommendation. The Academic Senate's recommendation will also be sent to the VPAA who will make a final determination. It's expected that Vice President Holcomb will agree with the recommendations above.

In contrast to the proposed revision, Department Chair Robert Grandmaison in particular is hopeful that the VR class can continue. The course was offered this Fall, but cancelled due to lack of enrollment. It's slated to be offered again in the Spring 2024 semester. If enrollment is sufficient for the class to proceed, it's uncertain how that will affect the program revitalization.

It's hoped that the inclusion of the beginning animation class APTECH 43 and the Intro to VFX class APTECH 162 in the new cross-curricular and iter-campus *Intro to Virtual Production* degree program will increase course enrollments overall.

4. Virtual Production Program:

The Virtual Production Program is now active and the first *CS77.11 Intro to Virtual Production* course will be offered in Spring 2024.

The course will be taught by Shawn Nelson, who also teaches the APTECH *Intro Virtual Reality* class.

5. Computer Studies - Future Planning Meeting Summary:

Clay Atchison met with key Computer Studies players in the Virtual Production Academy program on October 5. Future programming and curriculum was explored, with relevance to potential full-time positions. Future relationship with the animation program and the Computer Studies Department was on the meeting agenda but wasn't addressed due to lack of time.

The college's Digital Media Program Coordinator has expressed interest in assimilating the animation program into CS, and several new courses could be developed to allow local offerings for the Advanced Virtual Production Program.

A Virtual Production Faculty Skills document was shared, and Clay Atchison and Shawn Nelson added data to it.

It was subsequently remarked that a new Virtual Production faculty was not currently needed, and instead a future fulltime position should focus on a new UX program.

Another meeting of this Collaboration Workgroup is set for October 19 on Zoom.

6. New STEM Building Update:

Named after current Santa Rosa Junior College Trustee W. Terry Lindley, the new 95,000-square foot Lindley Center for STEM Education will modernize and expand a number of programs, and provide new hands-on learning activities. Opening changed from Fall 2023 to Spring 2024.

7. Date set for next meeting: Friday, March 22, 2024 - 6pm.

8. Adjournment at 7:20pm