A Close and Productive Synergy in the Arts

<u>Vision</u>

ICE is a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary creative projects, advanced research and critical discourse in the arts, and for creative applications of technologies, concepts, and practices found across disciplines. It is a collaborative network of faculty, students, and community members from all disciplines of the visual and performing arts in addition to other disciplines in the humanities and sciences. ICE enables all stages of creative activity, from concept and team formation through production, documentation, and dissemination of research.

ICE is an interdisciplinary initiative for advanced research in the arts supported by the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the Graduate School. ICE supports the diverse scholarship and creative activity of the four Fine Arts units (Department of Dance, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, the Lamar Dodd School of Art, and the Hugh Hodgson School of Music) and fosters meaningful collaborations within the arts and between the arts and other units on campus and in the community.

Since its inception in 1999, ICE has supported the development of original creative research through ICE project grants, hosted visiting artists and scholars, held workshops and a major symposium, developed a Web site and electronic mailing list, and established a project space in the Tanner Building. The ICE network includes faculty and students in the arts and sciences, the Honors Program, Faculty of Engineering, UGA alumni, and community members. The ICE advisory committee is comprised of students and faculty from the arts and sciences.

In the next five years ICE will strive for greater national and international prominence. We will continue to support innovative creative research through project grants and a diverse network of participants. ICE will develop curriculum to make interdisciplinary courses in the arts available to undergraduate and graduate students. A major symposium will become a regular component of the ICE program. ICE will focus more resources on the broad dissemination of information about ICE activities through print, video, and the Web.

ICE is dependent on the continued dedication of the Fine Arts units to strive for collaboration, innovative use of technology, and greater student access to courses in all art forms. As the Lamar Dodd School of Art plans to relocate to east campus in 2008, ICE may be called upon to relinquish its space in the Tanner Building. It is very important that ICE maintain a visible presence on campus, whether in the new Art building or in a space near the interface of the campus and community near downtown

Athens. ICE will need to seek increased funding to reach these goals and to serve as wide an audience as possible. In the next five years we will seek additional internal support for projects and events, external support in the form of grants and private and corporate sponsorship, and a major donation to begin an ICE endowment.

Goals

• Continue to support an interdisciplinary network of faculty, students, and community members.

• Support interdisciplinary, collaborative, and innovative projects.

• Develop a curricular component to satisfy student desires for interdisciplinary training in the arts.

• Create symposia, workshops, and events to foster an environment of lively critical reflection.

• Facilitate thorough documentation and preservation of ICE research.

External Factors

• Inadequate recognition of interdisciplinary and collaborative research conducted by faculty during tenure and promotion considerations

• Inadequate recognition of interdisciplinary and collaborative research conducted by graduate students during reviews by major professors.

• High demand for instruction places significant pressures on faculty and teaching assistants.

• Cost of cutting-edge technology prohibits widespread and state of the art experimental research.

• Scheduling conflicts across departments and schools prohibit faculty and student academic and social exchange.

• Lack of graduate programs in Dance and Digital Media and small Composition and Computer Science programs limit the range of potential collaboration.

• Major research in technology within the university system is conducted at a distance from Athens.

• High demand for classroom space in Art limits the full-time availability of the ICE room.

• There is in the arts a limited availability of external funding. UGA development in the arts caters to patrons of traditional disciplines.

Program Priorities

In order to bring that vision to reality, accomplish those goals, and respond to the external factors identified, the following are our specific program priorities:

1. Support Interdisciplinary Network

    • Secure a dedicated physical space to house the ICE office, meetings, workshops, and temporary exhibitions and performances.
    • Develop governance procedures for ICE administration, committee formation, and reporting.
    • Use ICE electronic mailing list and Web site to promote greater interaction in the arts.
    • Address issues hindering participation of faculty and students in ICE research.
    • Seek additional internal funding for ICE research, graduate assistantships, and facility upgrades.
    • Seek external funding in the form of grants and gifts.

2. Support Innovative Projects

    • Support offered to projects based on a very selective process
    • "Well" model (funding distributed through ICE to deserving projects)
    • "Ground-up" collaboration (collaborative groups brainstorm around possibilities of award amount)
    •"Structured" funding (participation in ICE activities is a prerequisite for funding)
    • Categorized project awards, such as "new", "continuing", "for dissemination"
    • ICE participates in and facilitates grant writing workshops to increase competitiveness
    • Address issues hindering participation of faculty and students in ICE research.
    • Public brainstorming sessions with rapid presentations in a social setting
    • Proposal draft presentations for feedback before submitting
    • In-progress critiques of ICE projects
    • Presentations at ICE with opportunities for discussion
    • Graduate to undergraduate mentoring and faculty to graduate/undergraduate mentoring within projects
    • ICE seeks opportunities for commercialization of appropriate projects
    • Major external funding supports overhead costs and viability of ICE and generates revenue for participating departments
    • Regular reporting ensures continuation of knowledge about multi-year projects

3. Develop Curricular Component

    • Certificate program organized around interdisciplinary research in the arts

• Graduate assistantships
• Graduate-level ICE concentration
• Multidisciplinary teaching (team-teaching by instructors from varied disciplines)
• Joint appointments for faculty in home department and ICE
• Dedicate funding for replacement instructors in home department when faculty teach ICE courses
• "Franklin Fellow" type of program for visiting faculty
• Courses available across departments that count toward ICE certification
• Small, "core" group of ICE faculty facilitate involvement
• Interdisciplinary arts appreciation course to increase awareness about 21st century art and ICE curriculum

4. Create Events

• Annual or biannual symposium
• Juried programs featuring projects
• Lectures, workshops, and exhibitions and performance
• Events scheduled throughout the UGA campus
• UGA and national audience
• Distinguished by the unique character of UGA research, strong interdisciplinary activity, built around collaboration
• Invited guest speakers from within UGA and beyond
• Presentations at ICE with opportunities for discussion
• Strive for diverse audiences
• Opportunities to share project ideas and meet potential collaborators
• Shared experiences that create a sense of community
• Saturday sessions with presentations and workshops
• Juried graduate and/or undergraduate event
• Invited participants from national/regional institutions
• Develop a summer institute for talented undergraduate and graduate students from around the world.
• Develop a residency program for visiting artists.

5. Facilitate Dissemination

• Publications, such as symposium proceedings
• Telematic interaction with institutions throughout the world
• Inter-institutional collaboration
• Use of Internet 2 technology
• Inter-departmental interaction through class visits, faculty and student exchanges, video
• Orientation to ICE via presentations and brochure
• ICE public relations unit promotes projects through advertising, network of contacts, partnerships with organizations such as SIGGRAPH, Rhizome, ASCI
• Traveling exhibitions

- Online documentation of ICE activities such as a blog
- CURO model of project presentations provides a clear display of what is being produced

Performance Measures

The indicators described below will be used to annually measure progress being made towards achieving goals.

- ICE is an integral component of interdisciplinary creative research projects originating from UGA

- ICE is an incubator for grant proposals; provides mentoring; helps faculty prepare proposals; offers "seed" grants that can develop into competitive proposals for external support.

- ICE supports 3-5 major projects (budgets over $3,000) at any given moment that can be featured in competitive grant proposals for further development.

- ICE receives a large number of proposals for innovative projects.

- ICE supports a mixture of internal and external projects.

- Talented graduate candidates are attracted to UGA to pursue interdisciplinary research in the arts.

- Development of ICE courses.

- Increased interaction with other units, institutions, and the community.

- Public programming such as workshops, presentations, and symposia.

- Greater public awareness of ICE activities through exhibitions, performances, and publications outside of UGA.

ICE Strategic Planning Process

November 30, 2006   General Meeting
March 7, 2007   Planning Session 1
April 2, 2007   Planning Session 2
April 16, 2007   Planning Session 3
November 28, 2007   Focus Group Meeting
January 15, 2008   Final Strategic Plan

Strategic Planning Committee

Chic Ball (Music)
Josh Bienko (MFA candidate, Art)
Mark Callahan (ICE, Art)
Jason Cantarella (Mathematics)
Cal Clements (Comparative Literature)
George Contini (Theatre and Film Studies)
David Saltz (ICE, Theatre and Film Studies)
Bala Sarasvati (Dance)
Georgia Strange (Art)
Martijn Van Wagtendonk (Art)
Nora Wendl (Art)

Additional participants and reviewers

Phil Auslander (visiting professor, Theatre and Film Studies)
Kristen Kundert-Gibbs (Theatre and Film Studies)
Laleh Mehran (former professor, Art)
Ed Pavlic (English)
Brahm Verma (retired professor, Faculty of Engineering)