Title: Arts Across the Curriculum: Designing and Cultivating a Creative Process Course on Campus

Abstract/Description: A roundtable or "how to" workshop on creating a transdisciplinary course on the creative process that many students have reported as “life-changing.” Stephen Rush, a composer and faculty member at the University of Michigan created a course in creative process called UArTS 250. Starting as a transdisciplinary experiment for Living Arts, the creative living and learning community, it is now counted as an elective for the first time in U-M’s College of Engineering, joining its establishment in the school of Literature, Science and Arts school as well as the Ross School of Business. The course helps “demystify” the creative process for students and is open to any student wishing to unlock and apply their creativity, regardless of major. The session will include the following features: shape or envision such a course - including “content”; find and recruit allies to make the course thrive; envision spaces that would work on your campus for the course’s activities; envision and articulate vision to secure funding sources; actively imagine this on your campus.

Stephen Rush
Stephen is a composer and Professor of Music at the University of Michigan, where he founded the Digital Music Ensemble (DME) which he has directed for 25 years. DME he has worked with Pauline Oliveros, Elliott Sharp, Alvin Lucier and Robert Ashley, and premiered works by John Cage, Philip Glass and La Monte Young. Rush has performed or recorded with Roscoe Mitchell, Pauline Oliveros, Henry Grimes, Elliott Sharp, Steve Swell, Eugene Chadbourne, Peter Kowald and Art Ensemble of Chicago. He also tours and records with his electronic psychedelic improvisation band, “Crystal Mooncone”. He is also deeply invested in Installation Art, with current works in collaboration with Michael Gould and Henry Pollack (Nobel Prize winning physicist) –“World Without Ice,” as well as “Jeweled Net of the Vast Invisible” in collaboration with scientists at the Fermi Lab.

He has written 6 operas, over fifty works for Dance, chamber and electronic works, concertos, and four symphonies; performed by the Detroit Symphony and the Warsaw National Symphony. He has authored two books and at work on a third; including “Free Jazz,
Harmolodics and Ornette Coleman.” His writing about Ornette Coleman and Coleman Hawkins were commissioned by the Library of Congress. He has recordings on Leo, Nessa, Innova, ESP Disk’, Equilibrium, Deep Listening, Centaur, MMC, RogueArts (Paris), Eroica, Summit and CALA Records (with the New York Philharmonic Chamber Musicians), and recently recorded as a conductor of the Art Ensemble of Chicago on Pi Records.