**From the Chair...**

Spring tidings, FMS!

We are now well over half way though the semester, and my hope is that we have all settled into our classes.

I am so pleased to share some new developments with you!

Starting in fall, we will be welcoming a new faculty member to the Department. Germaine Halegoua will be our New Media faculty member and will help strengthen our curriculum in this area. She will be teaching two courses in this field, to be announced shortly. If you heard her give a talk this semester, please help me welcome her when you see her at Oldfather beginning in August.

We will be publishing more of her biography in the last newsletter of the semester. Stay tuned!

In other news, we officially launched a program for nine deserving graduating seniors over Spring Break called the “Spring Break Career Orientation Week in Los Angeles.”

All of these students have an interest in working in Los Angeles upon graduation, and we thus embarked upon this program to bring together these students and alumni working in the field. We hope to print some excerpts from their experiences in the next newsletter. Maria Skeels, alumna and head of the Hollywood Hawks, has also created a mentoring program for all interested juniors and seniors in FMS. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me at tfalicov@ku.edu.

Finally, we are so happy that one of our main supporters of scholarships, Mark Amin, a producer for Lionsgate and Sobini Films, has been named a CLAS Distinguished Alumni Award recipient for this year! Mr. Amin will be accepting his award at a banquet on campus in his honor on April 9th, and the evening prior, we’ll be screening a film he produced, “Peaceful Warrior” on Friday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. in Room 100. He will lead a Q and A session afterwards. Do not miss this opportunity to chat with him and enjoy a pizza dinner to celebrate his many accomplishments.

Best wishes, - Tamara

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**Your differential dollars at work**

Ever wonder what your differential tuition funds are used for? This year to date, we have used the funds to support the following endeavors:

- #Flat screen TV for computer lab
- #Carpet for computer lab and 100 Oldfather
- #Lighting equipment and supplies
- #Overhead projector for classroom
- #Pad
- #Directing workshop featuring Rod Holcomb (Winter Break)
- #Ariel Hart’s presentation on March 15
- #DVDs for the film/video library
- #Misc. audio/video equipment, electrical, and other supplies

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**Special points of interest:**

- **Enrollment & Advising—Going on now!**
- **Last Day to Drop—April 21**
- **FMS Annual Student Recognition Ceremony—May 13**
- **School of the Arts Graduation Ceremony—May 20**

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Coming Attractions

Saturday, April 2
Undergrad Research Symposium: Film and Media Studies students, Rebecca Basaure, Josh Nathan, and Nathan Towns will screen their film work from 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. in Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union. All three students are winners of UGRA awards.

Tuesday, April 5
Bill Gilbert, a working professional with years of experience in the film production equipment business, will speak on his perspective about the film equipment currently being used by the Department from 9:00 – 10:45 a.m. in Room 100 Oldfather Studios.

Friday, April 8
Mark Amin, KU alum and producer, will screen Sobini’s film, Peaceful Warrior, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 100 Oldfather Studios. Amin will introduce the film and do a Q&A after the screening. A pizza reception will follow the event.

Thursday, April 14
CinemaKC Showcase for the KU FMS Student Showcase at the Screenland Crown Center in Kansas City, MO.
6:30 p.m. mixer; program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 15
Screening of Jayhawk Theatre Documentary by FMS graduate student, Juli Pitzer from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union.
Free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 21
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Paula Rose, an independent Art Historian and Gallery Manager at Plenum Space Gallery in Kansas City, MO, will give a presentation on a contemporary Japanese visual artist.

Thursday, April 28
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Benjamin Vu, an excellent CG artist and Creative Director at Skyvu Pictures, has worked on the Academy-Nominated animation feature, CORALINE, and currently develops games for his company, Skyvu.

Thursday, May 5
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Josh Fry and Jason Kerschner, KC-based media-makers working at Platform Advertising, are both in hiring positions and will talk about demo reels and the type of talent they look for in new hires.

The following events are part of FMS 576 Animation class, taught by W. S. Cheng in 120 Oldfather Studios. All interested students and faculty are welcome and encouraged to attend the presentations at the times listed:

Thursday, April 7
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Scott Murphy, faculty in the School of Music whose area of expertise is Motion Picture music, will give a presentation on film title sequences and sound.

Thursday, April 14
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Associate Professors Muriel Cohan and Patrick Suzeau, who teach in the Department of Dance, will discuss movement in relation to animation.

SAVE THE DATE!

The FMS Annual Student Recognition Ceremony will be held on Stop Day, Friday, May 13th. Tensie Awards, Scholarship and Award Presentations—what fun! Watch for more information.
Enrollment and Advising are here!

I hope you all had a safe and relaxing Spring Break – now on to enrollment! Be sure you’re signing up for advising appointments with faculty to discuss summer and fall classes, as well as receive permission numbers for production classes.

Faculty advising will run through April 15, so sign up soon!

Sign up in Room 204, Oldfather Studios.

Last Day to Drop = April 21

Now that mid-terms are (almost) over, you should have a good idea of where your grades stand. If you’re concerned about earning a poor grade in a class, SPEAK WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR before you consider dropping. Once you know what your grade really is, then make a decision. You’re welcome to set up a meeting with me to discuss your overall GPA status anytime (this goes double for anyone on academic probation).

SAVE THE DATE!

School of the Arts Graduation Ceremony

Friday May 20, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Crafton-Preyer Theatre in Murphy Hall

Details will be mailed to spring and summer graduates soon; more info is also available on the School of the Arts Facebook page.

Student Screenings (free and open to the public)

Josh Nathan will present his Honors program short film, A Light Opera, on Saturday, April 2nd, between 3:45 and 4:30 p.m. in Alderson Auditorium in The Kansas Union. The University of Kansas University Honors Program helped fund the film.

“Preserving the Past: Topeka’s Jayhawk Theatre,” a documentary by Juli Pitzer, will be screened on Friday, April 15th at 6:30 p.m. in Alderson Auditorium in the Kansas Union.

Sponsored by the Film and Media Graduate Council and the Department of Film and Media Studies

And see it again on...

Thursday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m.
Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library in Topeka, KS

Sponsored by the Historic Jayhawk Theatre, Inc.

A discussion session will follow each screening.

To Serve and Protect
Crime TV, Citizenship, and National Identity

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Several faculty members, graduate students, and post-graduate students attended and presented papers at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies National Conference, held in New Orleans, March 10 – 13.
**Computer Lab Open for Student Use**

The new computer lab is available for students to use during the following times: Mondays from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Wednesdays from 8:00 to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Students who wish to use the computer lab must sign-up in the Equipment Room. The computers are equipped with Final Cut Pro, Final Draft, Microsoft Office, iWork and iLife, but do not currently have internet access or the capability to print.

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**New Course for Fall 2011**

Course Title: American Popular Culture of: Film Noir  
(FMS 380/880 & AMS 344/696)

Course Description: Murder. Lust. Greed. These are just some of the themes that characterize film noir, one of the most resilient genres in the history of cinema. And yet film noir – a category of film associated with a cycle of films that emerged in the 1940s – is defined by more than just such themes; it’s also characterized by a particular visual style and narrative structure that reflect the social, political, and cinematic context of the period. In this course we will watch a variety of noir films in order to consider film noir’s literary roots, its cinematic antecedents, its status as a genre and its enduring appeal. Questions about genre, visual style, narrative form, sexuality, gender, and American national identity will inform readings, lectures, and discussions.

Course Instructor: Ron Wilson

Class Meets: Mondays 2:00 – 5:20 p.m.
Summer Intern Positions

This was sent via email to FMS students on March 17.

One of our esteemed alums, Marc Roskin, works on the television show "Leverage" starring Timothy Hutton, which airs on TNT. Marc would like to offer a few internships to a handful of FMS students to work as set P.A. and editing interns in either Portland or post production (editing) in Los Angeles this summer. While last year 5 Set P.A.s were selected, they can only select 2-3 this year for Portland. They can also take 1-2 postproduction interns in Los Angeles.

Interested? Read more below:

1) You must be a student in good standing (GPA of 2.5 or above)
2) You may either be a continuing student, in which case you will need to sign up for an internship in the summer or fall (we can have you register those credit hours for the fall), or a graduating senior. Please see Matt Jacobson, FMS Internship Coordinator, for further details. (mattjaco@ku.edu)
3) These are unpaid internships. Minimum time working is one month. You must work a minimum of 50 hours for 1 credit hour. Maximum is 6 credit hours.
4) You must fund your way to Portland or Los Angeles. In both cases you will need to rent a car in addition to your plane ticket and housing. We hope to group students together to share expenses.
5) While you will not be getting paid, this is an excellent way to network, gain experience, and list it on your CV.

If you are still interested in applying, please send the following information electronically.

Deadline is April 15. We cannot accept late applications.

Send the following, electronically, to Tamara Falicov (tfalicov@ku.edu)

Cover letter (address to Internship Coordinator, Leverage)

Resume (please list your GPA on resume, we will be checking ARTS forms for the people selected)

In your cover letter, please tell us what aspect of TV production interests you. If possible, they will try to rotate you in to various departments such as camera, sound, electrical, etc. The show is shot in Portland and interns mainly work on the set, but also in the production office. If you are interested in editing and postproduction please list this--it means working in L.A.

A few weeks following, the Chair and the Leverage internship coordinator will select the top candidates. If you are not selected this year, know that there will hopefully be opportunities next year (assuming that our KU interns do a great job!).

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When W.S. Cheng was in Belgium doing research, Malcolm Le Grice mentored both his art-practice and research at the Conservatory-Brussels, Belgium in 2008. Films by Le Grice are shown in some FMS classes.

Photo by W. S. Cheng