Department of Film & Media Studies

From the Chair...

Greetings from FMS!!

I wanted to share a few exciting developments since the last newsletter. For one, with the generosity of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, we are in the process of acquiring a Red One digital camera and editing system to be utilized in our advanced production courses next year. This state-of-the-art camera is used in many film and television industry settings, and we are pleased to give students the opportunity to learn about and use it for their projects.

Secondly, we had an extremely successful FMS Hollywood Hawks Career Orientation Week over spring break, where 9 high achieving students, the majority graduating seniors, were selected to spend one week in Los Angeles visiting with working alumni in various facets of the entertainment industry. Some of the highlights included visiting the set of Paramount Pictures, viewing a live shoot of “Glee,” visiting a post-production house that restores films, and meeting with KU alumni to learn about their experiences. Kudos go to alumna Maria Skeels, who organizes the KU alumni groups “Hollywood Hawks” (find them on Facebook!) and the “L.A. Jayhawks” was instrumental in organizing the itinerary, and many thanks to those who offered their time, resources, and expertise on the trip. Many thanks also go to faculty leaders Matt Jacobson and Bob Hurst who accompanied the students. We were very pleased to learn how much the students gained from the experience, and hope to continue this trip next year. If alumni are interested in participating in next year’s program either financially or in person, please contact me at tfalicov@ku.edu.

Students, be on the lookout for the call for applications next year! You must have a GPA of 3.5 to qualify.

Please see photos of the trip on subsequent pages.

Best wishes,
Tamara
Tamara Falicov, Ph.D.
Associate Professor/Department Chair

Sabbatical Leave Approved

Michael Baskett, associate professor of film and media studies, has been approved by the Kansas Board of Regents for a sabbatical leave for the fall semester. He will conduct research for a manuscript on the cultural history of the Japanese film industry during the Cold War.
Coming Attractions

Department of Film and Media Studies
School of the Arts

Annual Student Recognition Ceremony

♦ Tensie Awards
♦ Scholarship Presentations
♦ Award Presentations
♦ A fond farewell to students leaving the Department

The Department of Film and Media Studies presents:

Call for Entries for the 2011 Tensie Awards

Trophies will be awarded for:
- Best Cinematography
- Best Editing
- Best Sound
- Best Special Effects
- Best Director
- Best Experimental Project
- Best Documentary
- Best Drama
- Best Comedy
- Best Music Video
- Best Animation
- Best Screenplay
- Best Body of Work (3 or more projects)

Winners will be announced at our Film Awards Spectacular
May 13th at 6:30 p.m. at Liberty Hall

Entry Forms have been sent out to all FMS students. Please read and follow all rules and regulations printed on the entry form!

Submission DEADLINES:
- 4:30 p.m., Friday, April 29th for eligible projects completed prior to Spring Semester, 2011
- 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 6th for projects created during Spring Semester, 2011.

2010-11 Film Awards Spectacular

Date: Friday, May 13, 2011
Time: 6:30 p.m. Hors d’oeuvres
- 7:00 p.m. Program begins
Place: Liberty Hall
- 642 Massachusetts Street
Potluck: Please bring a cold Hors d’oeuvre to share
Attire: Semi-formal

We hope you will be able to join us!

There will be a drawing for the following door prizes at the Annual Student Recognition Ceremony on Friday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.: (a) $15 iTunes gift card; (b) $25 iTunes gift card; and (c) a copy of Final Cut Pro ($1200)!

All Film and Media Studies students attending the event will be eligible to win. Our thanks go to the KU Bookstore for its generous donation in making these door prizes possible.

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.

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, will talk about demo reels and the type of talent they look for in new hires.
Willmott on KCPT

Local acclaimed film director and KU professor Kevin Willmott and Truman Medical Center President/CEO John Bluford were featured guests on KCPT’s new primetime cultural affairs program, THE LOCAL SHOW. The show first aired April 14th and was re-broadcast several times. During the show, Willmott provided a sneak preview of his new documentary From Separate to Equal: The Creation of Truman Medical Centers. The documentary tells the dramatic history of some of Kansas City’s African-American health care pioneers and their efforts to create black hospitals, integrate the healthcare system, and establish the Truman Medical Centers. For more information, go to www.kcpt.org/thelocalshow.

News from Alum

Congratulations to Novotny Lawrence, Ph.D. graduate in 2004, on his success at achieving promotion and tenure at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Novotny is currently an assistant professor in the Radio-Television Department and is cross-appointed in the Africana Studies Department.

Tibbetts’ Blog

Search for “Henry Jenkins Blog” and click on Confessions of an Aca-Fan: The Official Weblog of Henry Jenkins http://henryjenkins.org/

Scroll down to find John Tibbetts’ blog on Henry Jenkins. Jenkins pays tribute to John’s “over the rainbow” archive that contains more than 100 of his video interviews with filmmakers. The archive is an ongoing project soon to encompass more than 100 additional audio interviews.

Advisor’s Corner

By Amy Lampe, Advising Specialist, amylampe@ku.edu

Summer Classes

Take advantage of the wide variety of summer FMS classes available this year – graduate on time! Seats are still available in:

- FMS 100 – Intro to the Film Medium
- FMS 275 – Basic Video Production (see Hurst for permission number)
- FMS 380 – American Pop Culture – 1960s
- FMS 480 – Music Video Production (see Jacobson for permission number)
- FMS 530 – Classical Film Theory (in Overland Park, KS)
- FMS 531 – Contemporary Concepts

2011 Commencement

Attention all graduating students! Congratulations! This is the time of year for lots of questions about graduation ceremonies/honors/etc. Please refer to KU’s Commencement webpage for answers to all of your questions: www.commencement.ku.edu – this is an excellent resource for all your parents and guests coming to help you celebrate your accomplishments.

School of the Arts Recognition Ceremony

The School of the Arts is holding its own ceremony Friday, May 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crafton-Preyer Theatre. Spring and summer graduates, you should have received an invitation to this event recently. If you have any questions about the ceremony, email sota@ku.edu.

Diplomas

Diplomas may be picked up at the Office of the University Registrar, Room 151, Strong Hall, approximately two months after Commencement. A photo ID will be required. Students who want their diploma mailed can visit the registrar’s website, registrar.ku.edu, and click on “Diplomas” under “Current Students” for more instructions.

Tassel Color

Film and Media Studies students should have a white tassel for the recognition ceremonies.
Seniors — we’d love to stay in touch with you after you’ve graduated. Please stop by the reception desk in 204 Oldfather Studios and fill out a short form and provide us with your non-KU email address.

We hope you will come and see us! Perhaps you will be a future guest speaker!

**FMS employees honored for years of service to university**

The annual KU employee recognition ceremony will be held from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. May 5 in the Kansas Union ballroom. The event honors employees of all classifications who have reached landmark years of service.

- Robert Hurst – 5 Years
- Lene Brooke – 10 Years
- Karla Conrad – 10 Years

March 2011 Senior Trip to LA!

Michele Winn (2nd from right, back row) provided a tour of Doc Kane’s re-recording stage at Disney.

Our tour of Paramount Studios! From left: (back row) Caleb Knueven, Patrick Monroe, Matt Jacobson, Graham Petersen, Bob Hurst, Nick Keith, Devin Schwyhart, Grant Babbitt (front row) Kristen Pelz, Heather Rafferty, Kayla Higginbotham

Mike Robe (center) talks about starting a career in the industry.

Michele Winn (FG) provided a wonderful tour of the Disney lot.

Scott Thomas (standing) talks to the group about animation at Titmouse Studios, an animation house.

Patrick Monroe and Graham Petersen in the van.