Greetings from the Chair’s desk! This last newsletter of the year reflects many of the wonderful accomplishments of our students this year.

We are very proud of our graduating seniors and know that they will soar to ever higher heights! We hope that you will stay in touch with us, as we’d love to keep track of what kinds of careers, creative work, higher education, etc. paths you’ve chosen.

Meanwhile, for those returning students, congrats to those who excelled in your classes and who participated in our guest speaker events, workshops, directed studies, honors projects, internships, and the like. We are already planning some great guests and lined up for next year.

However, if you have any suggestions for people to bring to campus, or other film and media studies opportunities, please let me know (tfalicov@ku.edu).

As some of you know (or can tell!), I will be on maternity leave in the Fall (we have a two year old son, and our second child is due in one month).

I am pleased to announce that venerable professor Chuck Berg will be taking the helm as Interim Chair starting in mid-June through Fall semester. Please direct all questions/comments to him during that period (cberg@ku.edu).

Again, Congratulations graduating seniors!!! We wish you well!!!!

Best wishes,
Tamara

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

Congratulations, Graduating Graduates!

Doctor of Philosophy
Brian Faucette (summer 2010)
Baerbel Goebel
Mona Mwakalinga (fall 2010)
Mark von Schlemmer (summer 2010)

Master of Arts
Teresa “Tess” Banion
Charles M. Downey
Zachary C. Saltz
Michael W. Van Esler

Special points of interest:
- Coming Attractions
- Summer Class Schedule
- Photos from Annual Student Recognition Ceremony

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Coming Attractions

Summer Session Classes!

FMS 100 Introduction to the Film Medium
Times: 9:10 – 12:30 p.m.
Days: MTW
Dates: 7/05 – 7/27
Location: 120 Oldfather
Instructor: Baskett

FMS 200 Film and Media Aesthetics
Online
Dates: 6/07 – 7/01

FMS 275 Basic Film Production
Time: 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Days: MTW
Dates: 6/07 – 6/29
Location: 100 Oldfather
Instructor: Hurst
Instructor Permission Required

FMS 380/880 American Pop Culture of: 1960s
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Days: MTWR
Dates: 6/07 – 6/30
Location: 330 Strong
Instructor: Berg

FMS 480 Music Video Production
Time: 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Days: MTR
Dates: 6/07 – 6/30
Location: 100 Oldfather
Instructor: Jacobson

FMS 530 Classical Film/ Media Theory
Time: 6:00 – 9:20 p.m.
Days: MTW
Dates: 6/07 – 6/29
Location: 150 Regnier
(Edwards Campus)
Instructor: Tibbetts

FMS 531 Contemporary Concepts in Media Studies
Time: 9:10 – 12:30 p.m.
Days: MTR
Dates: 6/08 – 6/30
Location: 100 Oldfather
Instructor: JaeYoon Park

Congratulations, Graduating Seniors!

Bachelor of Arts
Jase Archer
Benjamin Micek
Lance Barker
Jeffrey Perlman
Jacob Daniel Frese +
Andres Romeu
Brian Fusco
Shoshana E. Rose
Tyler Hanley
Jacob E. Thomson
Nicholas Alexander Keith
Zachary Steve Zastrow
Taylor Steven Messner-Schaack *

Bachelor of General Studies
Grant Allan Babbitt
Alexander Backus
Elizabeth Beam
Rory Burke
Luke Austin Collichio
Tina Darling
Gregory Dubinsky
Samuel Findlay
Spenser S. Fitzpatrick
Matthew Martin Garrett
David Garry
Heather Goodin +
Aditya Govindarajan
Raylene Gutierrez
Ryan W. Hartford
Rachel Helling
Laura Anne Herrington
Kayla Nicole Higginbotham +
Joseph Jalinsky
Will Johnson
Blake Evan Kasselman
Caleb Christian Knueven
Kyle Kobe
Timothy Maroney
Carlos A. Mena, Jr.
Joshua Zev Nathan
Robert Eugene Obermiete
Graham Rivers Petersen
Brett Poe
Heather Elaine Rafferty
Don Richardson
Matthew Rombach
Grant Thomas Rupe
Michael Sapenoff
Stephen Thomas Shaffer
Matthew Simon
Ashley Nicole Sixta
Michael Wade
Karl Wiederaenders

* Graduating with Tentative Highest Distinction
+ Graduating with Tentative Distinction

School of the Arts Graduation Ceremony
Friday, May 20, 2011
6:30 p.m.
in the Crafton-Preyer Theatre in Murphy Hall.

Save the Date!
Recognitions and Accomplishments

Faculty

Tamara Falicov published the book chapter "Migrating from South to North: The Role of Film Festivals in Funding and Shaping Global South Film and Video." Greg Elmer, et. al, Eds. Locating Migrating Media published by Lexington Books based on her research at the Rotterdam Film Festival. She also published a short essay on the Uruguayan film "Whisky" (2004) and edited a dossier for the Canadian journal, Public on mobile screens (in which she has a short essay on Cuban mobile cinemas). In November she was invited as a visiting professor to teach a course on Latin American film industries at the University of Medellin, Colombia for a newly launched M.A. program on Cultural Industries (organized in part by KU alumnus Fernando Arenas). She also served as a consultant for the Prince Klaus Fund from the Netherlands.

In the last year and a half, John Tibbetts has been the invited speaker at the Robert Schumann International Conference in Zwickau, Germany (one of only four American scholars invited to that event). He has also published four books and three peer-review articles. The books are a trilogy of volumes, collectively entitled AMERICAN CLASSIC SCREEN; and the fourth is a cultural commentary on the life and work of composer Robert Schumann, SCHUMANN: A CHORUS OF VOICES. Another book is currently in press at Palgrave Macmillan publishers, entitled THE GOTHIC IMAGINATION, and will be published in the early fall of 2011.

Juli Stone Pitzer received a short film grant from the Kansas Humanities Council to direct and produce a short documentary called Preserving the Past: Topeka’s Jayhawk Theatre. The film premiered on WIBW (CBS affiliate) on Kansas Day, January 29, and has had multiple screenings around the campus and the state of Kansas.

David Sutera’s film, Glass Half Full, won third place in the 2011 Broadcast Educators Association Festival of Media Arts Film Festival in the Promotional Category of the Student Competition. He was invited to attend the BEA convention and Festival of Media Arts exhibition in Las Vegas in April where he was recognized for his achievement and received the award.

Department

Rod Holcomb, 2009 Emmy Award winning television director, was invited to be a guest lecturer for a one-week television directing workshop for 15 Film and Media Studies students over winter break. Holcomb has won the Directors Guild of America award, the Humanitas Prize and a Peabody for directing and producing. He has helmed 22 pilots, 15 of them going to series including ER, China Beach, and The A-Team. Some of his directing credits include NCIS:LA, The Good Wife, Justified, Numb3rs, and Lost.

Film and Media Studies “Spring Break Career Orientation Week.” Nine KU students were selected to participate and were accompanied by Associate Professors Matt Jacobson and Robert Hurst on a week-long career orientation in Los Angeles, March 20-26, 2011 where they attended workshops, screenings, toured film studios and facilities and received valuable mentoring and contacts from a group of KU alumni who actively work to be a direct link between the entertainment industry and KU.

Mary Beth Woodson presented “¡Visita venida España! Traveling to (and consuming) Spain Through Videos” as part of the Urban Space, Memory, and Citizenship international conference hosted by Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona in Spain. She also gave an invited guest lecture on media storytelling to UBPL 815, a graduate-level class in KU’s Urban Planning Department.

Graduate Students

Zachary Ingle is contributing several articles to volumes in two new series published by Intellect: Directory of World Cinema: Sweden; Directory of World Cinema: Belgium; and World Film Locations: Paris. His article, “George A. Romero’s Diary of the Dead and the Rise of the Diegetic Camera in Recent Horror Films,” was recently published in the online journal O13Media. In November, Zachary served as an area chair at the Film & History Conference in Milwaukee, moderating panels devoted to film and religion.


**Recognitions and Accomplishments**

**Grant Babbitt** has screened his work in over 15 regional and national film festivals this past year. Two films that Babbitt has photographed this year have made their premieres on WIBW in Topeka, KS and “CinemaKC” airing on KSMO-TV in Kansas City. Babbitt also received an award for his excellence in community activism through his work in video production with non-profit organizations, and was recently presented with a Research Experience Certification Award from the University of Kansas. Babbitt has recently been working as a professional freelancer and was hired to be a Director of Photography for a KU-based feature documentary out of New York called, “No Place Like Home”. After visiting LA over spring break with the Film and Media Studies “Spring Break Career Orientation,” Babbitt is excited to move to California this fall.

**Rebecca Basaure** received an Undergraduate Research Award to shoot a documentary in Argentina titled, *Law of Equality.*

**Kayla Higginbotham** worked as a student intern for Rock Chalk Video Production. Higginbotham created and edited multiple pre-game pump up videos for one of the most popular, historic arenas in the nation, Allen Fieldhouse. Her job as an intern also involved filming all athletic events for the University of Kansas. Higginbotham was one of nine seniors chosen to attend the first Film and Media Studies “Spring Break Career Orientation” in Los Angeles, March 20-26, 2011.

**Devin Schwyhart’s** film *Poeta* won Best Film at the KU SUA International Film Festival on March 13, 2011. The award includes a 10-day internship to the Guanajuato International Film Festival in Mexico. The festival will take place in July.

**Nathan Towns** received an Undergraduate Research Award to work on his film, *Chekhov’s Gun.*

**Alumni**

**Mark Amin** (Film and Media Studies, CLAS, ’72) was selected for the 2010-11 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award from the University of Kansas and was honored at the Deans Club Banquet on Saturday, April 9. Mark Amin has earned credit in more than 50 feature films, ranging from low budget independents to television films and major studio productions, as vice chairman of Lionsgate Entertainment and CEO of Sobini Films. He founded what became Trimark, which later merged with Lionsgate Entertainment. Under Amin’s leadership, Trimark Holdings Inc. developed into one of the entertainment industry’s leading publicly traded, independent production and distribution companies.

**Chris Ordal** released a feature film, *Earthwork,* which has garnered the “Audience Award” at the Santa Fe Film Festival and is currently being released theatrically in various cities around the country.
Congratulations!

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May 18, 2011
Send your news items and updates to Karla Conrad, kmconrad@ku.edu

2011-2012 Scholarship and Award Recipients

SCHOLARSHIPS

Amin Scholarship
Eric Lackey (G)
Juli Pitzer (G)

Dixon Scholarship
Amid Patel (G)
Mike Van Esler (G)

Hagan Scholarship
Mark Sidener (UG)
Bryan Winters (UG)

Reinhold Scholarship
Zachary Saltz (G)
Sho Ogawa (G)

Robinson Scholarship (SOTA)
Marshall Wetta (UG)

Rogers Scholarship
David Sutera (G)
Josh Wille (G)

Stevens Scholarship
Kalif Fuller (UG)
Matt Mendoza (UG)

Strait Scholarship (SOTA)
Rebecca Basaure-Carrington (UG)

Thompson Scholarship
Nathanael Dinwiddie (UG)
Joshua Richardson (UG)

Women in Film Scholarship
Laura Beacon (UG)
Jessica Shuler (UG)

AWARDS

Alumni Honor Citation
Marc Roskin

Award of Merit
Rod Holcomb

Berg Award
Baerbel Goebel (G)
Emilie Newell (UG)

Dolezal Award
Juli Stone Pitzer (G)

FMS Lifetime Achievement Award
Russell A. Mosser

Gunter Award
Josh Nathan (UG)
Sho Ogawa (G)

Harvey GTA Award
Tina-Louise Reid (G)

Ben Krout Grip Awareness Award
Nate Selee (UG)

Chris Martin Visual Effects Award
Cale Knueven (UG)

David Yonally Memorial Award
Rebecca Basaure-Carrington (UG)

For scholarship and award criteria, go to: http://film.ku.edu/~film/programs/financial_aid.shtml

2010-2011 Tensie Award Winners Announced

WINNER

Best Drama
Rearview Mirror

Best Special Effects
Isle of Screams

Best Music Video
60's Experimental Dance Party

Best of Show
A Light Opera

Best Experimental
Leaf Light

Best Editing
Mary

Best Comedy
Heaven

Best Director
Preserving the Past: Topeka's Jayhawk Theatre

Best Documentary
Delivery Driver: A Portrait of Paul Sondquist

Best Cinematography
Bird of Prey

Best Screenplay
Room Next Door

Best Sound
It All Just Flies Away

Best Body of Work
Grant Babbitt

director

Cinematographer

Editor

Schwyhart

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babbitt

Babaure

Babaure

Babaure

Schwyhart

Housh

Babbitt

Housh

Babbitt

Schwyhart

Babbitt

Babaure
Scenes from the Annual Student Recognition Ceremony  Photos by John McCluskey

Bernadette Robinson Scholarship in Fine Arts

Best Drama

David Yonally Memorial Award