CLAS, SOTA and FMS continue to recalibrate goals and aspirations for the 21st century. As mentioned earlier this month, CLAS’s decision to authorize a search for a new tenure-track faculty member in “Animation and Visual Effects” is a singular recognition of our collective industry. This will be a busy year offering myriad ways for us to make positive differences in the lives of our students and colleagues and in the multiple discourses that constitute our discipline. I greatly look forward to working with you as we reach for the stars through challenges!

Chuck Berg, Professor and Acting Chair, FMS

Dear FMS Family,

I’m pleased to welcome new and returning FMS students, staff and faculty to Oldfather for what promises to be a year of great opportunities and expanded horizons.

First, I want to again trumpet the news of the birth of Avital Simone Steigman Falicov who came on board Spaceship Earth on June 14th. Baby Avi and proud parents Tamara Falicov and Stephen Steigman, and big brother Ilan, are all thriving. Congratulations!

Second, I want to extend a special welcome to Professor Germaine Halegoua whose Fall classes and research in “New Media Theory and Practice” and “Convergence Culture” promise to enrich both our intellectual lives and the curriculum.

Also, I would like to welcome Dr. Susan Gronbeck-Tedesco, KU Associate Vice Provost of International Programs, who will be teaching Baseball Movies of the 1980’s, and Katherine “Katie” Model, who comes to us by way of NYU, and who will be teaching Contemporary Concepts in Media Studies.

I am honored by the opportunity to pinch-hit as Acting Chair during the Fall while Tamara is on maternity leave. Your confidence and that of Deans Danny Anderson and Liz Kowalchuk are energizing.

This will be a semester of important challenges as KU, CLAS, SOTA and FMS continue to recalibrate goals and aspirations for the 21st century. As mentioned earlier this month, CLAS’s decision to authorize a search for a new tenure-track faculty member in “Animation and Visual Effects” is a singular recognition of our collective industry.

This will be a busy year offering myriad ways for us to make positive differences in the lives of our students and colleagues and in the multiple discourses that constitute our discipline.

I greatly look forward to working with you as we reach for the stars through challenges!

Chuck Berg, Professor and Acting Chair, FMS

FMS Faculty Members Currently Serving on CLAS and SOTA Committees

**Bob Hurst**: Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising (CUSA) – term expires 2013

**Matt Jacobson**: Faculty Senate and University Senate – term expires Spring 2012

**John Tibbetts**: College Academic Council (CAC) – term expires Spring 2013

**Kevin Willmott**: Committee on Evaluation of Chairs and Directors (CECD) – term expires 2013

Service to the College and SOTA (and University as well as Department) continues to be vital to faculty governance at large and to the overall visibility and campus impact of FMS.

On behalf of FMS, hearty thanks to Bob, Matt, John, and Kevin!

Inside this issue:
- Coming Attractions
- Recognitions & Accomplishments
- Equipment Inventory Increased

Special points of interest:
- Coming Attractions
- Recognitions & Accomplishments
- Equipment Added to FMS Inventory
Coming Attractions

Film and Media Studies Workshop
“What You Need to Know to Apply for a Film/Media Internship”

Date: Thursday, August 25
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Place: Room 100 Oldfather Studios, 1621 W. 9th Street
Given by:
Erin Wolfram, Assistant Director, Internships Professional Etiquette Consultant, University Career Center
Megan Hill, Associate Director, University Career Center

You will learn:
• How to prepare a resumé.
• How to present yourself.
• Questions to ask.

This is your opportunity to get ready for the Internship Fair (see below). Prepare to secure a semester-long internship in a film/media related field!

Internship Fair and Film Rally
Date: Tuesday, August 30
Place: Room 100 Oldfather Studios, 1621 W. 9th Street
• 2:00-4:00 p.m. Internship Fair
• 4:00 p.m. Refreshments
• 4:30 p.m. Welcome by KU Faculty
• 5:00-7:00 p.m. “Producing and Directing Episodic Television” Presentation by Marc Roskin (KU alum, 1990)

Marc Roskin is Executive Producing 18 episodes and directing four episodes of Leverage this season. Roskin is a partner with Dean Devlin (Independence Day, The Patriot, Stargate) at Electric Entertainment in LA. Roskin recently directed his second episode of Burn Notice as well as an episode for Covert Affairs.

My Perestroika Director to Comment on Documentary after Screening

Join us for a Special Film Viewing of My Perestroika at the Kansas Union’s Woodruff Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 25, 2011. The viewing will be FREE and OPEN to the public. After the viewing, there will be a Q&A session with the film’s director, Robin Hessman.

My Perestroika premiered at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival, and has since screened at some of the world’s top documentary festivals, including Full Frame, where it won the Filmmaker Award; Silverdocs, where it won the Special Jury Award; and the prestigious New Directors/New Films film festival.

When the USSR broke apart in 1991, a generation of young people faced a new realm of possibilities. An intimate epic about the extraordinary lives of this last Soviet generation, Hessman’s feature documentary debut tells the stories of five Moscow schoolmates who were brought up behind the Iron Curtain, witnessed the joy and confusion of glasnost, and entered adulthood as the world changed around them.

For more information about the film, go to: http://myperestroika.com/press-room/

Graduate Student Orientation
The FMS annual Graduate Student Orientation will be held on Tuesday, August 23rd from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in 120 Oldfather Studios.

This screening is sponsored by The Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CREES) along with the Ermal Garinger Academic Resource Center (EGARC), Hall Center for the Humanities, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Department of Film and Media Studies.
**Recognitions and Accomplishments**

**Tamara Falicov** presented a paper entitled “Central American Spaces of Audiovisual Financing and Collaborations: Programa Ibermedia and Cinergia” as part of a KU-University of Costa Rica symposium entitled *The Many Contexts of Space*. Her advisee, FMS graduate student **Hispano Duron**, also presented his doctoral research at the conference. Falicov was invited to give a lecture at Arizona State University on “Visualizing Marginalized Urban Identities: The New Argentine Cinema” for professor David William Foster’s graduate seminar in April, and in March, she organized a panel on “Latin American New Waves” for SCMS in New Orleans.

**John Tibbetts** is currently putting the finishing touches on his new book, **THE GOTHIC IMAGINATION**, coming out this October from Palgrave McMillan. It features interviews and commentary from his many interviews with specialists in fantasy and science fiction, including Stephen King, Peter Straub, Gahan Wilson, Ray Bradbury, Chris Van Allsburg, Kim Stanley Robinson, Maurice Sendak, along with several filmmakers. John also has donated an archive of interviews with science fiction writers to the Center for the Study of Science Fiction at KU. There are approximately 40 interviews that are now available for researchers. In addition, his archive of video and audio interviews at KU Scholar-works website continues to grow—there are now more than 100 that can be viewed in real time.

Annotations for each interview are being prepared.

John is also currently working on another book, **LISZT: A CHORUS OF VOICES**. He is co-editing the book with the renowned Liszt scholar, Professor Michael Saffle of Virginia Tech. He researched some if it this summer at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, where he interviewed the pianist Arnaldo Cohen.

John was an invited speaker at an international conference, **THE LISZT LEGACY**, held at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.


In June, her daughter Avital Simone was born, healthy and happy. The photo above shows Avi (one month old) and her big brother Ilan, (2.5 years old).

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**August 22, 2011**

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Recognitions and Accomplishments

During the spring semester, followed by the summer break, Professor Ed Small (and his Los Angeles colleague, Dr. Tim Johnson) finished and submitted to SIUP the contracted MS of the second-edition of Small’s 1994 publication (original and still in-print book) “Direct Theory: Experimental Film/Video as Major Genre.” The new title will be “EXPERIMENTAL MOTION PICTURES AS MAJOR GENRE,” which is dedicated to Dean Raymond Fielding whose technological historiography informs the text’s trace of celluloid film, then video, and now the current “digital revolution.”

Professors Kevin Willmott and Matt Jacobson, with help from several FMS students, are working on Willmott’s new feature film, “Destination Planet Negro.” Principal photography has begun.

Willmott also has a new short film “The Trump Investigation: The After Birth” which can be seen on YouTube.

Graduate student Juli Stone Pitzer’s film “Preserving the Past: Topeka’s Jayhawk Theatre” screened at the University Film and Video Association (UFVA) Conference in Boston and the Columbia Gorge International Film Festival in August.

Graduate student Eric Lackey presented his paper “National Identity and the Cinema of Jim Jarmusch” at the annual University Film and Video Association (UFVA) conference in Boston, MA. At the conference, Eric served on a panel entitled “Hollywood, Independent, and Commercial.”

Graduate student Isley Unruh presented his paper “Eric Rohmer’s Perceval, le Gallois: Arthurian Legend in the French New Wave” at the National Popular Culture & American Culture (PCA/ACA) Conference, held in San Antonio, Texas in April.

“Study No. 14,” a work by W.S. Cheng, has been selected for the 2011 International Competition Punto & Raya Festival. This biennial event will be held November 3-6, 2011, at the Reina Sofia Museum in Madrid, Spain. The piece has a digital score by FMS Professor Robert Hurst.

The piece was added to the collection of The iotaCenter’s Library and Study Center in Los Angeles last year. Cheng’s animation premiered on Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at the Anthology Film Archives in New York City under the program "New Experimental Animation."

Cheng, a CalArts alum, is a former lecturer for the Department of Film and Media Studies.

Amy Lampe advised approximately 75 incoming freshmen and transfer Film & Media Studies students at New Student Orientation during the summer months.
**Alumni News**

Recent B.G.S. graduate **Josh Nathan** reports that his film *A Light Opera* was an “Official Selection” at the 2011 Columbia Gorge International Film Festival. The festival took place in Vancouver, Washington from August 10th-14th.

**Ben Steinbauer**’s film “Winnebago Man” is among the free titles in SnagFilms’ 3rd Annual SummerFest lineup.

Jack Rebney, a.k.a. “The Winnebago Man” – an ‘80s RV salesman’s hilarious, profanity-strewn, on-the-job meltdown was captured on video and passed around on VHS tapes, before exploding into an Internet phenomenon seen by millions. Filmmaker Ben Steinbauer journeys to find Rebney, discovering him unaware of his fame, and capturing his response to his unintended celebrity.


For more information and to view the film, go to [http://www.indiewire.com/article/snag-films_announces_3rd_annual_summerfest_line-up/](http://www.indiewire.com/article/snag-films_announces_3rd_annual_summerfest_line-up/)

**Greg Hill** has been doing mostly TV and film work and in the last few years has been working as a concept artist/illustrator full time. Greg notes that he is incorporating more 3D modeling in his illustration work... which is becoming more and more the way concepts are presented to the director and studios. He worked as Illustrator on *The Smurfs Movie* for nearly a year (pre- and post-production). He reports that it is a 3D film, but it wasn’t shot in native 3D... the dimensionality was added in post, along with all of the CGI characters and environments.

Check out his website [www.gregoryhilldesign.com](http://www.gregoryhilldesign.com) which highlights the design and illustration work he did for *The Smurfs Movie, No Country for Old Men, True Grit*, and others. Go to: [http://www.gregoryhilldesign.com/filmenupage.html](http://www.gregoryhilldesign.com/filmenupage.html).

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**Amy Lampe, Advising Specialist**, will generally be at Oldfather Studios during the following schedule:

- **Wednesdays**: 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.
- **Thursdays**: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- **Fridays**: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, contact Amy at [amylampe@ku.edu](mailto:amylampe@ku.edu).
FMS Equipment Inventory Increased

By Che Butterfield, Technical Director

Several new items were added to the equipment inventory that will help students add polish to their productions. The Red One, a digital cinema camera, was purchased with instructional technology funds from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Cinema production is shifting toward the use of digital acquisition and the Red One camera is finding its way into film workflows in Hollywood at an ever increasing pace. The quality of the images that it produces is comparable to any film camera and it affords camera crews more shooting time and less down time dealing with film change outs. Playback from the camera’s digital media gives directors and cinematographers instant feedback and confidence in knowing that their footage has been shot as planned. This new digital workflow is forever changing the way films are made and will give our students a competitive advantage.

A Panasonic AF-100 was also added to the inventory along with a Nikkor lens kit from RPlens. This detachable lens camera gives operators more depth of field options than all-in-one digital video cameras and prepares students for the Red One setups and workflow.

Last spring a Kessler Cineslider, which allows one-man dolly shots, was obtained. Also, another Sachtler FSB-6 tripod (for smooth, repeatable pans and tilts) and two high-end Lectrosonics wireless lavaliere mics were acquired.

We are putting the final touches on our high-end editing suite that will be capable of handling any footage you can throw at it. It is outfitted with a 12 core Mac Pro with 32 GB of Ram and will fly through footage. We have installed a 16 terabyte RAID array that can throw data at 1000 megabytes a second and have equipped it with the Final Cut Pro 7 suite and Davinci Resolve for color correction. For good measure, we have installed a Red Rocket to speed up Red One footage playback and transcoding.

We are excited to offer this level of equipment to our majors.

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Film Festivals, Contests, Local Film Jobs, Call-for-Papers

Students, please note that announcements of film festivals, contests, call-for-papers, etc. are kept in a binder near the reception desk at Oldfather Studios (room 204). Please check the binder often!