Director’s Chair

Dear Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Friends of FVS,

As the year draws to a close, we can rejoice in a series of successes. The screening of films from Jason Doty’s course was simply the best ever. The acting was sterling, thanks to our collaboration with the Theatre Division of Visual and Performing Arts. In a few years, we’ll be bragging that we knew a few of those actors! That event continues to be the cherry on the parfait of a wonderful year!

Once again, those films have been entered in the Lake Maxinkuckee Film Festival, where our students have garnered top prizes since its inception two years ago. Films for that festival cannot be of the R-rated type, so not every one will make the final cut. Students in Jason’s class have absolute artistic freedom, and that is as it should be. In any case, we wish all of the directors much luck at that festival, and in any other ones they compete in.

The program also celebrates the tenure and promotion to associate professor of Dr. Lance Duerfahrd, which was announced by the Trustees a few weeks ago. We are delighted, and hope he will be with us for many years to come!

We are sorry to say goodbye to Natalia Bogdanova, who has served FVS so well as our Graduate Assistant and Internship Coordinator these past two years! Good luck, Natalia!

Some of you are going off for summer internships, and some of you are graduating and heading off to a variety of jobs. The one thing we want all of you to do is...stay in touch!

Let us know where you are and what you are doing! Come visit when you are in town!

Patricia Hart  
Director of Film and Video Studies

FVSO News:

In April, FVSO hosted a workshop with Professor James Mohler, where he discussed the history of visual effects. FVSO also filmed a short form documentary for the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu club. Look for more workshops and video shoots in the fall. “Like” us on Facebook to find out more information. We hope to see you at our meetings next semester!
News from Advising:

Congratulations to all of our recent FVS Grads!

We will surely miss you but are, at the same time, so happy for you! I wish you all well in everything you do! Please let us know via e-mail what you’re doing and where you’re going. It’s very exciting and motivating to those that are still here and to those who are arriving this Fall. FVS is such an awesome major at Purdue and we want to be able to tell others of your successes! My e-mail is dabrad@purdue.edu. I also think there are a few students who have not signed up for Fall classes yet. Please contact me asap about this. There are still plenty of good classes with spaces!

- Debbie Bradford

IDIS Senior Awards

Three FVS students won awards at the Interdisciplinary Studies Senior Awards Ceremony. The winners were Laura Head (Overall Outstanding Senior), Emily Gray (Highest GPA and Best Student Papers), and Katie Lennox (Most Promising Future Professional). Congrats Ladies!

Congrats Grads!

Katie Felix

Katie will be attending Carnegie Mellon University to pursue a Master’s Degree in Entertainment Industry Management. This program will provide Katie professional and experiential training for entrepreneurial leadership. She hopes to eventually work in the film and television industry as a producer.

Laura Head

Laura is currently in charge of movie programming at Boiler Television for the summer. She is searching for additional work as well. Laura plans on moving to Oregon later this year in hopes of getting more film experience before heading to LA in a couple of years.

Jan (Layla) Luo

“For some it is inconceivable to think that films have a certain moral and civic responsibility, but I want to make films that embrace that responsibility and reveal aspects of the world most people have never seen. As Lermontov said, people have been fed so much candy, they are sick to their stomachs; now bitter medicine and acid truth are needed. I want to become a filmmaker to share my experiences and perceptions, to explore not only the cheerful stories that are desired by the public, but also those that are real and painful, those take place in neglected corners: what is forbidden must be told. It might not accomplish anything, but sometimes letting the voiceless speak is in itself an accomplishment. This is the reason why I decided to come to Purdue from China to study filmmaking. The experience was all I hoped for and more. Encouraged by my teachers, I applied for the MFA program at NYU. Much to my shock and delight I was accepted so I and will be there for the next five years but I will never forget my teachers and fellow students in FVS: this is where I first discovered America and took my first steps as a filmmaker.”  

- Layla

Ojas Sawant

Ojas will be joining Carnegie Mellon University’s Masters of Entertainment Technology Program in the fall. This program is incredibly project orientated, so he will have the opportunity to work with many different companies each semester, some of which include Pixar and Dreamworks. With this program, he hopes to build connections that will lead him to a career that requires both computer science and film knowledge.

Garrett Zambrows

Garrett will be embarking on a 12,000 mile bike journey this summer to raise awareness and support for Anti-Human Trafficking work being done around the globe. He will capture footage along the way to create a documentary that will challenge audiences to remain active in the fight against slavery. Click here to follow Garrett’s journey.
I started interning in August with a television production company in New York City called Magilla Entertainment. They are currently producing about 12 shows for various networks including Travel Channel, VH-1, NatGeo, MTV as well as some others. I was an office intern till about November when I was hired as a general office production assistant. I have since moved into New York City and have been hired to be the office PA for a reality documentary series for VH-1...

See the rest of this story on the Purdue Film and Video Studies Facebook page! The FVS Alumni Yearbook is a way of cataloging where the Purdue FVS Alumni are and what they are currently doing. It will become an archive for current FVS students to see what careers are out there.

FVS Alumni, please contribute your stories! Send a picture and your information to Allison Werner at werner4@purdue.edu. Current students, get your Alumni friends to send in their stories! This will be a great way to connect current students with FVS Alumni!

FVS Alumni Yearbook Feature:

Andrew Berwald

Alumni Recognition/Job Fair

Greetings Friends of FVS,

I trust you all recall fondly the celebration of FVS alums held in October of 2010. It’s been a while since that gathering of the tribes. The newbies have heard so much about you, the legends of Purdue FVS, that they want to meet you and gather around you to receive your words of wisdom.

So, to get you back here we have decided to hold an ALUMNI RECOGNITION CELEBRATION in conjunction with an FVS JOB FAIR this coming Fall. The exact dates are TBD. (Is homecoming week too insane???) We are planning on having an FVS-specific job fair during the day, followed by an alumni recognition dinner and awards ceremony in the evening. We will be inviting every business in Indiana that might have words of wisdom and/or jobs for FVS majors and alums and, of course, we are inviting our once and forever friend, Bill Callison. We know that YOU will have much to say to our current majors and, unquestionably, to each other, now that you are scattered all over the world.

We would really love for you to be involved in the FVS job fair! And of course, we do want to recognize and celebrate YOU. If you are interested in participating in any way, please send your contact info and as much info as you feel comfortable sharing to FVS graduating major Emily Gray (name, e-mail address, year of graduation, and place of current employment) at graye@purdue.edu.

Honest, y’all. We really miss you and would really love to see you again!
- Ben Lawton

Must-Sees

Below are the links to two of the FVS 442 Short Films, “Played” and “Till Beth Do Us Part”. “Played” was written and directed by Mollie Kuramoto and won Best Film, Best Cinematography, and the Audience Award at the Purdue Film Fest. “Till Beth Do Us Part” was written and directed by Denver Bailey and won Best Director. If you have a story, a short film, or pictures that you would like featured in future FVS Newsletters, please contact Patricia Hart or Benjamin Lawton.

“Played”

“Till Beth Do Us Part”