

DEAN'S MESSAGE

AFTER A STORMY late December we have been graced with some warmer weather for the beginning of classes. Our relatively peaceful scenario is in sharp contrast to recent events in Kenya and Pakistan where conflict, often deep rooted, has disrupted many people's lives during our holiday season. We also have left some of our students behind who have failed to complete their last semester's work for various reasons. While we cannot control all that happens, we regret that some students did not make it. It is important as we move forward into our new semester and celebrate the awards and achievements of our students that we remember those that are no longer with us.

The next couple of weeks will be taken up with budget planning for the next upcoming academic year. This will take place at a time when we face some reduction in our grant value due to enrollment loss over the institution. To sum it up, our grant will not be worth as much this year as it was last year and this will put some limitations on our aspirations.

We will be continuing to move ahead with our IT organizational impetus promoting a stronger committee structure with clear terms of reference, membership and responsibility relationships. Associate Dean Heather Whitton will join the Vista Committee while Howard Simkins and Martin de Bernardo will continue to attend the Academic Software Group. I will continue to represent the School at the Academic Computing Subcommittee which meets monthly and I will also be holding bi monthly meetings of the Digital Technical Coordinators Committee. This month along with our budgeting process, we are trying to complete our outstanding input of our inventory system which we expect to be ultimately useful in budget planning and resource allocation. In all of this IT thrust, our intention is to drive the technology from the vantage point of curriculum rather than the other way around.

I hope that the upcoming semester is a creative one for you and that you will find your students responsive and energetic in their attention to the tasks to which you assign them.

-Dr. Michael Collins

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School Meeting
January 24, 2008

NEWS & EVENTS

■ Third year Crafts & Design: Glass student **Aaron Oussoren** has been selected as a finalist in the 2008 NICHE Student Awards in the Glass: Sculptural category. Sponsored by NICHE magazine, the NICHE Awards program began in 1990 to recognize the creative achievements of North American craft artists who produce work for craft galleries and retail stores. Of the more than 1000 submissions, 72 entries were named as finalists. Winners will be announced Feb 17 at the Pennsylvania Convention Centre. Applications for the 2008 NICHE Awards will be available in the Spring. For more information visit www.americancraft.com.



'The Smoking Gun Bench', 2003, by Jamie Owen.



■ **Maciej Dyszkiewicz** (Crafts & Design: Glass faculty) has been offered a six week residency at the internationally renowned North Lands Creative Glass in Scotland. North Lands is open to glass artists and also to painters, sculptors, architects and designers wishing to explore the technical and artistic potential of glass either on its own or in combination with other materials. Dyszkiewicz will be in Scotland Feb 6 - Mar 19. Above is a piece from his 'Systems & Mechanisms' series, 2001.

■ Advanced Television & Film alumnus **John Christou** is producer of "Up the Yangtze", a feature-length documentary which was accepted at the upcoming Sundance Film Festival and opens here commercially in February. Christou also produced "The Colony", a short film which won best picture at the 2007 Whistler Film Festival.

■ Students in **Advanced Television and Film** got real-life Hollywood North experience during their fall semester. For the first time, the program partnered with a film studio, Toronto Films Studios (TFS) in downtown Toronto. For a month the students took over a studio at the downtown film complex to shoot twelve 3-minute films. It was a first-hand opportunity for students to rub shoulders with professional film-makers, directors and cinematographers.

■ The annual Sheridan, UTM and Osaka Electro University, **Canada/ Japan Exchange** takes place this year with Japanese students visiting Sheridan Mar 6 – 20 and Sheridan students traveling to Japan May 7 – 21. The exchange is open to all Sheridan students. For students in the joint Sheridan/UTM programs, the exchange is part of a credit course. Students and faculty will travel to Japan where they will live with a Japanese family, attend classes at the University, and visit Tokyo and other major Japanese cultural sites. The Japanese students and faculty have a wide range of experience in the arts, animation and design. If you are interested in inviting them to visit your classes, or in hosting, please contact Gail Benick or Kathleen Hearn.

■ **Crafts & Design** professors accompanied 3rd year students to The 14th Annual International Sculpture Objects & Functional Art (SOFA) exposition in Chicago November 1 - 4. Students working in the glass, furniture, ceramics and textile studios were introduced to a huge potential market for their work as well as some direct insight on presentation and perspective on the international art & craft world. This year, 100 art dealers from 20 countries participated in the show which drew an estimated 34,000 visitors. While in Chicago the students also took in a visit to the Art Gallery of Chicago, Millennium park and the aquarium.



Crafts & Design students visit Millennium Park in Chicago. Above is the Anish Kapoor sculpture, 'Cloud Gate'.

■ **Megan J. Kenny**, a professor in the Crafts & Design: Glass Program passed away on Dec 15 at Oakville Trafalgar Hospital due to complications brought on by a previous unexpected cardiac arrest. Kenny was a graduate of the Crafts and Design Program and had been teaching here since 2005. An accomplished glass sculptor, her work has been exhibited in Canada, UK, Germany and Denmark and published in *Contemporary Canadian Glass* and *Glass Gazette*. Kenny will be greatly missed by her colleagues, friends and students. Condolences can be sent through www.meganjkenny.com.

■ Third year BAA Animation student **Martin Rutledge** is the recipient of an 2008 Colleges Ontario Award for Student Leadership. The awards were established in 2000 to recognize individuals, organizations and volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of Ontario's college system. Rutledge is one of eight award winners, 3 of whom are from Sheridan College. He is an active member of the Animation Student Council and was instrumental in developing a new and highly successful group tutoring model in partnership with the Career Centre, where he works part-time as a peer tutor.

Colleges Ontario is the advocacy and outreach association of Ontario's 21 Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology and three College Institutes of Technology and Advanced Learning. Colleges Ontario advocates for policy improvements and measures that will help produce the skilled workforce that is needed to strengthen Ontario's competitive advantage.

■ **Mark Thurman** (BAA Animation faculty) has illustrated the children's book: *Alien Invaders: Species that Threaten Our World*. Authors are Jane Drake and Ann Love and it will be published by Tundra this April.

■ For the third year in a row, the Ontario Arts Review has chosen **Theatre Erindale** productions as two of the Top Ten shows west of Toronto (from Mississauga to Niagara to Stratford). First place went to Mimi Mekler's record-breaking production of Charles Dickens' *David Copperfield* (October-November 2007), and second place to Patrick Young's production of Beaumont & Fletcher's *The Maid's Tragedy* (February 2007).

■ Theatre Erindale presents David French's *That Summer*, at the Erindale Studio Theatre Jan 18 - 26. Call 905-569-4369 for tickets or visit www.theatreerindale.com

JANUARY 2008 ARTS CALENDAR

ROBERT LANGEN GALLERY

Raising Cain
Jan 16 - Feb 9
Recent sculpture by Jamie Owen, on view in the gallery at Wilfred Laurier University.

ONTARIO CRAFTS COUNCIL

Jan 3 - Jan 28
Unclothing and Uncovering: Revealing Art in Textiles
Wendy Feldberg, Karen Goetzinger and Carmella Karijo Rother.

CAMPUS GALLERY

Art & Art History Winter Review of First and Second Year Work
Jan 7 - 18
A survey of student work completed in the programs six studio streams.

Glass Inside Out
Jan 25 - Feb 8
A broad overview of student work from all years of the Crafts and Design: Glass Studio program.