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see examples of recent  
student work on the  
following pages

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Funding is in place to move forward
- What will this mean for SLU?
- Why wait? Student work now
- Draft plans for NCAT facilities
- Upcoming opportunities

## Gift and two large grants allow St. Lawrence to move forward on new facility and program



A generous gift from St. Lawrence Trustee Allan P. Newell and large grants from the Andrew W. Mellon and Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundations make this initiative possible

Faculty and staff in the departments of Fine Arts, Music, Speech and Theatre, and the Richard F. Brush Art Gallery have been working together for over three years on ways to better integrate their respective programs and provide more interdisciplinary opportunities for students. Renovation of the Noble Center building, which began in Fall 2004, provides a unique opportunity to develop facilities that will help make these goals attainable. From the beginning, one of the central ideas in this process has been the development of a shared space for the exploration of digital technologies and their applications in the arts.

In 2005, several key events took place: A \$250,000 grant was awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, followed in short order by a \$200,000 grant from the Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation. These grants will pay for personnel and faculty/program development over the next three years. The Music Department's Arts Technology Lab was spun off as a

separate entity, and Christopher Watts was appointed as Director of the new program. Trustee Allan P. Newell donated \$1.2 million for facilities renovation and equipment, and planning began for construction in Summer 2006. We anticipate hiring an Arts Technical Support Specialist in 2006 — a joint position between the NCAT and Information Technology. The tentative opening date for the new facility is January 2007.

While we look forward to the new facility with great anticipation, it's important to note that exciting things are already happening in arts technology at St. Lawrence. Descriptions of some current courses and recent student work can be found on page 2.

Some arts faculty and teaching staff are already using the technology resources currently available in innovative ways. Others are looking to the opening of the new facility as an opportunity to begin exploring the possible uses of digital media technologies in their pedagogy. For these individuals, a series of faculty development workshops will be rolled out soon. Watch for more information about this in the near future.

This is a very exciting time to be working in the arts at St. Lawrence. We're at the beginning of something big that will impact the entire campus. This issue of NCATnews will give an overview of where we are now and where we're headed in the coming year.♦

#### Tentative Schedule:

- Construction begins May 2006
- Installation of equipment begins September 2006
- Doors open January 2007

## What does a new Center for Arts Technology mean for the campus as a whole? or Why should I care?

### Campus Impact

What impact will the NCAT have on the campus at large? The arts programs are the obvious beneficiaries — but the center will have a positive impact on campus in a variety of ways:

Institutional data suggests that a number of highly desirable prospective students with strong interest in the arts have not pursued applying to St. Lawrence in recent years. The center will provide a new level of visibility, raising the profile for the arts on campus and aiding in recruiting efforts.

While the primary users of the new facility will be the arts faculty, the center will be available to other faculty as resources allow. As arts courses move out of other campus facilities, they will be freed up for wider use. Conceived as an interdisciplinary space, the center will also foster the development of stronger relationships between departments and disciplines across campus. ♦



When Prof. Amy Hauber gave her sculpture students a direct plaster/carving project to do, Christopher Kimball '06 and Emilie Berliguette '06 hated their results.



They later made a video documenting the violent destruction of the offending piece. The video, entitled *ENMITY*, is a great example of the old cliché, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

### Now Showing

The Newell Center for Arts Technology is new at St. Lawrence; arts courses that have a strong technology component are not. Above and on the following pages are examples of recent student work from the courses of several St. Lawrence professors. Courses currently or recently offered include Music and Technology, Composition, Collaboration Across the Arts, the Physics and Perception of Music, Music Video, Sound and the Stage, Recording Arts, Theatre and Technology, Creative Computer, and Digital Art. The newest addition is a course entitled "All Your Art Are Belong to Us," an interdisciplinary exploration of anti-art and postmodern trends, currently being team-taught by faculty and staff from Fine Arts, Music, and the Gallery. The number of interdisciplinary courses listed here is no accident; fostering these kinds of courses is central to the mission of the NCAT. ♦

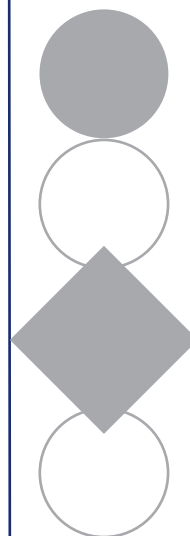
- **Fostering the development of interdisciplinary and collaborative courses and opportunities is central to the mission of the Newell Center for Arts Technology. Digital technologies can often function as the common ground for bringing disciplines together.**



These digital images were created for Prof. Faye Serio's Creative Computer class. Courses such as this one are currently taught in the library.

Top: *Simple Questions* by Brendan Levine '06.

Bottom: *Untitled* by Matt Lickfeld '07.



## What's going on now: recent courses and the work students are doing right now

"Giant Panda on the Loose on SLU Campus." Still from a music video for Mylo's "Destroy Rock & Roll," directed by Mike McGregor '06 and Meg Getsinger '06.



"Box #1." Still from a music video titled "Jack in the Box," directed by David Torres '08 and Jack Sapperstein '06, starring Jack Sapperstein, using the theme from the TV series *The Green Hornet*.



"Second Thoughts." Still from a music video for Hollywood Farm's "New Moods," directed by Marc Amigone '07 and Chris Farden '07, starring Liz Olmstead '07 and Zack duPont '07.



In Prof. David Henderson's Music Video class, students study videos and produce their own. These are stills from three recent projects.

ity will be open for student use according to a regular schedule. Specialized equipment such as high-resolution scanners, wide-format printers, and video capture devices will be located here as well. The lab will also double as a second classroom when needed.

**A video editing studio** will provide a space for advanced students to work on digital video projects, and will have the capabilities to mix audio in Dolby surround sound and burn custom DVDs. The video editing studio will also double as a screening room for student projects, with a large plasma screen and 5.1 channel audio system. This studio will also be equipped to double as a second audio editing studio when needed (see below).

**An audio editing studio** will provide composers of electronic music with a space to mix and listen critically to their works in 5.1 or 8 channel surround sound. This studio will also double as a second video editing studio when needed.

**A showcase** will provide a highly visible, flexible space for works by students, faculty and guest artists to be prominently displayed. The reach of the showcase will be extended throughout the building by large plasma screens placed in public spaces. This space will serve both to raise the profile of the center and to draw in students, faculty, staff, and guests. ♦

## Moving toward the new facility

**T**he new center, which will be located on two levels in the Noble Center, will consist of a variety of spaces:

**A classroom** equipped with approximately 20 student workstations will provide a space for course offerings that involve extensive use of computer technology. The classroom will double as a second lab space when needed (see below). A second seminar-style classroom is planned for a later phase.

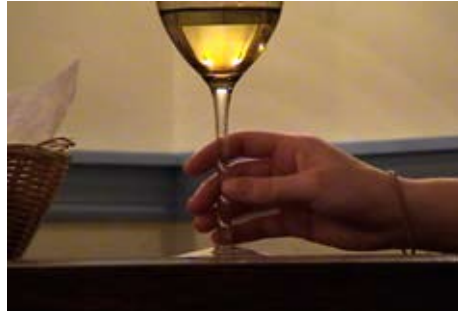
**A lab** area equipped with approximately 20 student workstations and a HelpDesk will be the primary environment for students to work on projects and assignments. This facil-

- The NCAT will include classroom, lab, and project studio space.
- Faculty, staff, and students from different disciplines will find themselves working side by side.

# Upcoming opportunities for faculty development: why should we wait until the new facility is open before we start exploring the possibilities?

While a great deal of attention is focused on the new facility, it doesn't make much sense to wait until it is operational before beginning a program of faculty development. There are a variety of topics that can and should be covered now!

To that end, a series of workshops will begin this semester, with dates



Christopher Eaton '08 and Ryan Thorpe '07 created this multimedia work entitled "Back to the Drawing Board." It explores the subject of relationships without dialog — relying instead on the camera and the original score.



Andrew Engebretson '07 and Anya Villeneuve '06 used time-lapse photography in this piece exploring the "Intrinsic Self." (far left)

Aaron Busick '06, Juan Cayamcela '07, and Alan Marcero '07 created this 2D animation in Flash. It satirizes the pop music industry through fictional pop star "Robbie Blaine."

These images are stills taken from multimedia projects created in Collaboration Across the Arts, taught by Prof. Christopher Watts.

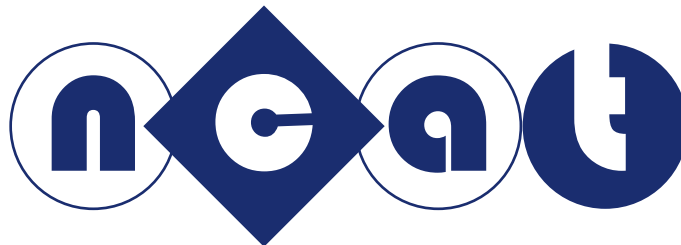
to be announced soon. All continuing faculty and teaching staff are eligible to apply. Participants will be compensated by stipend. Space is limited.

The list of topics for spring semester workshops includes: a [brainstorming session about ways to enhance arts pedagogy with technology](#); an [introduction to Sibelius](#) music notation software; and a [practical approach to video assignments](#). Watch for further announcements about these workshops in the near future. ♦

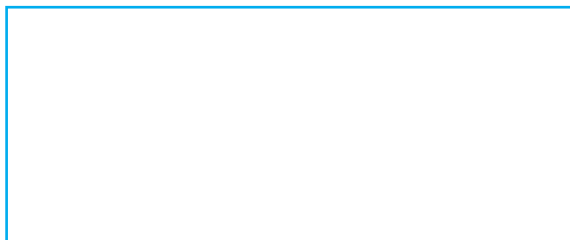
## Faculty Development Opportunities

- Enhancing arts pedagogy with technology
- Introduction to Sibelius
- A practical approach to video assignments

[Details and dates to be announced soon](#)



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