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Looking back; looking ahead; saying 'thank you' to those who make it work

From the Director:

It's official: St. Lawrence faculty and staff are great. As we wrap up our first full year in operation, I've been thinking about some of the people who have made the NCAT a success right from the start. I want to thank some of these people in each issue of NCATnews, and I'll start with two people whose care, effort, and expertise I really appreciate: **David Henderson**, who has jumped right in to the NCAT, offering three courses in three semesters; and **Greg Matejcik**, the person who makes the entire operation work from behind the scenes. When you see these two, please join me in thanking them for all they do.

—Christopher Watts, NCAT Director ♦

**"...incredibly helpful
in thinking through so
many aspects..."**



Students at work in the NCAT Lab on a variety of digital media assignments.



Mr. Greg Matejcik, NCAT Assistant Director

NCAT Notable: Greg Matejcik

If there is one phrase uttered in the NCAT more often than any other, it would have to be "Ask Greg."

Greg Matejcik, who graduated from St. Lawrence in 2004 and returned to us in 2006 after working in corporate IT, is the person who makes the NCAT hum. Much of his work has been behind the scenes, and so he has not gotten much of the recognition he deserves. What follows is a small portion of that recognition.

Greg came back to St. Lawrence as an employee in the summer of 2006, just as Phase II of the arts renovation project was getting underway. While the old mailroom and pub in Noble Center were being converted, Greg was learning everything he would need to know to get our 53 computers set up and running over the winter break. No small task.

Since then, Greg has been managing the day-to-day operations of the NCAT, and has also been working with a number of faculty and staff to help them bring NCAT resources to bear in their courses, both technically and pedagogically. One faculty member reports, "Not only was he incredibly helpful in thinking through so many aspects (from content to aesthetics), he recently sent me an article that underscored our talk."

Greg will be serving as Acting Director of the NCAT for the Fall 2008 semester. Want to know more? "Ask Greg." ♦

NCAT Notable: David Henderson

Described by one colleague as “the heart and soul of the Music department,” [Dr. David Henderson](#) has done a pretty astonishing variety of things since his arrival at St. Lawrence in 2001; and what follows is a very small slice. In the first three semesters of the NCAT’s operation, David has taught three courses in the new e-classroom: Intro to Music, Music Video, and Intro to World Cinema.

As a specialist in ethnomusicology, David is used to the challenge of making unfamiliar materials real for his students, and one way he does this is by making seamless and sophisticated use of digital media technologies in the classroom. Whether his students are learning about abstract theoretical concepts, the early days of MTV, or Bollywood films, they are confronting complex questions and big-picture issues.

In other words, they are getting a 21st Century liberal arts education. Not too shabby. ♦

...seamless and sophisticated use of digital media technologies in the classroom...

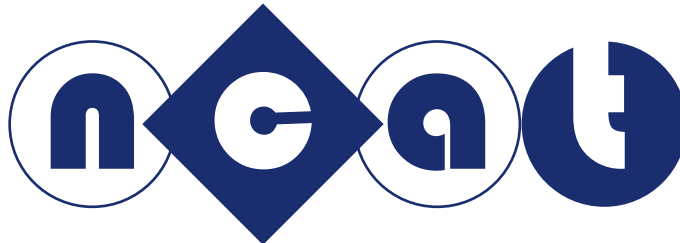
NCAT: the free years

Building a facility like the NCAT is an expensive endeavor. But thanks to the generosity of several individuals and foundations, the construction, equipping, and running of the NCAT – including the staffing – have cost the University almost nothing for the last three years.

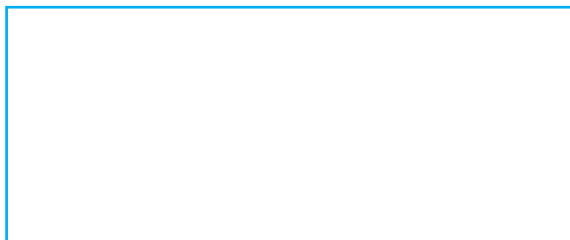
Because of this, we like to pause every so often and thank the people who have made it possible, especially [Trustee Allan P. Newell](#), [John, Susie, and Britton \('06\) Wean](#), the [Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#), and the [Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation](#). We thank them not only for their incredible generosity, but also for the trust that they placed in us. We have had a unique opportunity to do something exciting and innovative, and we’re not done yet. ♦



Dr. David Henderson,
Department of Music



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