

Dear Student,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of the School of Film and Animation (SOFA) - Welcome! We are looking forward to meeting you when you arrive in the fall.

You are now an important part of a great new tradition in the School of Film and Animation as a member of the fourth Bachelor of Science in Digital Cinema class. This program brings a significant addition to the curriculum and student body of the school. Congratulations for being a pioneer in this fascinating discipline. You will find the Film and Animation community is a large and friendly family including the BFA, MFA and now the BS programs making for close to 300 students in all.

To make your arrival a little easier, your academic adviser, Sue Clark will pre-register you for fall quarter classes based on your specific degree requirements. You will receive a copy of your tentative schedule in August. Please do not adjust your schedule yourself as many of your courses are required to be taken in sequence and at certain times. When you arrive on campus for Orientation Week and meet with your adviser, you will have the opportunity to adjust the liberal arts courses we have pre-registered you for – based on availability.

If you plan to participate on an RIT athletic team during the fall quarter, or if you anticipate AP or transfer credits, please let us know by completing the enclosed Course Scheduling Form. If you have any questions about your course schedule, please contact Sue at (545) 475-7145 or by e-mail at susan.clark@rit.edu.

We will supply most equipment and facilities for your classes and production projects. Depending on your choices you should be prepared to spend up to \$400 in the first year for supplies, tape, film, processing, etc. For your film production and materials & technology courses we suggest having your own incident light meter. We recommend the Sekonic model L-398A and have enclosed an educational program discount form which should be good wherever it's sold, including Digital Den – the RIT Electronics Store located in the Student Alumni Union.

We do not recommend that you purchase textbooks, film, software, videotapes, or other supplies until you have met with your instructors and get specific information as to your needs. SOFA's Student Association buys film and supplies in bulk and sells it to students at a considerable discount.

You will need a personal computer minimally capable of word-processing and internet access. Practically everything we do in SOFA uses an Apple Macintosh platform (with the exception of one Windows lab that supports 3D computer animation) so our basic recommendation is for a Mac. If you already own a Windows computer, that should more than meet your needs. For any classes that require Apple specific software we have plenty of labs available to you for completion of all your assignments. If you are thinking of buying a Mac you should consider purchasing at our campus store where full-time students are eligible for academic pricing and can be assured of the latest technology.

We look forward to seeing you at the advising session during Orientation Week. It is very important that you attend this meeting, as you will learn more about your program as well as meet your faculty adviser, the rest of the faculty, and your fellow students at that time.

To start your career at RIT off on the right foot we encourage you to read the *New Student Survival Guide* that will be mailed to you in June. It contains a checklist of to-do items and information about the many services and resources that will help you make the most of your experience at RIT. You will also find details about New Student Orientation, which you are required to attend on August 30 through September 6.

I look forward to meeting you this fall. Until then, I am of course available if you have questions or concerns. Please feel free to contact me at (585) 475-5724 or by e-mail at david.long@rit.edu

Sincerely,

David Long, Chair
BS Digital Cinema
School of Film and Animation