



Duke House Diaries

INSTITUTE of FINE ARTS

December 2011

From the Director

Here we are, December, the season of nail-biting and of hall-bedecking – of nervous preparations for the end of the semester, with exams and term papers, and of festive decorations and holiday celebrations. Wishing everyone the best results of their hard work and diligent study, I can announce some causes for all of us to be jolly this month.

We have been awarded a grant from the Duke Foundation; we are rapidly approaching 2012, when we will enjoy the 100th anniversary of Duke House. This milestone will be marked by a year of learning about our surroundings. Among other things, the funding from the Duke Foundation will allow us to create student bursaries for research in the relevant archives. Our investigations will be overseen by Jean-Louis Cohen, who will offer a seminar next fall on Duke House in its context, in collaboration with Charlotte Vignon, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Frick and with the Bard Graduate Center.

We can also rejoice in our most recent appointment, Alexander Sokolicek, who will join us in April, taking up the position of Aphrodisias Field Director. Alexander holds a doctorate in classical archaeology from the University of Vienna. He has extensive experience of field work in Italy and Turkey (particularly Ephesus), an impressive list of publications on topics ranging from city walls to statue bases, a daunting command of modern and ancient languages, and an engaging personality.

With so many causes to celebrate, I look forward to seeing you at our holiday party this Thursday, December 15!

Academic Office

Spring 2012 Registration: Registration for Spring 2012 courses is currently open in Albert. Students may register for courses until January 29. Any registration after January 29 will result in additional fees - this includes registration for maintenance and matriculation. The matriculation code for PhD students is 1823 and for MA students is 1820.

Access to MoMA: Institute of Fine Arts students receive complimentary admission to the Museum of Modern Art. Students must present both their IFA id card and their NYU student id card to staff at the museum's Information Desk to receive admission. Students will not be admitted without both ids. Students will be given single admission only, guests cannot receive complimentary admission.

Computer Services

NYU Public Safety will be rolling out a new version of its NYU Traveler travel registration program. The new NYU Traveler will be available for use in January 2012. Faculty, staff and students should use this system to log their academic and NYU business related travel abroad, in order for Public Safety to contact travelers in case of emergencies and provide assistance when necessary. The new version of the Traveler program is being provided by WorldCue/iJet.

Conservation Center

The Conservation Center would like to congratulate James H. "Tony" Frantz who is retiring in December after a long and celebrated career as a conservator, scientist and professor. Tony served as Research Scientist in the Department of Scientific Research and head conservator of the Sherman Fairchild Center for Objects Conservation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Since the early 1980's Tony was a member of the faculty at the Conservation Center, helping to oversee our laboratories and teaching conservation and science courses to countless students over the years. To honor the legacy of this much beloved instructor, The Center has established the James H. "Tony" Frantz Award, given each year to one student to recognize achievement in applied science research. We hope to build on this in the near future with the possibility of a larger annual scholarship award.

Visual Resources

The staff of Visual Resources wishes everyone a very happy holiday season! Please note that during Intersession (January 4-23, 2012) the VRC offices will be open Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 5:00. Extended hours will resume when spring semester classes begin. Because we are short-staffed between semesters, the Photo Archives will be closed to outside researchers for most of January. Normal access (by appointment, as always for outside researchers) resumes January 23.

Do you have an idea for a small exhibit? Are you an artist yourself? The current exhibits in the Great Hall staircase vitrines and the basement-level computer labs are scheduled to be taken down before the end of January. If you have an idea for a show or if you'd like to act as curator for either space, please let Jenni Rodda (jenni.rodde@nyu.edu) know. The VRC staff will be happy to work with you to set your exhibit up.

Mark your calendars! Monica McCormick and Melissa Brown, NYU's Digital Scholarly Publishing and Scholarly Communications officers, will reprise their workshop on copyright and publishing on Friday, February 3, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in the Duke House lecture hall. This workshop, jointly sponsored by the VRC and the GSA, will help attendees prepare dissertation and article texts. No need to RSVP, but seating is limited.