

MOVING IMAGE ARCHIVE STUDIES PROGRAM TO LAUNCH IN FALL 2002

By Kelly Graml

The UCLA Film and Television Archive has announced the launch of an M.A. degree program in **Moving Image Archive Studies (MIAS)**. This intensive, specialized two-year course of study is offered jointly by UCLA's Department of Film, Television and Digital Media and Department of Information Studies. Student applications for Fall 2002 were accepted through March 15.

"This new program will meet a pressing demand for a new generation of scholars and archivists in both the public and private sector," said **Peter Wollen**, chair of the UCLA Department of Film, Television and Digital Media. "We are excited about the potential benefits for this University and academic scholarship in general, as well as the important gains the film industry will realize."

Courses will be taught by a distinctive combination of UCLA faculty, top-level preservationists, academic scholars and technical experts. Subject matter to be taught includes: the history of all moving image media, the cultural responsibilities of selection and curatorship, access and programming for the public, collection management, cataloging and documentation, and technical aspects of preservation and restoration.

"The MIAS program brings together the strengths of three internationally recognized UCLA units: the Department of Information Studies, the Department of Film, Television and Digital Media, and the Film and Television Archive," said **Michele Cloonan**, chair of the Department of Information Studies. "The possibilities inherent in this collaboration are quite exciting."

The new program will link a rigorous course of study to hands-on activities at UCLA's own Film and Television Archive as well as off-campus sites. Extensive apprenticeship opportunities will be available at archives, media libraries, film and television studios, laboratories, digital post-production houses, and other facilities which are unique to the greater Los Angeles area.

"Moving images are arguably the most pervasive and influential media of the twentieth century. They are at once art form, historical document, cultural artifact, market commodity, political force and omnipresent part of popular culture," said **Steven Ricci**, the Archive's Head of Research and Study and Secretary General of FIAF (the International Federation of Film Archives). "If we consider the continual growth of media types and outlets, if we pay any attention at all to the rapid expansion of new technologies, such a program is simply crucial to our culture."

Graduates of the program will go on to work in a widely diverse spectrum of national, regional and local archives; museums; historical societies; research institutes; production studios; broadcast companies; stock footage suppliers; film, video and sound transfer laboratories; digital post-production and restoration houses; state-of-the-art vault and inspection facilities; asset management software developers; and other preservation service providers.

The development of the Moving Image Archive Studies program has been generously supported by a number of prestigious institutions: for planning and testing, the U.S. Department of Education's **Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education**; for program deployment and inauguration, the **National Endowment for the Humanities**; and for building the curriculum, the **Academy Foundation**.

The UCLA Program in Moving Image Archive Studies will be highly selective, with a maximum of ten students admitted each year. For further information about the program, please refer to the Archive Website at: www.cinema.ucla.edu or contact MIAS Program Coordinator **Lynn Boyden** at lynn@ucla.edu.