

NEWS RELEASE

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SIAS hosts photo-educators conference

Academics from across Canada gather at SIAS Wascana Campus

May 21, 2009 – Photography educators from colleges, institutes and universities from nine provinces will be attending the Canadian Conference of Photo-Educators this weekend. Hosted by SIAS's Applied Photography program at SIAS Wascana Campus, the conference is a series of panel discussions on common issues such as technology and curriculum challenges, copyright, incorporation of new teaching strategies and instructional design. The conference runs in conjunction with the Professional Photographers of Canada national convention in Regina.

Gary Robins, conference organizer and SIAS Applied Photography instructor says, "In addition to focusing on strategies and techniques, we have an underlying role to continually enhance the success and sustainability of our graduates." Robins hopes this gathering will also provide an opportunity to establish ongoing networking and a collaborative resource bank for photo-educators.

The conference begins Friday night with a keynote address from Arthur Rainville, instructor, author and one of photography's premier creative minds. Rainville is currently artist-in-residence at the Center for Digital Imaging Arts at Boston University. He has taught portraiture professionally on three continents.

A highlight on day two includes a presentation dubbed "Teaching in the iPod and Facebook World," an examination of contemporary changes in learning styles, with New Brunswick photographer and educator Peter Gross.

The conference concludes on Sunday with an early morning photo fieldtrip into the Saskatchewan prairie, to Wascana Trails and the nearby Qu'Appelle Valley, followed by a round-table wrap-up and visioning session.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. More than 13,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws almost 32,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

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Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.

Information about the Canadian Conference of Photo-Educators can be found at www.ccope.ca.