



# RISD Fusion Arts Exchange Program


DIGITAL MEDIA + COMPUTER-ASSISTED DESIGN

## Program Survey Snapshot 2 Results for July, 19 – July 26, 2007

July 28, 2007


1. Using the scale below, please rate the following aspects of FAX during the week of July 19 - July 26:						
	1= poor	2= not good	3= good	4= very good	5= excellent	Response Count
Academic program (lectures, panels, trainings etc.)	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	<b>35.0% (7)</b>	<b>35.0% (7)</b>	25.0% (5)	20
Diversity of presenters	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	30.0% (6)	<b>45.0% (9)</b>	20.0% (4)	20
Study trips/site visits	0.0% (0)	10.0% (2)	<b>40.0% (8)</b>	25.0% (5)	25.0% (5)	20
Group learning projects	0.0% (0)	10.0% (2)	30.0% (6)	<b>40.0% (8)</b>	20.0% (4)	20
Studios and workplace visits of digital media professionals	0.0% (0)	15.0% (3)	35.0% (7)	<b>40.0% (8)</b>	10.0% (2)	20
Information Technology used in teaching	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	<b>35.0% (7)</b>	<b>35.0% (7)</b>	25.0% (5)	20
Classroom facilities	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	25.0% (5)	<b>45.0% (9)</b>	25.0% (5)	20
Housing facilities	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	20.0% (4)	<b>55.0% (11)</b>	25.0% (5)	20
Institute staff	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	10.0% (2)	<b>50.0% (10)</b>	40.0% (8)	20
	<b>answered question</b>					<b>20</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>					<b>0</b>

**2. In general, during the week of July 19 - July 26 how supportive were the Academic Director, Administrative Director, and Teaching Assistants of your needs? Please evaluate as a group.**

	Response Percent	Response Count
1= poor	0.0%	0
2= not good	0.0%	0
3= good	15.0%	3
4= very good	40.0%	8
<b>5= excellent</b>	<b>45.0%</b>	<b>9</b>
Please comment to help us understand your rating, especially what has changed:		9
<b>answered question</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>0</b>

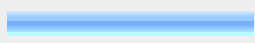
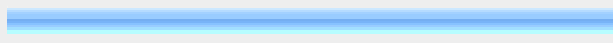

1. No one is perfect, but they always do their best in making sure that we are having a comfortable stay.
2. The whole staff is so collaborative including the Academic Director, Administrative Director, and Teaching Assistants who always try to give us the most comfortable atmosphere that could be happen.
3. They are great, and since the beginning of the program they have been around us taking care of our needs.
4. Now that we have gotten to know each other better they are ready to help more than ever.
5. The care received in the housing facilities remains outstanding.
6. I love these last couple of days the most; at least we are challenged to work. I thought it was all going to be like this.
7. They are always right on time with everything and I think punctuality is the key to getting a lot done right.
8. They are always available for whatever our needs are.
9. He was very able to deal with the ridiculous questions.

**3. Please rate the *teaching effectiveness* of the FAX instructors from Thursday, July 19 to Thursday, July 26 (end of day).**

	1 = poor	2 = not good	3 = good	4 = very good	5 = excellent	Response Count
Peter Hocking "Dialogue with History" 7/19	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	25.0% (5)	<b>45.0% (9)</b>	30.0% (6)	20
Catherine D'Ignazio "Dialogue with Place" 7/23	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	15.0% (3)	<b>55.0% (11)</b>	25.0% (5)	20
Daniel Peltz "Dialogue with People" 7/24-7/26	0.0% (0)	5.0% (1)	20.0% (4)	<b>45.0% (9)</b>	30.0% (6)	20
Please comment to help us understand your rating: 						9
<b>answered question</b>						<b>20</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>0</b>

1. I particularly liked Daniels' style of having a one-on-one meetings with the students and from that he would know how to handle each student differently
2. Mr. Peter Hocking: He influenced me directly by his lectures about the history of the united states and the history of art and design and he was so flexible in his way of teaching. Catherine D'Ignazio: She was so great ...she taught us many skills that can be useful when we go back to our country. In addition to the Art and Design galleries and museums and institutions that she took us in Providence, Boston and New York City. Daniel Peltz: He was so successful in the way he suggested new methods of communication through video course...and he was so collaborative and understandable to help us develop our primary skills.
3. Daniels schedule was rather over crowded with work, though it was still good.
4. The academic component, lead by Daniel Peltz was very challenging and rewarding. The intensity of the program has increased and my group and I have risen to the challenge. I hope the program can stay at this level of intensity.
5. I Love all their classes, but I am enjoying Daniel's classes the most, even though we worked the most in his class. But it was challenging, and I learned much more than just reading papers, and listening about projects. We walked in Catherine's course more than we visited galleries. But I adore all of them so much.
6. History has become one of my favorite subjects thanks to Peter. Catherine makes learning an easy and enjoyable process you just can't afford to miss out on. Daniel is so practical. I wake up every morning ready to learn new things. He assumes nothing. Ensures we know every tiny bit of the concepts. I think he ROCKS!
7. The first two were decent, but their sessions were set up more as lectures. Daniel really pushed us during his workshop. His program was what I expected out of the FAX program. I expected to be asked to complete homework that seemed impossible to complete in the time allotted.
8. They are clear when speaking and teach very well.
9. Daniel's idea of a 9am to 10pm studio class is keeping him out of my excellent category.

**4. Tell us about your experience when asking questions, commenting or having discussions in the classes and group sessions? Please comment below to help us understand your rating as to what was useful or needs improvement.**

	Response Percent	Response Count
No time, because (comment below)	0.0%	0
Some time, but not enough because(comment below) 	20.0%	4
<b>Just right amount of time because(comment below)</b> 	<b>80.0%</b>	<b>16</b>
Please comment on your answer choice 		13
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>20</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

1. Every one gets enough time to express themselves despite the time limits.
2. I have always had the time to ask questions and go into discussions and if there is not enough time the t.a's and the instructors will give a little from their time to ask questions as long as they are understandable and flexible.
3. The time given is ok for me. I've never felt I didn't have the time for my questions or reflections.
4. The program being quite short sometimes you are just too tired to ask questions.
5. I think it's ok, I cannot think of any improvement.
6. The assignments were constructed in a way to anticipate and handle logistical concerns. Any additional questions were answered and the discussions were focused and productive.
7. Daniel worked with us on individual basis. He had his own way of serving as the critic, when he sat with each one of us, because it didn't have to be negative. He was able to open my eyes, and keep on track. I realized where I have to go, in order to have the results I wanted. I didn't feel lost. And this balanced out the non-grading approach which got us back on track, challenging each other through artist expression. Catherine and Peter were understanding, to whatever we told her, and Peter, to what ever we told all of them.
8. There were several things that I have never come across before. Therefore questions were necessary and I asked what I had to ask.
9. I get to ask all the questions I have. This sometimes is not necessary because the teaching process is satisfactory.
10. During all of our sessions comments and questions have been asked whenever necessary.
11. There is way too much stuff packed into the away trips, not enough time to really take in any art, or discuss it.
12. Plenty of time for ridiculous questions.
13. Questions and discussions are encouraged.

5. This week what did you most learn about digital media in FAX?

**Communicating without talking:** I have learned that having conversation without talking. how to respond through the videos

More of video shooting and editing; mostly to respond not verbally but with the use of media (That is using video). I wished we would have learn a little bit more of web design than we did.

**The experience of Fusion:** I learn how to develop the idea to video and make relationships between each other and video.

Video editing, deep analysis of many aspects of the calls and responses we have made these days.

Developed my technical capabilities in video editing, and filming techniques. I learned how to use audio editing program, and now I can make up a project on my own when audio, video, electricity "simple complex" and a bit of programming, and understanding data coding "also simple" but for me, I never expected I could do all these things.

Different ways of thinking in fields of media and films. I only used media and film technology to make my own movie based on scenario, but Daniel's lectures told me that there is more to it.

There is way more going on in this media, than I ever thought. I felt like much of it was more for engineering, and math people than artist.

It's actually more connected to the traditional fine arts than people think.

I learned about the different ways or forms in which digital media can be created and it broaden my knowledge about it.

That video is a good mode of communication. I also learned about database structure and development and programming.

**Learning media tools:** I learned a little bit about the circuits and the way of linking electricity to the computer. And I learned how to understand the video camera and how to deal with it and how to communicate with people and Community and environment using the video camera as an effective tool and making some editing to change it from the regular shape into new form.

Physical electricity, basics of computer programming, video editing and how it can be extensively used in dialogues.

I loved working with Katherine and getting to learn a little about programming electronics such as LEDs, it was also very helpful although a little bit boring the presentations of web programming at Daniel's first class.

Nothing new really, due to the nature of my own school. I have nothing against freshening my skills in these things though, and we did use software I was not familiar with, so...

I was introduced to web-based encoding: XML, HTML, CSS and Flash. I also forayed into video editing software such as After Effects. I was able to have a more tangible understanding of the web and servers.

I learned that as far as computers are involved, I didn't quite know as much as I had thought I knew. Thank you Daniel for all the new things I now know.

On the technical side, I was happy to learn the basics of using Arduino. Making 20 videos in two days was also a pretty good practicing session.

I've learned more about the digital media using physical tools, and also I've learned more about videos and video making.

Uploading Video and the patience that is needed to cope with problems.

I learned a lot about video. I had never done much work in with it and this week we made twenty videos each. I really was able to explore different ways to think about filming. I also really enjoyed learning how to program lights with Catherine. This session was good but we really didn't put it to use. It would have been much better if she taught us the basics then gave us a homework assignment over the night.

**6. This week, what was your experience of the intersection of digital media and the public interest to shape the next global economy?**

My experience was more of communication with others with the medium digital media to provide quick responses.

Everyone now knows that this is the only way to go. I say, go for it!

<b>Don't Know:</b>	Huh?
	.....
	its hard to say art this moment
	...
	N/A
	n/a
	I'm so tired, I have no idea.

**Interactive:** Through out the Digital Media course till now I realized that we can participate shaping the next global economy by using the media tools as a method and way to communicate with other people around the globe and sharing the information and data and statics for all economies around the globe .

I think that the closest we have been to public interest and the next global economy was at the web programming class we had with Daniel. Nowadays web design is becoming one of the main tools to shape the economy.

This week's video spamming project was interesting from the viewpoint of organizing information online, but otherwise I'm afraid it was just the kind of thing I would usually refrain from participating in, since the actual digital media content did not quite live up to its new shiny frames. I would always put content first - or learn how to build those frames.

(This question is a little heavy-handed) I try to engage with a smaller community. Understandably, web-based art forms have the capacity of reaching a wider audience and influencing culture and economics. As it is now, I will answer this question when the program is over.

You should ALWAYS interact with others, and communicate, not only on a large scale but also smaller, and you always need to listen to what others are saying and try to say, and not saying, because this is what really changes the economy. I got a free item from some place just by interacting for my project. People deserve to be respected and heard, and most of all appreciated. They like to feel they had an input in some kind of great project, this motivates them.

<b>Convergence of Interests:</b>	I learned how digital media can be used in communication and how even a 30sec video can change a person's perception about certain things depending on how it has been presented.
	What I think is video is really important to communicate with others and that is going to be more important in next global community. People can just communicate in video with out any voices and sounds. I think people can be really interested about that kind of video work.
	Honestly this week I have not thought about how this work may shape the global economy. The work we were doing is very experimental and I have thought a lot about how it can shape my own work. The video work can help shape our global perception of each other. The entire project is about responding to each other.
	I just thought that it's still really, really hard to get the Average Joe to be interested about in multimedia and take part in the process.
	Digital media allows information to be widely accessible to the public and connects people who may otherwise not connect.
	Digital media and public interest are not mutually exclusive. They are both important in terms of shaping the next global economy.

**7. How did this week's FAX sessions influence what you are considering doing at home with digital media?**

It just brought a new insight and a whole range of new choices to choose from; web design, video shooting and editing, and programming.

I'm hoping that I could start a project similar to risd.tv at home and I also want to use the Arduino board in my future projects.

**Share it with others:** I was experimenting with stop motion animation that will be useful. And I did come up with some ideas completely unrelated to this project, too. My brain is working at 130% and I'd love to take that home with me.

I would like to find other ways to interact and communicate with others back home. And now I am feeling much more confident, because I am learning so much more, so I can spread my approaches to others. It turns out I am interested in many things, that I am considering to develop within myself, and I just love communicating with people, and interacting with them they open your eyes to a lot of things, but your opinion and input is as important for sure.

**In Development:** Everything is same in my place but I could create different video arts that having special meaning for me.

I might be able to improve and include additional meanings and skills to my work, for school assignment and career stuff.

I don't think it has influenced me to go the digital media route, but I have definitely learned how to think in different ways, and see my surroundings differently than I had 3 weeks ago. Many of the projects we have done I would have never been exposed to so that's nice.

**Developed as a professional:** I want to take advantage of this rare opportunity by using the new tools to use it in my country like communicating with the globe through video clips and I want to develop my self in electricity workshop back in my country.

I always wanted to learn video editing and this week when I got to do it, it an entirely exciting process for me. I really expected to learn more programs for video editing too and how to use them but the time constrains of class allocation on your side does not allow.

I think I have now a wider perspective on digital media. Classes with Katherine made me realize that interactive digital media does not always include virtual interphases, there are plenty of electronics tools to reproduce sounds or light in a more physical or realistic way.

I always think about the idea of the work this week so I just paid attention to the work. That was quite difficult because I couldn't talk with any other friends. I paid attention to just my work, so I got more time to think about my project. Actually if I could talk about my idea with friends I might better the idea. But, this is just my own idea and I like it.

Personally, the sessions that most influenced me this week, were the videos. However, first, I want to graduate and then I'll see if there's time to think about this.

I want to continue posting video responses and I hope to get my school involved in this project. The video work opens up a lot of possibilities I had not thought about previously. The creative energy in the last two days has been great. The light project gave me some great ideas for my own work. I want to build LED screens and run different digital pieces across them.

Honestly, everything. I am really privileged to be in the process.

Simply to create more stuff, even though it might not make sense in the end. Just get your ideas and thoughts flying.

I think this week was the most successful week since we started this programme , and I think that I've learn a lot in this week, and I'll continue doing what I've learned about video making and the way of thinking to make videos .

They broaden my knowledge about digital media and therefore made me want to learn more about it and apply it to my career projects in the future.

I would like to learn more about programming and am less afraid of video as a creative medium.

Now I know how to upload my own videos. I suspect I'll be using that bit of knowledge.

**Continued collaboration with FAX colleagues:** It encouraged an active "sketching" process in video that I might continue and post on to the risd.tv website in order to prolong our dialogue with each other and with the medium of video. I might also try the silence exercise, and funnel all of my energy into my art.

**8. What else did you observe or learn this past week about the culture and society of the United States?**

**Beyond the stereotype:** I learned about the American culture and society and as long as I am communicating with the Americans all the time as learning new things about this culture every day such as the importance of the independence day and the thanks giving day etc,,,  
 During the whole experience here, I think I am taking home a different perspective of the culture and people from the US, and this is mostly because I am getting to know my roommates and classmates very well and how they perceive their own society in a very critical point of view that is changing the idea or pre concept I had in my mind.  
 I am still learning more and more about how our culture is being spread across the globe. Some pop culture that only teenage girls like in the US is often well liked in other places. A lot of the international students know more about our pop culture than I do.

**Culture & Education:** Karaoke, ghost riding the whip, the Finnish national anthem, IP address tracking, Net statistics.

Seeing New York was a good experience and we got into a pretty interesting discussion after seeing Ground Zero.

People are really organized in every sense, regarding the educational area as well as any activity in their life.

**Cultures collaborating:** I have noticed this since I came here and not just this week about the broken barrier between students and their lecturers which makes the learning process more comfortable.

When I looked the work which students did for two days, it was really difficult to believe that students did for just 2 days. And I could find difficulty from different culture in there. That was really great. It's easier to find difference from culture in video than any other works. I really liked some of work in there

People are open to our needs when recording in the streets and public spaces.

It is culture of individuals who want to learn and get to know other people better.

**Self-expression:** People are not afraid to appear, in whatever kind of random crazy artist's movie, and photos. There are a lot of homeless people. Not tidy, and cooperative when it comes to living with them, although I really enjoy it. And their even more friendly and open to learning more.

I observed that people are proud of USA and love their America when I visited 911 places. Someone was crying even if they weren't there when it happened and it was about 6 years ago.;;

From Manhattan, I have learned the fact that many people have different thoughts about 9.11. Some says its really for †hose who lost their loved ones, and some says its set up with political reasons. I am still confused about the culture and society of the U.S, but I realized people are not afraid of expressing themselves, both positive or negative.

We are ready for a change!

United States is a place I would want to live in. Any day. Any time. Common sense works here all the time.

In a way, Americans seem to be quite unaffected by the Internet's ability to store information. Either they're unaffected or perhaps they just don't care. When you put something up, it pretty much stays up even though you delete it..

**Other:** See question 9.  
 N/A  
 Same as last week.  
 Not a huge amount more than I have in the past weeks.

**9. Please describe the inter-cultural experience among your colleagues this past week? Remark on any changes, either positive or negative.**

<b>How they think and learn:</b>	It was great that after going to NY we could talk about our different perspectives on US politics about war. All of us had an intensive chat that I consider great.
	When I watched some movies I just surprised. I couldn't think like the ways presented. So I learned some ideas in there.
	During our exercise in silence, administered by Daniel Peltz, we started drawing on big mural-sized paper and shared our thoughts with drawing and writing. I learned a lot about Finnish relations with America and Russia, and how a lot of the American experience is mediated via the internet. Culturally, there are different levels of comfort with the internet as public space. Whereas I do not care as to content published about me, as they are external fictions based in the specificity of digital space, the Fins are reluctant to even appear in a video and if they are they are really conscious about what they say and do in this arena.
	The positive thing is that I could understand what they are thinking of my country and exchange the words (how to write down my name in their own or speech),but sometimes I feel that some people who are from the same country are selfish.
	In my opinion during the days the relationships among my colleagues are getting better and better, and everyday I learn something new about their culture.
<b>How to be together:</b>	<p>I was so lucky to be among these students who represent many geographical spots in this globe and I am so happy to learn about their culture and customs and I think that all the changes are positives.</p> <p>I've come across some cases of disrespect and general ignorance, with which I'm not comfortable just smiling and coping and understanding anymore. The physical and mental stress here is bound to boil down to some friction at some point - 5 weeks is a long time to spend around someone who sees difference as a lack of something better. Yet, fortunately, everyone here also seems to understand that no personal issue is quite reason enough to turn a priceless learning experience into a reality TV show.</p> <p>As we get to know each other better, the real personalities come out. Some aspects are good but some others not really. In general, the balance is positive. And I want to remark that the inter-cultural experience is by far the one I like the most.</p> <p>As more and more work is involved people get aloof and there is more tension than ever before. So people tend to work in groups more than as a whole, yet everyone is ready to help the other.</p> <p>During the past few days I have noticed that some cultures blend and understand each other very well, but a couple of them are having a harder time getting along while here. One culture in particular can not stand our food.</p> <p>Naturally there have been little groups forming, and some frustration with people, but I still think its going pretty well. I feel that some of the students don't totally understand our projects and even after an hour of discussion on some subject, there are still people totally lost. I just wish they would ask the question then instead of waiting only to ask me or someone else later what we are suppose to do. Are you kidding me!</p> <p>Living together in harmony is key to non-cultural collisions. I wish it could be the same all over the world. I have learnt that we all need each other always.</p> <p>I think that the cultural exchange is the best part of this program. You learn a lot about different cultures and also more importantly you learn a lot about yourself.</p> <p>People seem to be talking and opening up more, but in a way, getting more closed at the same time.</p> <p>In this past week, we knew each other well and we did not have to go through the period of knowing each other as in the first weeks. So, this past week I noticed that groups are being formed in relation to the big group, new relationships are starting to bond and some conflicts have appeared, as in any big group of people.</p> <p>We learned how to communicate silently and through digital media.</p>
<b>Different ways of living:</b>	We are experiencing new music, learning new words in other languages which is so exciting and still learning one another and all about their home country.
	We are trying to understand each other more, every one is very sensitive to the other in terms of realizing boundaries, but it is becoming more difficult now since, our tempers are getting fed up, with putting up with the insensitive ones. But yet again I just love it because its only very personal based, you be nice, people are either nice or not, so you walk more with the nice ones, and try to walk less with the horrible ones.:) I love knowing about us, the more and more it gets going.
	Even though we have become friendly than ever, there are still among us who are too into themselves. That is, not respecting other colleagues, and not realizing the necessity of self-sacrifice for once.
<b>Other:</b>	Same as last week.

**10. Regarding the trip to New York City, how did it influence your thinking about your interest in new media/ fusion art?**

**Fusion Art:** We went to many places there. New York Times is my favorite place. Before I went there I didn't like Flash. But, I learned a lot from the designer there. He told us Flash and that kind of new media work is really important for now. And actually he told me that is easier to do the job. So, I am going to pay attention more to that. It was really great experience

It didn't really change my opinions or influence my thinking (at least not about new media. All sorts of other things, yes, and a lot.) If something, I only feel more the way I did before - which still remains a kind of 10-yearold kid reaction to buzzing and blinking toys; it's definitely cool, and definitely what I want to do.

Conceptual and interactive art really attracts my attention. And being exposed to art its amazing. The process of the project is more important than the outcome. Research based projects are more important. Again I wish we were able to visit more galleries and have less time getting from a place to another. Thank you, for all this :) have a nice coming week.

It didn't really influence my interest in new media; I was just inspiring in other artistic avenues. I think it was great to see all the artists collaborating, I would like to see more of this in my school setting.

I think Art is evolving fast. New ideas come every single day. I am very interested in being a part of this wonderful evolution.

**Professional Learning:** It was the best of all. I realized how far digital media has gone and that design is not just about solving problems but also being used to change lives.

Well, I enjoyed the Glowlab visit, I really liked some of the work there and I'd like to do something similar whenever I have some time. Guggenheim. Nice architecture. It's a pity that they don't allow you to take photos. That way I would be able to remember the works and study them.

The programming that we have done with Catherine (physical computing) and Daniel Peltz (coding and web-based software) has made a lot of the work that we saw in New York more tangible and understandable formally.

It was great to visit the NY Times office.

The trip to New York was a successful trip it opened my eyes on a lot of new media technologies.

It made me realise how massive media can be and therefore, how many people it can reach to give a message for example.

It made me think about where I might want to take my work. I'll let you know when I find the answer.

**Stretched my ambitions:** New York City is a great example of the modern city which we depends on the digital media at the first place and I think that from my experience in this spectacular city I'll be influenced in my design workshop from my experience there.

I enjoyed a lot going to NY and getting to see some of the work done by people interested in the same things than me, and that they are actually doing what they want, researching and working a lot to get their aims.

Positively. Gave me ideas that have never crossed my mind ever.

It made me realize how important a master's degree is.

Seeing Eyebeam was a great experience for me, because I've been following the Eyebeam projects on the internet and to actually see it behind the scenes was really interesting.

**Other people matter:** Like I mentioned above about 9/11, it came to me that you have to explore more than just yourself. This does sound obvious but we all come from different places, therefore different ideology is inevitable. I concluded that embracing other people's thoughts might bail you out of trouble one day.

New York is one place where digital media is taking over, and not just in Times Square. The thing that influenced me the most while in NY was the Cooper-Hewight Design Museum. They had a show that was titled "Design for the other 90%." This show discusses how design is usually for the top ten percent of the population, but how some designers are trying to design things that will help the rest. Some of this work gets away from digital media, but not all of it.

It was all good. The Big Apple was an inspirational place and on our trip we barely touched it. It also showed the contradictions and different extremes that the States are made out of.