

Geoff Schaaf runs lighting workshop

Famous director and cinematographer Geoff Schaaf ran a three-day workshop on lighting and photography at TNUA in November.

Mr. Schaaf has earned a total of four Emmys and 13 Emmy nominations, and has served as director of photography on hundreds of hours of episodic series.

He has also directed “*Shelter Island*” (2003) and “*Portal*” (2009), and served as director/director of photography on over 400 documentaries, projects which have taken him to more than 20 countries across Europe, Asia, Central and South Americas and Australia.

During the workshop running from November 21 to 23, Mr. Schaaf talked about the quality of light, the basics of lighting (from backlighting, highlighting, natural lighting, exposure, to color control), as well as his own experiences in studio and location filming. He also illustrated his talks with video clips.

He noted that during the filming of documentaries, the lighting cannot be “set.” The lighting is more about how the camera, the interviewer and the subject are positioned.

He pointed out that reflectors, white cardboards and mirrors can be used to enhance the lighting.

He said digital cameras now make it much easier for photographers to produce images that in the past would have required a lot to work to achieve.

He noted how the film company boasted about Stanley Kubrick using specifically modified still camera lenses to film candle lights when shooting “*Barry Lyndon*” in the 1970s. The digital cameras today can produce these images more easily, he said.

Caption: Famous director and cinematographer Geoff Schaaf ran a workshop at TNUA.



Caption: The Taiwan Animation Industry Forum has experts examine some of issues facing the country's animation industry.

Insights offered at Taiwan Animation Industry Forum

Industry leaders and multimedia experts met recently in a TNUA-organized forum to share ideas and experiences concerning the development of Taiwan's animation Industry.

The speakers at the Taiwan Animation Industry Forum included: Mr. Ray Ting, manager of Digimax; Ms Sandra Liu, head of production at TWR Entertainment; and Prof. Jay Shih from the Department of Multimedia and Animation Arts, National Taiwan University of Arts.

Prof. Shih Ming-Huei, chairperson of TNUA's Department of Animation, served as the moderator of the forum, which was part of the Kuandu International Animation Festival taking place in November.

Digimax runs three main business units handling original animated films, post-production services and new media collaborations respectively.

Mr. Ting said there is a serious lack of talent who can write stories and draw storyboards. He said it is a very important part of an animation production

where one can turn personal experiences or a story into textual and visual content.

TWR is a globally-focused, Asia-based media organization that successfully blends world-class creativity and groundbreaking technology innovation.

Ms. Liu encouraged students to try as many things as possible because, unlike industry, there are no limitations in school.

She said animation students should also try to learn more about other fields and work with people from these fields. She also stressed the importance of developing good skills in communication.

Prof. Shih noted that although 3D animations are becoming more popular, 2D is still very important, as every production starts with 2D.

He said whether a film is good or not depends more on the story and its representation than on the medium it chooses.