FIAF SUMMER SCHOOL 1996

The next FIAF Summer School will take place from 16 June to 7 July 1996, and will be hosted and organised by the National Film and Television Archive (UK) at its modern J Paul Getty Jnr Conservation Centre in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, approximately 35 miles from Central London. This follows the success of the Summer School hosted by the NFTVA in 1992, itself a revival of the Summer Schools which were formerly held under the auspices of the DDR (East German) Film Archive.

The aim of the Summer School is to provide an intensive three-week training course for FIAF-member film archivists from all over the world who have some experience of film handling and archival practices. Some places will also be available for television archivists who are members of FIAT. The focus of the course will be mainly technical, with an emphasis on the conservation of moving images, but will also embrace the history and philosophy of film archiving, as well as guidance on essential activities such as acquisition, cataloguing, access and programming.

As in 1992, the main venue for the course will be the Conservation Centre in Berkhamsted, where lectures and practical training will take place. Participants will again be accommodated in a quiet and comfortable Guest House, ‘Old Jordans’, located in the countryside about half-an-hour’s drive away. Transport to and from the Centre will be provided, and there are convenient travel facilities for exploring the area and making visits to London. One of our endeavours will be to make every course member feel at home and well looked after, as well as passing on some of the excitement and the skills of motion picture preservation.

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Many of the expert staff of the NFTVA will be involved in the course training, supplemented by guest lecturers from FIAF, staff of the British Film Institute and key practitioners in the film, television and video industries.

There will be a total of 28 places available, a significant proportion of which, it is hoped, will go to applicants from archives in developing countries or those with poor resources or lack of training, who are encouraged to apply. We expect that a number of these will require help with their travel, accommodation and course expenses, and both FIAF and the NFTVA have been seeking sponsorship funding for this purpose from such organisations as UNESCO. Applicants needing financial assistance can and should, nevertheless, approach the British Council office in their country, as well as other national sources. The fee for the three-week course is likely to be in the region of $1,500 (US dollars): this covers accommodation, most meals, and all training. International travel costs are not covered.

A detailed course programme has been worked out, including lectures, training sessions, demonstrations, course-related visits, social events, and some sight-seeing. A list of proposed training/lecture subjects is enclosed, together with an information sheet and application form. A full programme summary will later be sent to all accepted applicants.

You are invited to submit an application on the enclosed form on behalf of yourself or members of your staff (please photocopy the form as necessary). If there are more applicants than places available, a selection will be made by the NFTVA. If there are fewer applicants than places available, then we will seek qualified participants from a wider field.

Please send completed forms to Kathleen Dickson, National Film and Television Archive, 21 Stephen Street, London W1P 2LN, United Kingdom (fax: 44-171 580 7503). Closing date for receipt of applications: 31 December 1995.

Yours sincerely

CLYDE JEAVONS
Curator
National Film and Television Archive