

Don Day, FVP/Media Arts, CCA
CCA APT Committee 2008-2009 review
Teaching Statement

I continue to deflate, gently, novelty for novelty's sake, pointing out, with concrete examples, that very little is completely new, and that a historical trail actually enriches complex technical works.

I try to share my delight and enthusiasm just at the moment things are going horribly wrong, when a work in progress reminds us of its unexpected connectedness. Such situations unravel into measurement, a rare activity in some realms of art, but essential when using invisible materials like electrons and magnetic fields.

Students are effortlessly inventive, and it is great fun to improvise back to them some unrealized echoes of what they've just thought up.

I am there to help my students realize and mutate their technology-related visions and animate their robotic dramas.

There is also very practical interplay between my worlds of Engineering and Art. Prototypes from engineering development become parts and resources for Interface and Media Arts projects. Vendors with sensors that are too interesting to put in a media switcher become contacts for Interface, where no sensor is too interesting. Engineering colleagues with a shared interest in signal transmission format become designers of affordable HD cameras. I cultivate any channels I find in the industrial world into resources to further student work and class collaborations.