

## **Edizel appointed SOAD Dean**

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Alfred University Provost W. Richard Stephens this week announced the appointment of Gerard Edizel as Dean of Alfred University's School of Art and Design.

Edizel, who has served as interim dean of the School for the past two years, will begin a three-year term as the Michele and Marty Cohen Dean of The School of Art and Design, a position funded through the generous support of Michele and Marty Cohen, parents of Alfred University alumnus Adam Cohen '03.

In announcing Edizel's appointment, Stephens noted he will be responsible for advancing the national and international reputation of Alfred University's School of Art and Design.

"Alfred University's School of Art and Design has earned its status in the world of higher education and the larger world of art more generally," Stephens said, "and such an institution is deserving of leadership that both recognizes and builds on these facts. I am most confident that Gerard Edizel combines the right qualities to provide such leadership, thereby allowing the world-class faculty to do what they do best as teachers, mentors, and artists of merit in their own right."

As interim dean, Edizel has overseen increased enrollment in SOAD and the launching of the University's MFA program in painting in Dusseldorf, Germany. He also has spearheaded an increase in fundraising for the School and supervised a significant expansion of the School's Summer Arts Workshops.

Edizel received his Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Cornell University, and his MFA from Southern Illinois University. In addition to his administrative work at Alfred University, he has taught courses in the history of contemporary and new media art at Alfred University. Additionally, he has directed the conference Electronic Intersections, editing and publishing its proceedings in a bilingual catalogue under the aegis of the Institute for Electronic Arts.

He is the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the New York Film Academy for educational programming. He has lectured at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing and has taught at the University of Art and Design in Jinan City, China.

"It has been an honor and privilege to serve the distinguished faculty, dedicated staff and inquisitive students of the School of Art and Design in my capacity as Interim Dean for two years," Edizel said earlier this week. "There remains much to be accomplished and I am grateful to have been entrusted with the stewardship of our celebrated School of Art and Design. I will draw inspiration from the dynamic leadership of President Mark Zupan and Provost Rick

Stephens.”

Edizel&s installment as Michele and Marty Cohen Dean of the School of Art and Design will be celebrated in the fall at the start of the 2017-2018 academic year.