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Bennington College

**Bennington College Appoints Renowned Author, Sven Birkerts as Acting Director of the Graduate Writing Seminars**

BENNINGTON, VT -Following last month's tragic death of Liam Rector, founder and former director of Bennington's graduate Writing Seminars-Bennington College has appointed longtime writing seminars faculty member Sven Birkerts to serve as Acting Director, while it begins a national search for a director.

Birkerts, a celebrated American essayist and literary critic, is the author of seven books, including *An Artificial Wilderness: Essays on 20th Century Literature*; *The Electric Life: Essays on Modern Poetry*, *American Energies: Essays on Fiction*; *The Gutenberg Elegies: The Fate of Reading in an Electronic Age*; *Readings*; *My Sky Blue Trades: Growing Up Counter in a Contrary Time*; and, most recently, *Reading Life: Books For the Ages*. He edits the journal *Agni* at Boston University. He has edited *Tolstoy's Dictaphone: Writers and the Muse*, as well as *Writing Well* (with Donald Hall) and *The Evolving Canon*.