Open Day

RMIT’s Open Day at the Brunswick Campus was a great success. The three fashion parades on the day showcasing the latest designs by students were a huge hit with the crowd. The brief for students was to create fashion that captured the wind, sea and earth, through movement and draping for the 2011 summer runway.

New Glove Concepts

Dr. Jenny Underwood has secured additional research funding for a new concept for knitted gloves following a successful pilot earlier this year. The project is a collaborative venture between our industry partner HySport International and the CSIRO. The aim is to create a pair of super gloves that will be both comfortable to wear as well as resistant to microscopic bugs, tears, and impervious to cuts and punctures. The gloves are being designed for prison officers using nanotechnology and nanofabrication techniques.

Associate Degree in Fashion and Textiles Merchandising

The new Associate Degree in Fashion and Textiles Merchandising which replaces the Advanced Diploma Fashion Merchandising in 2011 was successfully launched at RMIT Open Day with the information sessions completely filled. This new program was also presented to RMIT International Marketing team who will be promoting Fashion and Textiles Merchandising into key international markets. The Associate Degree provides a full two years credit toward the Bachelor of Applied Science (Fashion Merchandising) program.
Hunted, Gathered & Redesigned

As part of our ongoing collaboration with the Brotherhood of St Laurence and Hunter Gatherer, second year Diploma of Applied Fashion Design & Technology students studying the Sustainability in Fashion course sifted through mounds of jeans at the Brunswick facility to find the least fabulous and saleable pairs of jeans to rework.

After the sorting exercise, students redesigned the jeans into completely new outfits in only two hours. Highly commended students’ work was displayed over a five week period in the Brunswick St, Fitzroy store window were:

Gretta Carlson, Aimee Constantino, Gabriella Ferrante, Chevasa Jongue, Georgit Maarrawi, Ellen Mugavin, Carla Murone, Georgina Natalizio, Nicole Neame, Kent Nietan, Tracey Tsang, Linda Vydra, Benita Whatley, Sarah Woodall, Kellie Yosh.

The next student project is an accessories line from denim scraps to be sold in the Hunter Gatherer store for the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

Sustainability

Sustainability is often described as a “messy” area which requires one to compromise so as to move forward. The School’s Sustainability Committee has been gradually developing initiatives which will allow the School community to explore and adopt sustainable practices. These initiatives have been focused upon reducing waste and energy and we now have in place the following:

- An established cycling group which is growing its membership;
- A campaign to encourage people to switch off lights and computers. One will see “switch off” stickers appearing and a series of posters on the notice boards;
- Seminars conducted by Zero Carbon Moreland and,
- A campaign to move to double sided photocopying.

Future newsletters will report on the progress of these initiatives as they develop.