It has been a challenging year for staff and students, taking the program and curriculum into new areas of research and innovation with new partnerships and a re-alignment of our profile as a leading textile design program in Australia.

The focus of the program continues to be allied with the TCF industries and a design research pathway that consolidates our IPA (Industry Partnerships Awards) with our strategic partners and complements RMIT’s policy of all programs having a component of WIL (work integrated learning) and DLS (distributed learning system - on-line presence) embedded within program structures in 2007.

For the students graduating from this program, the growth in demand for textile designers is gratifying coupled with the recognition of their skills by improved salary scales and employment opportunities. The program continues to seek out new project partnerships in a variety of industries with GM Holden and the Schools of Architecture, Aerospace and Business in 2007. In recognition of our students’ skills, industry representatives will present a range of awards and encouragement prizes on the opening night.

The program is clearly focused on achieving a high graduate employment rate within our TCF industries and we have achieved 92% of full time employed graduates from 2006 graduates. There is strength and opportunity in a textile design career, from carpet design to fashion and homewares, from automotive interiors to surface patterning. While large-scale production is going offshore, the smart, customised digitally sampled textile products are being manufactured here in Victoria. This environment requires graduates who can communicate globally and locally, can teamwork effectively and have the creative, forecasting and technical skills for the new emerging industries.

The 2007 textile design show will present to you a cohort of skilled graduates, ready for a working life in a range of TCF industries in Australia and overseas. We wish our 2007 graduates the very best for their creative futures, encouraging them to be adventurous and take on the challenges of working in a complex world where quality, maturity and professionalism is required at all times. It is especially rewarding to work alongside a team of professional and dedicated textile design staff, contract and casual, who have worked extremely hard to get this program where it is today. Equally, our program could not continue without the generous support of our key industry partners and RMIT University colleagues. Thank you.
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Catherine Gemanel
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Timorous Beastes by Brintons is the result of an inspired collaboration between the internationally renowned organisation Brintons and the adventurous Scottish design duo Timorous Beastes.

First Weave explores the potential of patterns that challenge, encourage compositions which are balanced without losing symmetry and exploring the technical difficulties of interpreting detail into a woven carpet.

Many of the carpet designs have taken images from the outside world and brought them into the interior. The carpets have been designed to use the floor to differentiate the interior space from corridor to room; from outside to inside.

For further information please contact:

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Hoad Fabrics
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Supporting training and education in the fibre and textile industries is the fundamental purpose of the International Fibre Centre.

The Victorian Government, in recognising, the long term strategic importance of the fibre and textile industries is IFC’s funding body and has allocated funding for the ongoing activities of the IFC.

The IFC initiatives consist of the following funding programs:
- Training and Education Projects Program (TEP)
- Specialised Training Partnership Program (STP)
- Professional Development Program

Separate application guidelines apply to each program and further details can be found on the IFC website. You are encouraged to contact IFC Program Manager, Joe Merola, to discuss your training needs.

www.ifc.net.au  03 5227 2379  jmerola@ifc.net.au

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It was in 1807 that the first bale of Australian wool was sent to Britain with the intention of commercial sale, thus establishing the Australian international wool trade.

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Warwick Fabrics welcomes the class of 2007 to the textile industry

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Dryen Australia was founded more than thirty-five years ago with a desire to specialise in the design, development and supply of home textile including bed linen and co-ordinating accessories, nursery, napery and bathroom products.

Our leading edge in-house design studio includes a team of textile and graphic designers and visual merchandisers. The team utilises colour, design and texture to create beautiful product ranges and innovative fashion concepts. Together with a commitment to produce a high quality of manufacturer at all stages, Dryen continues to ensure its success in the Australian market. Each year Dryen aims to inspire and teach students by offering several work experience placements. These usually involve full-time employment for one student a year after graduation. This year Dryen also sponsored the RMIT Industry Partnership Award. The Project, run by lecturer Luise Adams, was CAD based and involved each student submitting printed bedlinen ranges based on Dryen’s colour & trend forecasting and their own research. This year’s 1st prize winner was Linda Marek, 2nd prize was awarded to Chrissy Keyte and equal 3rd were Georgina Hale & Pippa Oostergetel. The standard of work presented this year was very impressive and as a result Dryen also purchased some designs from the students which we hope to use in future collections.
Application to the BA and post-graduate programs can be made via the web site www.rmit.edu.au or by contacting the administration officer Wai Mann Leung or Anna Solomun on 9925 9488 or email anna.solomun@rmit.edu.au

Gradually, we are putting micro stories, snapshots and visual information on our website promoting student projects, achievements and industry sponsorship of the program.
http://www.rmit.edu.au/fashionandtextiles/textiledesign

If you require additional catalogues please contact the Program coordinator on 03 9925 9411 or email Patrick.Snelling@rmit.edu.au

There are some key dates during the 2008 academic year that prospective applicants should be aware of:
VTAC application - deadline late September 2008
contact www.vtac.edu.au or 1300 364133
International applicants - please refer to www.rmit.edu.au/international for documents and advice.
RMIT TAFE applicants must apply to the program via VTAC application procedures.

Open day Sunday 10 August 2008, 10am – 4pm. Applicants to the program are advised to attend information seminars during the day, view student project work, speak to staff and students about the program and experience the resources and buildings of Brunswick campus.

Patrick Snelling
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