School news

RMIT Open Day 2012

RMIT’s Open Day held on Sunday 12 August was a great success for the School with a large 380 seat marquee hosting two fashion parades and program information sessions on the day.

Image courtesy of the Leader Newspaper

The fashion parade featured work from the Associate Degree in Fashion Design and Technology and the Bachelor of Applied Science (Fashion Technology) programs.

Student news

Global work placement

Eight second year students from the Associate Degree in Fashion and Textile Merchandising program have received the Endeavour scholarship from the Australian government for the Global Work placement project. These students will travel to Hong Kong and China and be placed at the buying offices of Myer, Pacific Brands and Target.

The strategic focus of this project is to provide students the opportunity to experience first hand supply chain in an overseas buying office.

Apart from working in the buying offices, these students will visit manufacturing factories in China. To be totally emerged in the culture and the work environment of another country will definitely broaden the horizon of these students.

For more information contact Chris Clark, Program Manager Fashion and Textile Merchandising. chris.clark@rmit.edu.au

Fashionably Early

Students from the Diploma of Applied Fashion Design and Technology participated in an exhibition held in Canberra at the Gallery of Australian Design called “Fashionably Early”. The student design brief was to create and design “a garment of tomorrow” that can be tried on by participants at the exhibition.

Averil Raymond and Nicola Skill successfully represented the school.

For more information contact Tina Guglielmino, Program Manager Fashion tina.guglielmino@rmit.edu.au

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th November - Textile industry seminar

9th November School Graduate Research Conference

November End of Year exhibitions
Check the website for dates and venues

www.rmit.edu.au/fashiontextiles

CRICOS provider number 00122A
The second section of the exhibition was the "Emerging Designers" who were asked to design a fashion system for tomorrow and produce a fashion solution that is a product of the process. Our selected entrant for this category was Carla Ferrarin a graduate from the Diploma of Textile Design and Development and the Diploma of Applied Fashion Design and Technology programs. In her entry she utilised her textile design and fashion skills in a beautifully designed tailored jacket dyed with natural dyes.

The Australian Fashion Researchers Network (AFRN) held a forum the following day chaired by Associate Professor Jennifer Craik where themes from the exhibition were followed up with paper presentations and the opportunity for educationalists and students to engage in a discourse on education and sustainable futures. http://fashionablyearly.com.au/

For more information contact Tina Guglielmino, Program Manager Fashion at tina.guglielmino@rmit.edu.au

RMIT Footwear students Highpoint highlights

RMIT Footwear students were at Highpoint Shopping Centre showcasing their designs and skills through a live workshop held at the centre from 17 – 26 August.

Highpoint Shopping centre set up a competition where anyone can vote for their favourite design and go in the running to win a prize and at the same time support the students.

The student with the most votes will win a $1000 Highpoint Gift Voucher.

To vote for the students designs visit:

http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=2qjll0f293ap1

For more information contact Tina Guglielmino, Program Manager Fashion at tina.guglielmino@rmit.edu.au

Sustainability news
Commune Festival and Conference Day 2012

For the second year running, "Commune" took place at RMIT's Brunswick Campus. Commune is the only annual conference centred around Sustainability in the F&T industry, which is of local and international importance. Commune provides a forum for global luminaries, and a platform for the emerging Practice based research here at RMIT's School of Fashion and Textiles.

Three main areas of interaction and exchange occurred on the Festival Day (2012): i) The Market Place which was an open space for students, local retailers, local crafters, council groups, as well as musicians etc. ii) Workshops & Demonstrations.
The workshops themselves were carried out by practitioners at differing levels in their careers.

Linda Jackson - a VIP in the world of fashion design, textiles and art - gave a Masterclass, Holly McQuillan, a zero waste specialist from Massey Uni NZ gave a workshop to second-year Fashion Design students, and a student from CIT offered a workshop in natural dyeing techniques.

iii) Conference: Lectures given by internationally renowned academics like Dr Kate Fletcher and Pascale Gatzen, joined up via SKYPE to discuss their projects. There were also many Melbourne based sustainably focussed early career academics and industry members like Stuart McDiarmid from GOTS and Lyn Stephenson from Industrial Hemp Assoc. Vic and others.

For more information contact patricia.brien@rmit.edu.au

Research news
Protecting our firefighters

Dr Rajiv Padhye Discipline Head and Research coordinator said “Currently the School of Fashion and Textiles is working on a few research projects around improving fire fighters protection, comfort and performance under the theme: Protecting our fire-fighters”.

The project, funded by the Victorian Government and in conjunction with Bruck Textiles is looking at advanced protective textiles and apparel for workers exposed to extreme environmental conditions such as fire fighters. Researchers are looking for ways to ensure workers in extreme weather conditions are provided with proper comfort and protection.

Dr Olga Troyinkov is supervising a PhD student Nazia Nawaz, who is investigating and comparing the material surface characteristics of lightweight Nomex® and Nomex® blended fabrics suitable for the innermost lining of structural fire fighters' clothing. In addition the influence of the presence of moisture in the fabrics due to the sweat absorption during strenuous physical activity on the fabrics surface characteristics is being addressed.

The Master’s Project by Vanessa Perri is looking at the development of fire fighting PPC which both protects against heat and prevents fire-fighter’s from over heating inside the suit. The frequency and severity of large scale fire events (e.g. the Victorian 2009 black Sunday bushfires) has resulted in Australian fire-fighters becoming more susceptible to the effects of hypothermia whilst wearing PPC. Last year we completed TWO projects with CFA , one on the "Knee guards used in firefighters trousers" and other on "UV degradation of fire fighters uniform".

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