Student News

RMIT takes First Prize at the Hamilton Wool Awards - 2009

The Annual Agricultural Show for the Hamilton Region "Sheepvention Australasian Young Designers Wool Awards" was held on Sunday, 2nd August 2009.

The competition received over 100 entries for the various categories of which all garments must contain at least 60% wool and be original in design.

The night commenced with a fashion show parading items from entrants.

Third year Advanced Diploma of Applied Fashion Design and Technology, Aaron Fluck took the major prize for the evening winning a trip to attend the Istituto Marangoni, in Milan valued at $10,500 for his Menswear entry titled "Out of the Ashes." This garment was inspired by the recent Victorian bushfires.

Sara Murray won second prize and Alice Swing-Highly receiving a highly commended Award in the Daywear category.

Sara Murray winning design for daywear category

Designers for the Future

As part of Designers Rugs "Designers for the Future" competition during the State of Design Festival, students from the Diploma of Textile Design and Development entered to design a rug that will form part of Designer Rugs in-house collection.

The hope for this workshop series and competition was to uncover the next generation of talented designers from design schools throughout Victoria. The judges were inspired by the level of entries received.
From over 40 entries, 3 finalists were selected. Andrea Komninos with her design titled ‘FLORES’ and Laura Brown with her design titled ‘PODS’.

Special congratulations goes to winner Elouise Roberts with her design ‘ARMADILLO’, who will have her rug produced.


**Cotton Fields to Fabric**

Textile Technology students from Higher Education and TAFE programs have recently attended the CSIRO Cotton field to fabric training course, 21-23 July 2009. The training course, which took place at CSIRO Materials Science & Engineering in Belmont, Geelong, gave participants an overview of the entire cotton pipeline, from farm to predicting fabric performance.

- Global perspective
- Marketing
- Fibre properties
- Agronomy, picking, ginning, classing
- Yarn manufacturing, fabric formation, dyeing / finishing and QA
- Environmental issues

Judging from the feedback received from the students the course was found to be interesting, informative and enjoyable.

Story by Rafael Beltran

**Industrial design looks towards textiles to innovate!**

Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design), Aimi Razak completed part of her Major Project at the School of Fashion & Textiles at Brunswick in 2008.

As part of the project Aimi developed a chair inspired by the ‘tuck’ knot. The project explored knitted fabrics and their ability to be formed into three dimensional shapes. The outer shell for this innovative furniture creation was knitted on SHIMA SEIKI flat bed knitting machine as a seamless tube.

The project was supervised by Dr. Olga Troynikov and Inna Konopov, who provided invaluable assistance and directed the student to the discovery of the versatility of knitting as an ideal sculptural medium.
As a result of this project, The School of Fashion & Textiles and School of Architecture & Design have collaborated this year to establish a 'Fibre toolkit' course for all second year Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design) students. The course was developed and is being taught by Inna Konopov and Jenny Underwood at the School of Fashion and Textiles. The 'Fibre toolkit' provides students with an introduction and understanding of fibres, yarns and fabrics, with particular focus on new materials, textile technologies and innovations, such as nano technology, smart fibres and biomimetics.

Now the next generation of designers are discovering the opportunities for using textiles for a wide range of industrial design applications.

Story by: Dr. Olga Troynikov and Jenny Underwood

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Staff News

Professional Development for staff

The School’s Learning and Teaching team have put together some professional development activities for all staff.

The weekly e-learning sessions include topics such as Blackboard basics, blogs and wikis, PowerPoint for educational use, MS Word basics, GroupWise basics and more - see below link.

Sessions are scheduled every Wednesday afternoon 1-4pm and are conducted by ITS Training with their fully qualified and experienced trainers.

Please note that in order to participate it is necessary to register online before the session so that the trainers can plan accordingly.

For more information, visit http://mams.rmit.edu.au/p2txn5oy1lk cl.doc or contact Kylie Budge, Senior Advisor, Learning and Teaching.

Understanding Superannuation?

The University has a number of information sessions around Superannuation which includes:

"Introduction to Investment Risk and Return"

Tuesday 20th October 2009
Building 515, level 1, room 27. 12:15pm - 1:15pm
If you are interested, please register online via http://www.unisuper.com.au/members/seminars

**International News**

**International Visitor**

Mr Rohanna Kuruppu, CEO of Brandix College in Sri Lanka visited the School in August to review the Bachelor of Applied Science (Textiles Technology) program that Brandix deliver in conjunction with RMIT in Colombo.

**Strong demand for Masters of Fashion and Textiles**

The Masters of Fashion and Textiles by (Coursework) exceeded projected demand for Semester 2, 2009. This niche MBA is proving to be a success for international and Domestic students.

**Diary Insert**

**Postgraduate Information Sessions 2009 – Fashion and Textiles**

28th October 2009 @ 18:00
RMIT University, Info Corner, Cnr La Trobe and Swanston Street, Melbourne

**Research Update**

**State of the Art Equipment**

Research equipment in the form of a ‘newton manikin’ and ‘Sweating guarded hot plate’ has been received and will be commissioned over the next three months. This equipment will be used for research into performance apparel.

**Industry News**

**Phillip Butler joins TCF Innovation Council**

Mr Phillip Butler, a member of the Schools Textile Program Advisory Committee has been appointed Chair of the Commonwealth Government TCF Innovation Council. Phillip is chairman of Textor Textile Company.

**Program Profile**

**Program:** Textile Technology – Bachelor of Applied Science

**Pathways:** Bachelor of Applied Science (Textile Technology) graduates may undertake the Master of Technology (Textiles) by Research, subject to meeting the University’s entrance requirements and submission of a proposed research project which can be supported by the discipline area.

In addition, Bachelor of Applied Science (Textile Technology) graduates may undertake the Master of Fashion and Textiles by coursework.

**Career Prospects:** Graduates are employed in the areas of textile fabrics manufacturing, textile marketing and management, clothing and fashion. Typical employment roles are as product developers, textile technologists, technical managers, research and development managers and quality control managers.

For further information, contact grant.emerson@rmit.edu.au