

# ITAA NEWSLETTER



International Textile  
and Apparel Association

The Global Organization of Textile & Apparel Scholars



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## Time to Register for Celebrating the Unique! 2015 Conference in Santa Fe, November 10-13 Conference Co-Chairs: Jana Hawley and Mary Littrell

By Jana Hawley

Mary Littrell, Nancy Rutherford and I were all in Santa Fe recently as volunteers for the International Folk Art Market. Of course we also spent time working on conference details for our upcoming meeting! Nancy and I also had a chance to do an assessment of the local consignment shops. We are happy to report there are several great ones!



The renovations of the Eldorado Hotel are complete. Their newly remodeled spaces are perfect for meeting with your friends or holding committee meetings. The hotel is located steps away from the Santa Fe Plaza which serves as the heart of Santa Fe. On the Plaza you will find the Palace of the Governors portal where Native American vendors showcase their designs. The Plaza also has many eateries, boutiques, and museums. From the back door of the hotel you are literally across the street from the Georgia O'Keefe Museum. A slightly longer walk will take you up Canyon Road where you can explore more galleries and boutiques. With all the wonderful things Santa Fe has to offer, you might consider extending your trip so that you can enjoy this wonderful, but intimate city. If you are interested in having a unique spa experience, *Ten Thousand Waves* comes highly recommended, but you should schedule your appointments soon.

**Select your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Choices.** We have a fantastic meeting planned. The conference preliminary schedule is posted and we encourage you to consider both pre- and post-workshops. You will find full descriptions of workshops, theme speakers, tours, and Experience Santa Fe sessions on the ITAA website or in the previous newsletter. As you register, you will be asked to give 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for the Themed Sessions and the Experience Santa Fe. Molly Eckman serves as chair for *Experience Santa Fe*, and Pam Norum will chair the pre- and post-conference tours. We will do our best to place you into your preferred session, but we also know that some sessions will be more popular than others. Early registration will help you get your top choices! Register now and book your travel soon!

**Register for the Fundraiser.** As you complete your registration for the conference, we encourage you to consider attending the first Legacy Fundraiser on Friday night following the conference. Rumor has it that some spouses may be flying in to attend the fundraiser then spend the weekend enjoying the many things that Santa Fe offers. Holly Bastow-Shoop and Rita Kean have a fun-packed evening planned including great food, beverages, a shopping opportunity of some of the best-of-the best from the International Folk Art Market, and social time with friends. This event will be held on the rooftop/balcony of the hotel Presidential Suite. Be sure to bring a shawl or jacket, because Santa Fe can be chilly in November. Patio heaters will be provided. Proceeds from this event will help fund scholarships and faculty awards.

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**Celebrating the Unique****(continued from page 1)****Co-Chairs: Mary Littrell & Jana Hawley**

**New Design Scholarship Format.** This year's design exhibition will be a different mounted exhibit each day. Co-Chairs Ellen McKinney and Young-A Lee are hard at work making sure that these daily exhibits will be stellar. Designers will be with their designs at a designated time so that they can share what inspired them, what challenges they addressed, and what significance or contribution their design makes to design scholarship. This new format will allow our designers to truly showcase their work in an up-close view. Each afternoon, the designs will remain on display for the Santa Fe public to enjoy.

**Eating Out in Santa Fe.** On Wednesday and Thursday morning, our schedule will start with a plenary session featuring keynote speakers of the highest caliber. Breakfast is not served to the group on these two days, but we will be posting a list of nearby coffee shops and eateries for you to grab something before the keynote sessions begin. In fact, the restaurant in the hotel provides a fabulous, hearty breakfast at reasonable prices. Lunch will be included each day, and we encourage you to google some great restaurants for dinner. Many Santa Fe restaurants use the *OpenTable* app so we encourage you to download the app and make reservations.

Mary and I have planned a very special gift that you will receive with your registration bag made by an artisan group from Peru. Speaking of registration, I don't know how we could manage our conference without the dedicated help of Laurie Apple and the crew she pulls together each year to host our registration table. They are a hard-working and dedicated group.

Celebrating the Unique! Certainly Mary and I have a magnificent meeting planned and are excited about the unique opportunities we have scheduled. Come to Santa Fe ready to celebrate the unique!



Make sure you register for the Fundraiser! Artists from around the world will have their art for sale. Center is Judy Frater, the 2015 Jan Else International Scholar. Picture taken at Mary's house in Santa Fe following this year's International Folk Art Market.

# President's Message

By Missy Bye

## Greetings!

"It is almost impossible to imagine what the future will be when things are changing so rapidly, so dramatically, and so substantially. We all are the products of our own environments, and our existence and behaviors are the outcomes of the delicate interactions between our own determination and external forces." This is part of the introduction written by Jung Ha-Brookshire and Karen LaBat from the recent monograph *Envisioning Textiles and Apparel Research and Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*.

Is ITAA an external force pushing, guiding or leading us into the future? Two big messages on the current ITAA website are 'Celebrate the Unique' and 'Your support makes a difference'.

We are unique, and during the 2015 annual conference in Santa Fe we will have the opportunity to share our original teaching and research scholarship as well as listen and converse with international leaders in our field. With many of our speakers addressing issues of ethics and social responsibility in the textiles and apparel field we will be encouraged to have some meaningful conversations that may force us into change. A strong momentum towards change in ITAA took hold in Charlotte. With your insights and involvement, this momentum will continue moving towards creating an ITAA that is dynamic and visionary.

As we move forward, we are wise to remember and honor our history. One of the ways that we do this is



through our named scholarships that honor leaders in ITAA/ACPTC. Scholarships are the investment in our future that we cannot afford to overlook. The Legacy Group, made up of past ITAA presidents and fellows, wants to increase the number scholarships and amount of funding available in the scholarship funds, so we can better support our members and our students who will be our future members. They have started a Legacy Fund in honor of past ITAA Presidents and Fellows. Contributions to this fund and any of our other scholarships funds are welcome at any time during the year. At the conference this year, you will have the opportunity to donate to the Legacy Fund and have a little fun as well by attending the *Fiesta on the Roof* during the last night of the conference. Please join me as we wrap up what will be a conference that makes a difference!

Be sure to check out the International Textile and Apparel Association - Official Online Community on Facebook. Outstanding articles and links that have kept me informed and entertained!

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## Traveling to Santa Fe

Find information for air travel, shuttle services (including discount code), and parking for the 2015 Santa Fe Conference on the ITAA Conference Website, [Travel to Santa Fe](#) link.

# Two Years after the Rana Plaza Tragedy, What Has Changed?

By Sheng Lu and Marsha A. Dickson

University of Delaware

The Rana Plaza building collapse, which occurred on 24 April 2013 in Bangladesh and resulted in a death toll of 1,129, is THE worst single garment factory accident in history. From June 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> at the Harvard University, over 100 representatives from the Bangladesh garment industry, labor unions, leading U.S. and EU fashion brands and industry associations, key Bangladesh and U.S. government officials, international organizations, civil society and academia gathered at the 2015 Bangladesh Development Conference.<sup>1,2</sup> During the two-day open discussions, these various stakeholders of the tragedy shared first-hand updates on the Bangladesh garment industry and critically evaluated the effectiveness of the measures that have been taken in response to the accident. So what has changed two years after the tragedy?<sup>3</sup>

**First, garment factory inspection has been much strengthened in Bangladesh.** Indeed, as one of the most noticeable changes after the Rana Plaza tragedy, the Bangladesh garment factories are now facing more frequent safety inspections and audits conducted by various parties. In addition to the regular inspection conducted by individual fashion brand or retailer, two new inspection bodies, the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh (the Accord) and Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety (the Alliance) were established in 2013. Both the Accord and the Alliance are mainly funded by Western apparel brands sourcing from Bangladesh with the goal to maintain minimum safety standards in the Bangladesh garment industry. The inspections conducted by these two initiatives go into far greater depth than safety inspections occurring before the Rana Plaza building collapse, focusing not only on safety inside the factory but safety of the actual factory buildings.<sup>4</sup> When safety problems are found after the audits, the Accord and the Alliance provide technical and financial support to help factories correct the problem.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Finance Corporation (IFC, a member of the World Bank group) have also launched the “Better Work” program in collaboration with the Bangladesh government, garment factory owners, workers, fashion buyers and other relevant stakeholders. The program intends to provide assessments of factory compliance with national law and core international labor standards and support in building the capacity of factory management to address the problems found along with making improvements to productivity and product quality.<sup>5</sup>

While inspections have long been criticized for only pointing out problems, not providing solutions, brands and retailers seem to be serious about holding Bangladeshi manufacturers accountable for building safety. Public reporting of audit results by both the Accord and the Alliance, as well as the Better Work program will place further pressure on manufacturers to comply. Recent reports indicate that some manufacturers have begun to complete necessary repairs and the U.S.-led Alliance is partnering with the IFC to provide credit for others to complete the sometimes costly repairs.<sup>6</sup>

**Second, labor conditions are more closely tied to trade policy.** Some foreign governments are actively using trade policy as a leverage to push Bangladesh to improve working condition in the garment industry, although specific tactics vary among countries.

For example, the U.S. government decided to suspend Bangladesh’s Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) status in 2013 in response to the Rana Plaza tragedy.<sup>7</sup> As a GSP beneficiary, Bangladesh was able to enjoy duty free treatment for many merchandise exports to the United States. Because textile and apparel are excluded from GSP, the suspension itself has no direct impact on Bangladesh’s apparel exports to the United States. However, as a symbolic move, the suspension has significantly increased publicity of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) issue in the Bangladesh garment industry.

In comparison, the European Union chooses to continue providing Bangladesh its GSP benefits, which help Bangladesh save 10-30% tariff cost for its apparel exports to the European Union when competing with other Asian suppliers such as China and India. While granting Bangladesh the benefit, the European Union has also launched the GSP Action Plan and the Sustainability Compact programs to encourage responsible business practices in Bangladesh.

The efforts of U.S. and EU governments stand in contrast to what is perceived as more limited efforts of Bangladesh’s government to assure safety of workers in apparel factories.<sup>8</sup> Some believe that the Bangladeshi government, whose representatives include many apparel factory owners, could have done more to more diligently and effectively conduct its own factory audits, enforce labor laws, and assure that workers are safe and their rights are protected.<sup>9</sup>

**Third, the response to the tragedy has led to important social changes in Bangladesh.** For example, more labor unions have been established in garment factories in Bangladesh. Historically, labor unions were not allowed in export processing zones (EPZs). According to newly implemented labor law in Bangladesh,<sup>10</sup> a union can be formed with the support of 30 percent of the labor force in a factory. Furthermore “workers’ welfare associations” can be created in EPZs,<sup>11</sup> although they do not have the same operating freedoms as labor unions outside EPZs. Despite the progress, it is still of grave concern to some labor groups that the rate of unionization in Bangladesh is only about 5 percent and there continue to be cases of anti-union activity perpetuated by factory owners, such as firing workers for striking or joining unions, intimidation of workers who might wish to vote for a union, and violence against union organizers.<sup>12</sup>

Along with the establishment of labor unions, there has been more open discussions on “worker/women empowerment”, “social dialogue” and “stakeholder engagement” in the Bangladeshi society as well. Response to the Rana Plaza tragedy has further led to some calls for launching a broader economic, social and political reform in the country.

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## Two Years after the Rana Plaza Tragedy, What Has Changed?

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Fourth, the tragedy has attracted more scholarly work on the CSR practices in the garment industry, both in Bangladesh and globally. For example, based on analyzing the factory inspection data, some scholars have started to critically evaluate the effectiveness of the current inspection system by asking questions such as: does who pays for influence the inspection results? Do violations go down over time and with repeated inspections? And as factory owners and inspectors get more acquainted with each other through repeated inspections, will such a people-to-people relationship affect the inspection result? Some recent projects have attempted to develop an estimate of the true size of the Bangladesh garment industry<sup>6,13</sup> given that the Bangladesh government doesn't know how many garment factories they have in the country and the worst work conditions may exist in undocumented factories. There has also been a growing research interest among scholars to link a company's social compliance data with its business financial data so as to evaluate the business implication of different CSR practices. Additionally, some studies have started to compare the labor practices in Bangladesh with other developing South Asian countries such as Cambodia and Sri Lanka in hopes of finding common CSR solutions that can be applied to multiple countries.

Despite the positive changes, a few critical issues remain unsolved and will require more joint efforts among all stakeholders:

First, how to deal with sub-contracting remains a problem with no simple answer. On one hand, sub-contracting is regarded as an indispensable part of today's global apparel supply chain. On the other hand, factories undertaking sub-contracting work operate in a "black box"—many of them are off the chart for inspection and audit. Even industry representatives admit at the conference that they receive very few requests to approve sub-contracting in daily business, underscoring the fact that brands and retailers are frequently unable to trace their full global supply chains.

Second, response to the Rana Plaza tragedy somehow is getting more politicalized, which makes the case even more sensitive than before. For example, it is a worrisome sign at the conference that some important parties to the issue were not proposing constructive solutions to the problem, but rather were "selling" their own political ideology and agendas. Unfortunately, this hurts the atmosphere to have constructive dialogues among all stakeholders, especially when they have different views on the issue or with competing relationships in business.

Third, there is a clear divided view between the Bangladesh labor unions and the factory owners regarding the necessity and progress of unionization in the industry. Labor union leaders argue that it is workers' right to form labor unions, whereas factory owners worry that unionization may make the factory even more vulnerable to political instability in the country. Some questions proposed at the conference for consideration included: what are the channels to best represent labor interests in Bangladesh? Are labor union effective in operation? And what are effective alternative

mechanisms? Despite questions about the effectiveness of unions, making sure that apparel workers are educated about their rights and those rights are protected are thought to be key to ensuring that improvements in factory safety are sustained into the future.

Fourth, there is indication that an emerging trend in Bangladesh may be the development of new business models that promote manufacturing that is fairer to workers and more environmentally sustainable. For example, the Fair Labor Association has just accepted its first participating supplier from Bangladesh.<sup>14</sup> The manufacturer will over the next few years work to integrate the multistakeholder association's principles for fair labor and responsible production. Additionally, new fair trade initiatives are providing alternative employment for women spinners, handweavers, tailors and embroiderers in creation of handmade items who might have otherwise faced challenging working conditions in factories making ready-made garments.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ayres, A. (2014, April 24). A guide to the Rana Plaza tragedy, and its implications, in Bangladesh. *Forbes Asia*. Retrieved from <http://www.forbes.com/sites/alyssaayres/2014/04/24/a-guide-to-the-rana-plaza-tragedy-and-its-implications-in-bangladesh/>

<sup>2</sup>For detailed conference agenda, please see <http://southasiainstitute.harvard.edu/2015/06/schedule-transformation-challenges-and-opportunities-for-the-bangladesh-garment-industry/>

<sup>3</sup>Except otherwise noted, content of the paper is based on a summary of conference presentations and panel discussions.

<sup>4</sup>See for example, the Health & Safety portions of tracking charts from audits conducted by Fair Labor Association auditors (<http://www.fairlabor.org/transparency/tracking-charts>).

<sup>5</sup>For more information about the Better Work program, please see <http://betterwork.org/global/?p=3712>.

<sup>6</sup>Accord (2015, May 26). *ACCORD announces first factories to complete safety remediation 23 May 2015*. Retrieved from <http://bangladeshaccord.org/2015/05/accord-announces-first-factories-to-complete-safety-remediation-23-may-2015/>. PRNewswire (2015, July 7). *Alliance and IFC join forces on credit facility to finance improvements in garment factories in Bangladesh*. Retrieved from <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/alliance-and-ifc-join-forces-on-credit-facility-to-finance-improvements-in-garment-factories-in-bangladesh-300109506.html>.

<sup>7</sup>For more information about the United States suspended Bangladesh's GSP status, please see <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2015/january/gsp-review-bangladesh-recognizes>.

<sup>8</sup>Labowitz, S., & Baumann-Pauly, D. (2014). *Business as usual is not an option: Supply chains and sourcing after Rana Plaza*. Center for Business and Human Rights: New York University. Retrieved from [http://www.stern.nyu.edu/sites/default/files/assets/documents/con\\_047408.pdf](http://www.stern.nyu.edu/sites/default/files/assets/documents/con_047408.pdf).

<sup>9</sup>Chalmers, J. (2013, May 2). Special report: How textile kings weave a special hold on Bangladesh. *Reuters U.S. edition*. Retrieved from <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/02/us-bangladesh-garments-special-report-idUSBRE9411CX20130502>.

<sup>10</sup>Full text of the new Bangladesh Labor Law can be found at [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_protect/---protrav/---ilo\\_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms\\_229274.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_229274.pdf)

<sup>11</sup>Wadud, M. (2014, June 22). *Bangladesh workers get justice via workers' associations*. Retrieved from <http://www.solidaritycenter.org/bangladesh-workers-get-justice-via-workers-associations/>.

<sup>12</sup>Yee, A. (2015, May 1). Labor unions gaining ground in Bangladesh garment industry. *Voice of America*. Retrieved from <http://www.voanews.com/content/labor-unions-bangladesh-garment-industry/2744414.html>.

<sup>13</sup>For more information about the research project, please see <http://www.stern.nyu.edu/experience-stern/tales-in-possible/map-possible-cbhr-bangladesh>.

<sup>14</sup>The second author is on the board of directors for the Fair Labor Association and votes on company affiliations.

<sup>15</sup>Siegle, L. (2015, July 5). Zandra Rhodes: Weaving a new society. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/>

## Advice Column for Graduate Students Preparing for Careers in the Academy

### Q&A

Part of my vision as the 2015 Graduate Student Liaison is to feature professional development issues that affect graduate students as future faculty and leaders in the academy. This Q&A is the second part of a three-part series of interviews conducted through email, phone or face-to-face conversations with graduate faculty and administrators at the University of Missouri who impact the lives of graduate students.

I interviewed Dr. Mannie Liscum, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Arts & Science, Professor of Biology, and former Assistant Vice Provost for Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs, for this second piece. What follows is a summary of our email communication.

*Q:* "What is the most important piece of advice that you can give graduate students, as they prepare for a career in the academy?"

*Dr. Liscum:* "Simple to answer, more challenging to achieve, but totally worth the effort: investigate and consider all your options! As my colleague Dr. Kitchel noted, finding and utilizing good mentors (yes plural) is a solid first step. I would however add a bit of caution in that a vast majority of academics have quite limited professional experience and may

have even more limited views of the academic landscape. For example, I was trained at research-intensive universities and have only held a faculty position at a research-intensive university; hence, my personal experience on which I can draw is extremely narrow. Seek out broad advice from broadly experienced people. Explore professional development opportunities (i.e., Preparing Future Faculty programs, peer-mentoring experiences, departmental teaching and service options, etc.). Make 'informed' decisions about your career and life path(s). Remember: 'You cannot turn down something you never consider'."



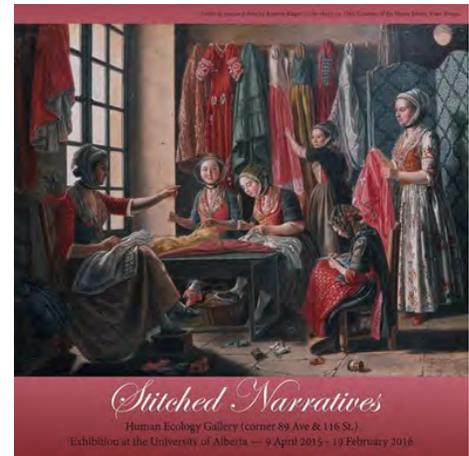
Dr. Mannie Liscum

-by Angela Uriyo

2015 ITAA Graduate Student Liaison  
Doctoral student at University of Missouri

## Stitched Narratives

Stitched objects communicate powerful ideas to those who understand a needle's language. Though they speak differently than words on a page, seamstresses' and embroiderers' creations are rich in cultural, historical, and social meaning. "Stitched Narratives" explores these modes of expression, unraveling hand sewing's complex stories. From eighteenth-century gowns and quilted textiles that speak of a highly organized and skilled labour force to twentieth-century garments that link the present to the past to remember a journey of immigration, the exhibition tells woven tales and showcases the hand's many talents.



This project is on display in the Human Ecology Gallery until February 19, 2016, and was co-curated by the instructor of the graduate course "Material Culture and Curatorship," Dr. Anne Bissonnette, and its students: Larisa Cheladyn, Stephanie Huolt, Robyn Stobbs and Sarah Woodyard. It is sponsored by The Kule Institute for Advanced Study and The Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives at the University of Alberta. For more information, log in to <http://hecol.museums.ualberta.ca/ClothingAndTextiles/Exhibitions.aspx>.

Anne Bissonnette, PhD  
Associate Professor, Material Culture and Curatorship  
Curator, [Clothing and Textiles Collection](#)  
325 Human Ecology Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2N1  
Tel: 780-492-3604 / Fax: 780-492-4821  
E-mail: [anne.bissonnette@ualberta.ca](mailto:anne.bissonnette@ualberta.ca)

# OPTITEX



## Inspire Digitally – Optitex Design in Technology Award

**Award:** One summer internship with Academy Sports + Outdoors Global Sourcing & Product Development (summer 2016) + 6 month Optitex full 3D software license. (Internship at corporate office subject to candidate meeting Academy Sports + Outdoors employment requirements)

**Project Name:** *Actively Pursuing Digital Design*

**Inspiration:** The New Neon

**Applicant level:** Juniors, Seniors, Graduate Students as of June 1st, 2016.

Graduate Students must be ITAA Members; Junior and Senior Undergraduate Students do not need to be ITAA members, but must be sponsored by a Design Mentor who is an ITAA member

**Category:** Active – Women (Comfortable Hi Impact Active Movement)

**Requirements:**

Submit 3-4 garments including at least one top and one bottom through the following materials: Digital pattern

Tech pack

Model Measurements Inspiration

Board

Picture of one finished garment (Front, Back, Side)

Graphic file of print/texture if applicable

All submissions are to be sent electronically to [contest@optitex.com](mailto:contest@optitex.com) no later than October 23rd, 2015.

Questions? Contact Sabrina Cove, [sabrina.cove@optitex.com](mailto:sabrina.cove@optitex.com).

**Winner:** will be announced at the ITAA 2015 Annual Conference. Designs will be featured in Optitex booth at ITAA Conference and will become property of Academy Sports + Outdoors with potential to be sold in Academy Sport + Outdoors stores.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of US, age 18 or older. Limit (1) Contest entry per person. For complete details about your rights and obligations and Sponsors' rights to the entries submitted, see Official Rules at <http://www.academy.com/officialrules>. Sponsors: Academy Sports + Outdoors, 1800 North Mason Road, Katy, TX 77449 and Optitex North America ("Optitex"), 333 West 39th Street, Suite 301, New York, NY 10018.

## Position Announcements Posted Since Last Newsletter

Professor and Chair, Department of Merchandising and Digital Retailing, University of North Texas, [click here](#)  
 Dean, College of Textiles, North Carolina State University, [click here](#)  
 Research Assistant Professor in Fashion and Textile Technology (2 positions), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, [click here](#)  
 Research Assistant Professor in Fashion Business, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, [click here](#)  
 Assistant Professor in Fashion and Textile Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, [click here](#)  
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 Associate Professor in Apparel Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, [click here](#)  
 Assistant Professor - Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design, The University of Rhode Island, [click here](#)  
 Lecturer - Fashion Textiles, State University of New York at Oneonta, [click here](#)  
 Director - School of Design and Community Development, West Virginia University, [click here](#)  
 Assistant Professor - Apparel Design Technology, Kansas State University, [click here](#)

## Call for Papers

**Behind the Glamor of Fashion. 2016 ITAA-GAMMA Joint Symposium at Hong Kong.** July 21-24, 2016, to be held at the "2016 Global Marketing Conference at Hong Kong. We are interested in providing opportunities to share research findings, innovative teaching strategies, and concept papers that explore and investigate issues related to the dark side of fashion. As there are many phases to fashion from ideation, design, production, distribution, sale, consumption, and ultimately disposal, there are many instances where misbehavior can occur within the design process, (e.g., designers who co-opt the designs of others) manufacturing (e.g., production of fakes, exploitation of workers), retailing (e.g., objectification of men, women and children in advertising, labor abuses), and consumption (e.g., hoarding, merchandise borrowing, stealing, buying items that are never used, retail therapy, return fraud, compulsive shopping). Fashion has a dark side. Through a series of scholarly presentations and panel discussions (if proposed) the symposium participants will explore and investigate what goes on behind the glamor of fashion. Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2016. For more information, see [Full Call](#).

**The Full Cleveland: Dress as Communication, Self-Expression and Identity.** The Costume Society of America's 42nd Annual Symposium, May 24-29, 2016, Cleveland, Ohio. Deadline for submissions is October 16, 2015. For more information, see [full call](#).

**Popular Culture Association & American Culture Association's (PCA/ACA) 2016 National Conference.** March 21-25, Seattle, Washington. **Fashion, Style, Appearance, Consumption & Design** is seeking paper proposals for oral presentation at the annual conference. Deadline for submissions is October 15, 2015. For more information, see [full call](#).

## In Celebration of Dr. Margaret Ordoñez

### Education, Conservation, and Inspiration in Dress and Textile Studies Symposium

September 25-26, 2015 at the University of Rhode Island, Quinn Hall, Kingston, RI

Symposium and Benefit to support the URI Foundation Margaret Ordoñez Endowment for the Historic Textile and Costume Collection Management Position. For full schedule, list of presentations, and registration, see [Full Announcement](#).

## Flipping the Classroom: Best Practices

The TTR committee is proposing "Flipping the Classroom: Best Practices" for the Rutherford II Challenge. Submission criteria and relevant details will be forthcoming soon.

## ITAA Fellows

Learn more about ITAA Fellows, members recognized for outstanding contributions to the textile and apparel discipline and for service to ITAA. Original announcements, photos, and updates have been added to the [List of ITAA Fellows](#) on the ITAA website.

### ITAA Newsletter Editorial Staff

Editor: Vanessa Jackson, University of Kentucky  
E-mail: [vpjackson@uky.edu](mailto:vpjackson@uky.edu)

Media Review Editor: Cynthia Jasper, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
E-mail: [crjasper@wisc.edu](mailto:crjasper@wisc.edu)

Managing Editor: Nancy Rutherford  
E-Mail: [executive\\_director@itaaonline.org](mailto:executive_director@itaaonline.org)

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Email newsletter copy to Vanessa Jackson by the following dates: January 15 (for February issue), March 15 (for April issue), May 15 (for June issue), July 15 (for August issue), September 15 (for October issue), and November 15 (for December issue). Article, book, thesis, and dissertation titles can be submitted to Editor for each newsletter..