

**Practice  
Research  
Symposium**

**Candidate  
Abstracts**

**Graduate  
Research  
Conference**

Anna Anisimova  
Carolyn Xerri  
Cecilia Heffer  
Kate Kennedy  
Kate Sala  
Laura Gardner  
Liam Revell  
Lucie Ketelsen  
Vinod Kadam

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## **Schedule**

**513.2.12  
Brunswick**

**October 23  
FRIDAY**

10.00 - 10.50  
Vinod Kadam

11.00 - 11.50  
Kate Kennedy

12.00 - 12.50  
Carolyn Xerri

**Pavilion 1  
Design Hub**

**October 24  
SATURDAY**

10.30 - 11.20  
Kate Sala

11.30-12.30  
Anna Anisimova

1.30 - 2.20  
Lucie Ketelsen

2.30 - 3.20  
Cecilia Heffer

4.00 - 4.50  
Laura Gardner

5.00 - 5.50  
Liam Revell

**Candidate  
Abstracts**



## Maternity Apparel in Australia: A study of how social perceptions of pregnancy affect the historical development and contemporary expression of maternity garment design.

Anna Anisimova, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)



### **MATERNITY APPAREL IN AUSTRALIA: A STUDY OF HOW SOCIAL PERCEPTIONS OF PREGNANCY AFFECT THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSION OF MATERNITY GARMENT DESIGN.**

KEY WORDS: MATERNITY WEAR, AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S CLOTHING, UNIFORMS, SOCIOLOGY OF FASHION, FASHION HISTORY

Anna Anisimova  
DR213 PhD (Fashion & Textiles)

Maternity wear is an under-researched topic worldwide and especially in Australia. There have been a couple of significant research projects done in the area in the past, however they are losing their relevance with time. This fact makes new research both useful and desirable, not only for the study of fashion but also for the fashion and textile industry. Additionally, the growing market for maternity apparel

in Australia underlines the importance of emerging research in this area.

Current research investigates the relationship between pregnancy, as a certain physical and social stage of a woman's life, and the maternity garment, as a practical object with obvious functions but also as a powerful social signifier.

Looking at maternity wear from a historical perspective, starting from the beginnings of western dress to modern practices, we can discern the alternation of concealment and exposure of the pregnancy. This alternation has a direct impact on maternity garment design, and for that reason deserves careful analysis. This research aims to define the core elements of maternity garments, using the methods of historical dress analysis and modern case studies. It examines ways in which these elements could be incorporated in maternity wear design, and the potential usefulness of the historical analysis of maternity garments to contemporary product design and development.

## Cut Make Trim: Exploring sampling and manufacturing practices of contemporary micro fashion labels

Carolyn Xerri, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)

This research project will investigate the sampling and manufacturing practices of contemporary designer-driven fashion labels that operate as micro sized enterprises (MSE's) in Melbourne, Australia.

Taking a case study approach, the research will examine how MSE's operate within the global fashion industry, and the broader Australian design community. A series of semi structured interviews will be held with creative practitioners from four designer-driven MSE's who are in the business of creating high-end collections within the Melbourne fashion landscape. The research will examine the complexities associated within the sampling and manufacturing framework of these MSE's and look for where each are tailoring innovative solutions that work within the context of their specific business models.

Understanding the critical elements and barriers associated with the sampling and manufacturing framework of MSE's, could facilitate the development of a modal to better support these processes.



## Re-imagining Lace: Re-conceptualising our spatial experience of textiles

08

Cecilia Heffer, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)



Re-imagining lace: re-conceptualising our spatial experience of textiles

**place making, immaterial form, shadow, permeable boundary**

Notions of lace are traditionally embedded in a set of preconceived ideas around social and cultural histories. Over the last decade interdisciplinary engagement with lace making has opened up a new emerging space for designers to extend the technologies and materials with which they make textiles. Consequently the ways in which we perceive and experience textiles are also coming into question.

While we engage with cloth physically, how can we extend our spatial experience of a textile? Notions of absence and presence explore lace as a genre for cultural narrative and place making. Research breaks away from traditional lace construction and motif and looks at the use of immaterial form in textiles. How can a lace environment embody the ephemeral qualities experienced in our unique landscape?

This study looks at what happens when a contemporary lace maker explores new digital technologies and engages with interdisciplinary collaborations as a means to expand the field of textiles.

Cecilia Heffer  
Fashion & Textiles / PhD

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## Body of Work: The application of parametric principles for apparel design and development

Kate Kennedy, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)



Herman II aspires: travelling along the z plane

Herman II aspires: travelling along the z plane

The intention is to provoke consideration of 'fashions' habituation with an average, standard or ideal body. If the ideal is the outlier, what is fashion's normal? Which body types are excluded from the fashion system? Or is the system deranged and in a state of anomie without (sizing) norms. Does this matter? The future of fashion and apparel design may be better served by semi or mass customisation that incorporates virtual digital technologies within the production cycle. Thus three members of Confronting Morphology, a creative work exhibited in Santa Croce, Florence, Momenting the Momento IFFT1 10th - 15th May 2015, invite the viewer to consider morphological anthropometric diversity in a human micro scale by questioning:

The aim of my research investigation is to develop a parametric model for the design and development of apparel. The research objectives are to identify, develop and evaluate a model for apparel design and development using parametric design principals.

- o What is Herman II's relationship to symmetry?
- o Why is Claudia the chosen one?
- o How Imogen's digital bespoke algorithm is best defined?

## Exploring the role of transformative learning and transformative practice in sustainable fashion education.

Kate Sala, Master of Design (Fashion & Textiles)

How can we influence the way emerging designers are relating to notions of sustainability through a study of transformative learning and fashion practices?

This research project identifies and examines different transformative educational practices and methods through which fashion design students are introduced to perspectives on sustainability. The project will begin with defining what a transformative fashion practice is, what it looks like, and what its function is in regards to sustainable fashion education.

The research methods employed will include interviews and student surveys, as well as a comparative research case study into a select group of local and international university fashion design programs. It will explore the particular sustainable fashion-orientated projects that these universities have established, and examine the process through which they might encourage a dialogue about transformative practice in sustainable fashion, and thus new forms of fashion practice.



## Machines for re-making fashion: Alternative editorial practice and the fashion system

Laura Gardner, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)

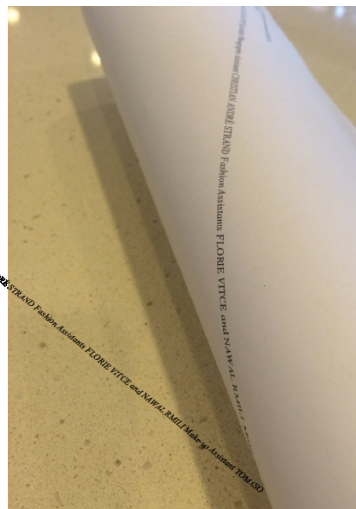
Editorial practice is embedded in the production, dissemination and consumption of fashion. Printed matter from mainstream media to the fringes of the fashion system is a site essential to our understanding of the fashion garment with a complexity we are only beginning to unravel in fashion discourse. As such, critical engagement with the fashion system through alternative editorial outcomes has the potential to subvert, conceptualise and divert traditional notions of fashion.

Through my practice as an editor, I will examine a community of practitioners critically engaging with the fashion system through independent editorial ventures. It is within this context, that I will create publishing projects that present new ways of working in the editorial space and engaging with the subject of fashion. The aim of the PhD by project will be to contribute to a more diverse discourse on fashion communication and the potential for non-mainstream practices within it through the perspective of an insider researcher.

Alternative editorial practice  
and the fashion system  
Laura Gardner  
PhD (Fashion and Textiles)  
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Machines for re-making fashion:  
Alternative editorial practice and the fashion system

Laura Gardner  
PhD (Fashion and Textiles)



## Pictured L – R: Words and fashion

Liam Revell, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)

*Pictured L-R: words and fashion* proposes that words hold the capacity to offer fashion designers ways of investigating, developing and structuring ideas in the design process. In partnership words and images present the designer with a repository of information, yet which is more important – words or images? While I see both as maintaining a role in the design process I propose that it is words that hold the greater potential to provoke imagination in design as they present a designer with a variety of ways of interpreting material gathered in response to a germinal idea. The project is being guided by three main themes that I have defined as the components of the design process - text, images and authorship.



## Pictured L - R: words and fashion design.

Key words: Text, Image, Authorship, Design Process.

## An 'antifragile' approach to surface design on synthetics embracing the poetry of the man made & artificial

Lucie Ketelsen, Master of Design (Fashion & Textiles)

A significant challenge facing the fashion and textiles sector is addressing the rampant consumption of products derived from non-renewable resources. A popular, ideologically conservative response to these complex challenges has

ostensibly been about exploring a privileged position that romanticises a green, 'pure' lifestyle. Such approaches have erroneously been termed 'sustainability', but are distinctly out of step with real world consumption patterns.

The project explores a making practice which is sensitive to a human experience in a sprawling urban environment and which acknowledges our inevitable complicity in synthetics use and disposal.

Situated in Saigon, the local context will serve as a site of production, consumption and narrative. The project will investigate a source of materials on which to experiment and an urban landscape from which to explore the fleeting in the persisting language of the synthetic.

Through a design process integrating craft based techniques with digital technologies, exploring stochastic experimentation on used garments & found materials - the practice will investigate the idea that expired commodities can be invested with a story.



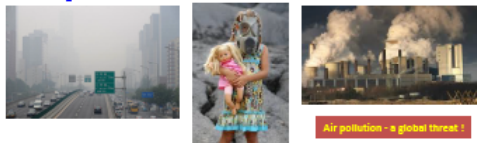
## Electrospun nanofibre membrane for air filtration and detoxification

Vinod Kadam, PhD (Fashion & Textiles)



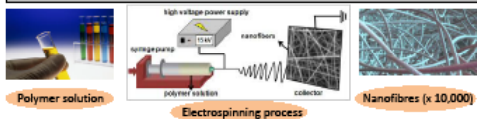
School of Fashion and Textiles  
Graduate Research Conference,  
October 24, 2015

### Electrospun nanofibre membrane for air filtration and detoxification



Air pollution - a global threat!

**Summary:** Air pollution is ubiquitous. The particulate matter and gaseous pollutants in the air adversely affect human health. It is necessary to remove, adsorb and entrap pollutants in the ambient air before breathing. The research aims to prepare advanced air filter material which can protect humans from small and invisible pollutants. The research will underpin the use of nanofibres towards capturing tiny particles and detoxifying invisible chemicals in the surrounding air. The nanofibres, which have a high surface area to volume ratio, will be prepared using electrospinning technology. Nanofibre membranes produced from different polymers and additives will be characterized using microscopic techniques. The air filters developed in the study will not only filter particulate matter but also detoxify the gaseous pollutants such as oxides of nitrogen and formaldehyde in the air.



**Hypothesis:** Electrospun nanofibre membranes in air filtration simultaneously capture particulate matter and gaseous pollutants

#### Objectives:


- To prepare electrospun nanofibre membranes with
  - high particulate filtration efficiency
  - low pressure drop
  - ability to capture gaseous pollutants

**Supervisors:**  
Dr Rajiv Padhye  
Dr Liang Wang

**Program:** PhD (Fashion and Textiles)  
**Program code:** DR213  
**Student's name:** Vinod Kadam



Air pollution is ubiquitous. The particulate matter and gaseous pollutants in the air adversely affect human health. It is necessary to remove, adsorb and entrap pollutants in the ambient air before breathing. The simultaneous removal of different types of pollutants requires advanced air filtration material. The research aims to prepare such a material which can protect humans from small and invisible pollutants. The research will underpin the use of nanofibres towards capturing tiny particles and detoxifying invisible chemicals in the surrounding air. The nanofibres, which have a high surface area to volume ratio, will be prepared using electrospinning technology. Nanofibre membranes produced from different polymers and additives will be characterized using microscopic techniques. The air filtration efficiency and resistance to air flow in terms of pressure drop will be evaluated. The air filters developed in the study will not only remove particulate matter pollutants but also detoxify the gaseous pollutants such as oxides of nitrogen and formaldehyde in the air.



**Thank  
you**



The School of Fashion & Textiles would like to thank the candidates, panel members and supervisors; Professor Robyn Healy, Head of School - Fashion & Textiles, and the School of Architecture & Design, and PRS Australia for their support.

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