

School of Fashion and Textiles

Candidate abstracts

Practice Research Symposium

The Design Hub

(in collaboration with the School of Architecture & Design)

25 October 2014

Lisa Carroll - Masters

Augmented dimensionality: sampling the visual depth of textile surfaces

'Augmented dimensionality' investigates the modifications of textile print production in the fashion manufacturing chain as a result of technological shifts. Through sampling, the research will examine the amalgamation of the analogue/digital in design and printing applications with the purpose to enhance and exploit the processes to produce a qualitative value to the fabrics' surface.

A principal issue of my textile practice is the transference of design and print applications from the analogue traditional design and printing skills towards the digital era. The impetus for this research is to explore the attributes that an experienced textile design printer can use to integrate these digital tools with the customary analogue devices. The aim is to synthesise the analogue design and printing techniques with their digital equivalents.

Leah Heiss - PhD

Emotional Technologies: Designing wearables to re-engage the human in health and wellbeing

Through my PhD I am investigating the emotional relationship that exists between people and their health technologies and interrogating the critical role of design in the development of therapeutic artefacts. I am interested in repositioning therapeutic devices (drug delivery, monitoring and diagnostic technologies) as 'emotional artefacts' with which users may have a strong intimate connection. This 'emotional' framework is familiar when contemplating jewellery, but less so when developing therapeutic devices. It is through the merging of 'jewellery concerns' such as the intimate relationship that people have with their wearable artefacts, with 'medical concerns' that I aim to create objects and devices that connect with people on an emotional level, but also keep them alive.

Matthew Linde – PhD

Free Markets: Curatorial Strategies for Propositional Fashion Practice

The curatorial site has the ability to open new discursive performances of fashion practice that activate both the social body and material differences. Through *Centre for Style*, a store and exhibition space I direct, my research is invested in exploring fashion productions through curatorial strategies. Moving beyond the museological model, *Centre for Style* is a quasi-institution, retail space and editorialized image, mobilizing itself as a point of exchange between commodity and contemplation, conflating fashion's object and subject. How fashion practice can be experienced, exchanged and re-appropriated into new forms through curatorial methods generates the central questions of my research. Installation, performance, poetry and publication delineate the main activities through which these questions are investigated.

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Emma Lynas - PhD

Slow design in a material world: In what ways can textile designers foster deeper connections between people and material possessions?

The underlying objective of this research project is to explore ways in which designers can encourage consumers to engage with textiles and clothing on a deeper level. The *slow* method of design inquiry is being used to better understand both my practice as a Textile Designer and reasons behind material consumption. Through a series of small practice based projects the concepts of; heritage, memory, aspiration, performance and value are explored within the context of emotionally durable design and connectivity. I am currently exploring reasons for attachment and detachment between people and material possessions.

Kate Kennedy - PhD

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

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. As project based research my methods anticipate deconstructing traditional approaches to apparel design via an investigation into the variables of the body garment relationship.

Explorations in scale and model making (*Somatic Topography*, 2013) have evolved into an anthropometric archive of 50 3D printed 1/16th scale avatars (*Body Collective*, The Future is Here, RMIT Design Hub, September 2014) from 3D body scan data. Seeing the range of body sizes and shapes helps to re-think cultural, age and gender stereotypes and to question the use of the 'average'.

Liam Revell - PhD

Pictured L – R: Fashion and Language

The PhD proposes to investigate the use of descriptive language in fashion, how it contributes to design thinking and the potential it holds on the experience of fashion and the fashion product. The exploration of language refers to aspects of art and design theory, architectural theory, linguistics and the philosophy of language. The projects for this research will investigate how language speaks fashion and the 'cosmic' aspects of text, that is, how its arrangement and manipulation contributes to form and its decoration.

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Graduate Research Conference

Brunswick campus

28 October 2014

Josephine Aboagyewaa-Ntiri - PhD

The Diffusion of Adinkra Symbols in the Modern Ghanaian Clothing and Textile Industry

The aim is to incorporate traditional adinkra symbols into more meaningful use in the modern Ghanaian society. The modern space includes diversification of colours, the use of lightweight fabrics and the use of fast dyes on the cloth. This research is to capture the meaning of adinkra symbols and examine further application of their use to avoid a state of redundancy and preserve the uniqueness of the symbols by adopting them for use in a broader range of activities. The research embraces traditional skills and the application of technology that can be adopted to the taste of a wider market. Emphasis will be placed on the educative meaning of the symbols in the Ghanaian textile and clothing industry.

Luise Adams - PhD

21st Century Bespoke Design: The Resurgence of the Hand

I am investigating parallels & relationships between the 19th Century Arts & Crafts Movement & 21st Century Arts & Crafts aided by the digital world. Does evidence of the 'hand' in artwork, design & craft alter our perception of value & does the desire by contemporary designers to create handmade objects stem from this belief? How can a digital contribution assist the handmade? Independent Art & Design Markets have burgeoned in Australia over the last decade. As a Designer-Maker who participates in markets, I have been investigating the views of other participants & have also been exploring these ideas by reflecting upon my own practice as a commercial textile designer, designer of handmade products & artist.

Muhammad Asif – PhD

The impact of political disruptions on textile supply chain performance in Pakistan

This study explores how political instability impact on supply chain, which in the turn affect supply chain performance of the textile industry in Pakistan. A qualitative methodology was adopted to explore the deeper understanding of the thought processes involved in establishing relationships between political instability and textile supply chain performance. Given the sensitivity associated with political instability, semi-structured interviews were conducted from 25 different textile-manufacturing firms. These interviews have generated rich data to help gaining insight and deeper understanding of key supply chain issues. Transcript are coded and analyzed in NVivo software. Initial results are interpreted using key themes across cases and cross-cases. Findings are mismatch between the production plan and execution, delivery lead time issues, disruptions impact on supply chain performance and political instability impact on supply chain performance. Findings of this study shows impact of political instability on supply chain performance and results of this study confirm the role and importance of political instability in managing supply chains. Political instability is seen as an intervening factor that directly disrupts a supply chain through increasing the production and delivery lead time, causing transportation delays, impacting on raw material quality and reduced supply to skilled workers. The evidence presented in this study makes a compelling case that the negative consequences of political instability on supply chain performance cannot be ignored. Furthermore, textile firms are increasingly exploring of shoring of textile manufacturing to other more political stable locations (countries).

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Olga Gavrilenko - Masters

3D surface print design continuity: Seamless integration of digital printing technology in computer aided design and product development

The seamless integration of digital textile printing technology in computer aided design and product development has posed numerous challenges. This research will determine the factors that hinder the adoption of digital textile printing as a mainstream technology from a print design continuity perspective.

Traditionally engineered prints require manual alterations. This research will develop a process to streamline the transfer of graphic assets from computer aided design and product development stage to manufacturing uninterruptedly.

Javid Jalvandi - PhD

Biodegradable electrospun nanofibres for medical application (drug delivery system)

Levofloxacin as a model drug was conjugated to the thiol functionalised mesoporous silica nanoparticles. EDC was used as crosslinking agent to conjugate the model drug to the functionalised MSNs and form a thioester bond in final product. Conjugation was confirmed by DSC study and Hydrolysis reaction test. Drug-conjugated MSNs showed long lasting release profile than drug-loaded MSNs due to the hydrolysis of thioester bonds in conjugated MSNs in a long term. Hydrolysis reaction test showed no release (thioester bonds breaking) when it was tested in dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2) due to lack of oxygen in the medium to hydrolyse and break the thioester bonds while there is cumulative release of a drug from conjugated MSNs when soaked in buffer saline solution (PBS). Composite drug conjugated MSNs/PCL nanofibers are to be electrospun.

Tess Mercer - Masters

Visualising Latent Bloodstains on Dark Fabrics

The visualisation of bloodstains is crucial in piecing together crime scenes. Through discussions with the Forensic Divisions around Australia it has been revealed that some dark fabrics block the visibility of blood under Near-Infrared photography. It is reasonable to consider dyestuffs as the cause of this camouflaging effect. This project aims to understand the relationship between blood and a dyed substrate which camouflages it. An investigation into visualising these challenging latent bloodstains in a non-destructive manner will be explored. Blood Pattern Analysts depend on the ability to view all bloodstains at a crime scene in order to reconstruct events, support the conviction of the guilty and exonerate the innocent.