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2013 News

TEXTILE AND APPAREL STUDIES WELCOMES 9 INTERNATIONALS TO WMU

Dec. 5



The Textile and Apparel Studies faculty recently welcomed nine women from Bangladesh, Myanmar, and India to the WMU campus. The visitors are apparel and design professionals visiting the US as part of the State Department's International Visitor's Leadership Program (ILVP). The program arranges short-term visits by emerging professionals in their field to experience the US firsthand and cultivate relationships with their American counterparts. Faculty and ILVP participants toured WMU apparel and interior design facilities, and shared higher education training models and industry trends in the US and in visitor countries.

FCS STUDENT STARTS NEW STUDENT ORGANIZATION: THE STUDENT DESIGN SHOWCASE

Dec. 5



Sarah Lyons, a Textile and Apparel Studies student in the Family and Consumer Sciences department has always shown much promise amongst her peers and instructors. After winning Best Apparel Construction in the MODA fashion show in the fall of 2012, winning first place at the Fashion on the Shore Runway Event in St. Joseph, Michigan, and a summer internship at Kleinfeld Bridal, where TLC films the program Say Yes to the Dress, Sarah did not stop.

Lyons returned to WMU this fall with a full schedule. In between classes, finishing her application to FIT in New York City, and working she became a founder of a new student organization named Student Design Showcase. The Student Design Showcase helps young fashion designers develop skills outside of the offered classes. As the secretary Lyons helps students broaden their skill set by planning workshops, running design challenges, and planning an end of the year design showcase. She's even created a new line for the March 2014 showcase.

The new student organization shows as much promise as its founder, Sarah Lyons and the College of Education and Human Development congratulate Sarah on all of her hard work.

FCS PROFESSOR TAKES SABBATICAL TO STUDY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN UKRAINE

Dec. 4



Dr. Zinser, a professor in the Family and Consumer Sciences department, recently took a sabbatical to study vocational education in Ukraine. He was interested to find out how the education system had changed in Ukraine since independence from the Soviet Union. This exploratory study used the ethnographic research framework.

Zinser was able to visit seven cities and conducted interviews at 29 educational institutions.

While doing so, he found an interesting mix of traditions from the soviet era and modern European practices.

Also in his findings was a “generation gap” within the society between those who were educated under the old and new systems, which made for interesting discussions. Zinser speaks highly of the people he worked with while in the Ukraine, stating that overall “it was a great

experience.” Zinser is still in the process of analyzing and writing the results, which will be published in a variety of formats for different audiences.

NEW ONLINE PEER REVIEW JOURNAL LAUNCHING ONLINE: GRANDFAMILIES: THE CONTEMPORARY JOURNAL OF RESEARCH, PRACTICE AND POLICY

Nov. 14

Current faculty members Dr. Andrea Smith of TLES and retired Chair Dr. Linda Dannison of FCS have been the primary WMU faculty behind launching a new online peer review journal. GrandFamilies: The Contemporary Journal of Research, Practice and Policy will be housed in the WMU’s Scholar Works and is being produced by the National Research Center for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and is a collaborative initiative between Georgia State and Western Michigan universities.

The journal went live on November 7, 2013, and is accepting manuscript submissions for the first edition. The first publication is scheduled for late February or early March. Email completed manuscript submissions or questions to Deborah Langosch, co-editor of GrandFamilies.

TEXTILE AND APPAREL FACULTY MEMBERS PRESENT AT NATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Oct. 23

Three Textile and Apparel faculty members recently presented their research and creative work at the International Textile and Apparel Association's annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Nicole Eckerson exhibited her creative work, Structured Elegance, a 2-piece couture-inspired silk suit in the juried design exhibition. Kelly Weathers and Dr. Barbara Frazier presented Engaging Fashion Majors in the Community: Outcomes of a Service Learning Project, which described a high school mentorship program in Textile and Apparel Studies. Dr. Frazier also presented Shifting Paradigms: Competencies for 21st Century Retail/Merchandising Graduates, which reported results of a national survey identifying employers' views on skills that university graduates need for career success in the retail industry.

The International Textile and Apparel Association is a professional organization whose members include educators and professionals dedicated to advancing excellence in education and scholarship in the textile and apparel discipline.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR CO-WROTE ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN CHILD & FAMILY SOCIAL WORK

Oct. 21

New Assistant Professor Sherria Taylor co-wrote an article, "The roles of social support and family resilience in accessing health care and employment resources among families living in

traditional public housing communities” that has been published in scholarly journal: Child & Family Social Work.

PROFESSOR APPOINTED TO NATIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

Sept. 25

A professor at Western Michigan University has been [appointed to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards](#), serving as a member of the committee that will revise the Career and Technical Education Standards.

CTE PROFESSOR SELECTED AS VISITING SCHOLAR

April 16

Dr. Adam Manley, assistant professor of career and technical education, has been selected as a visiting scholar for the 2013 National Training Institute's program for industrial and technical teacher educators and trainers. The National Joint Apprenticeship and Training committee for the Electrical Industry hosts the summer training institute. The visiting scholar program was established in 2006 to recruit outstanding industrial and technical education professionals to teach at the summer institute.

INTERIOR DESIGN STUDENTS VISIT HERMAN MILLER

March 28



Interior design students enrolled in Beth Jarl's Studio III class recently visited Herman Miller's corporate headquarters buildings. The class toured the manufacturing floor of the Green House where they saw task seating being made. They also visited the newly renovated design yard that uses the canvas furniture system, which the students are assigned to apply to their current assignments this semester. This trip was planned as part of the research phase of the office design project.

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OUTSTANDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION RESEARCH JOURNAL ARTICLE AWARD

Jan. 15

Dr. Adam Manley, Assistant Professor in Career and Technical Education (CTE), recently received The Outstanding Career and Technical Education Research Journal Article Award. This is an award granted by the Association of CTE Research (ACTER). The journal is the top research journal in the CTE field. It is an honor bestowed to one individual each year.