

TEXTILE + DESIGN LAB

MARCH NEWSLETTER

e-Textiles symposium planned for October

The Textile and Design Lab is planning to host New Zealand's first public e-Textiles symposium in October this year. Two prominent overseas researchers in this field have been invited and the TDL is asking for expressions of interest for presentations from the commercial, educational and research sectors. Interested parties are invited to email their interest to tld@aut.ac.nz

New Shima Apex systems for TDL

Six new Shima Seiki Apex 3 design and programming systems were commissioned at the TDL this month, replacing its older SDS One systems. The new Apex systems have state of the art design and programming software including realistic 3D simulation and virtual imagery of final products. 'It's fantastic to have such new technology available for our Fashion and Textile Design students to push the boundaries of knitwear and knitted textiles', says Lecturer, Rachelle Moore.



3rd year Fashion Design students getting to grips with the new Apex systems

TDL to showcase research at ITMA

The Textile and Design Lab will be showcasing some of its collaborative research that has been developed with colleagues and students from AUT's Health Sciences Faculty, Engineering, Colab and Fashion and Textiles Departments at the Research and Education Pavilion at ITMA in Milan in November. ITMA (International Textile Machinery Association) holds its European exhibition every 4 years and is the largest and most influential show of its kind. [Read more.](#)

Farewell to Sandy Black

The TDL bid farewell to Professor Sandy Black from The London College of Fashion on 19 March after a two month guest researcher residency with the lab. During her time with the TDL, Sandy worked extensively with TDL Technician, Gordon Fraser, to prototype several of her experimental designs based on mathematical forms using the lab's seamless knitting technology. Sandy also delivered a presentation to Fashion, Textiles and Creative Technology students and advised some of the lab's commercial partners about their knitted developments during her visit.

Sparklab Fashion and Future event attracts youthful audience

AUT research staff and postgraduate students presented examples of their research to a youthful audience at Sparklab's Fashion and Future event at Britomart late last month. The event was organised by Colab's Public Liaison Co-ordinator, Harry Silver, supported by Donna Cleveland and Miranda Smitheram. TDL co-director, Dr Frances Joseph, opened the presentations with an overview of Colab's and the TDL's roles and their industry engagement remit. Postgraduate students, Donna Cleveland, Miranda Smitheram and Leona Wang gave presentations about their respective research projects that incorporated the use of the TDL's technology and AUT's Motion Capture Lab (MoCap). Fellow TDL co-Director, Dr Mandy Smith, summarised the evening's presentations and chaired the question and answer session.



Dr Frances Joseph opened the Sparklab Fashion and Future evening

Felting workshops

The Textile and Design Lab will be hosting two 1 day felting workshops on 14 and 15 April. Lanette Freitag, President of feltLOOM Inc in the US, will be presenting the workshops, which will be open to all interested parties. Lanette's company was established in 2003 having recognised the need for the development of a needle felting machine for the fibre artist and crafter market.



FeltsLOOM felting machine

Full details of the workshops and registration forms can be viewed [here](#).

TDL research partner announces licensing agreement

New Zealand based smart fabric technology company, Footfalls and Heartbeats (FHL), has signed a licensing agreement with German compression therapy specialists, Medi GmbH. FHL has worked with the TDL for the last 6 years developing a range of integrated smart fabrics for a range of applications in the sports, medical and healthcare sectors. Medi will initially use the FHL smart fabrics to enable practitioners to accurately measure the degree of compression when applying bandages to patients suffering with venous ulcers. [Read more.](#)

2015 short course programme

The Textile and Design Lab's 2015 short course programme gets underway in April. Each of the 2 day courses will be run twice during the year. The full schedule is as follows:

Photoshop Basics for Textile Design: 9-10 July and 3-4 December

Illustrator Basics for Textile Design: 9-10 April and 30 November-1 December

Digital Textile Design (Intermediate Level) – Repeating Patterns: 16-17 April and 10-11 December

Knitwear Design: 15-16 August and 5-6 December

Knitting Basics: 16-17 July and 10-11 December

Introduction to Textiles: 18-19 June and 3-4 December

Short course information sheets and registration forms can be viewed [here](#).