

## JULY NEWSLETTER

### AUT Labs open day attracts huge interest

An estimated 400 guests comprising of prospective and current students, parents, educators, government agencies and industry personnel braved a cold and wet winter's day to attend the AUT's Labs open day on 28 recently. Visitors were astounded by the range of technologies and technical expertise that AUT has to offer its students, commercial partners and research collaborators. The Textile and Design Lab demonstrated its electronic knitting capabilities, digital textile and garment printing technology and its recently commissioned felting machine, which is gaining rapid interest from students and industry alike.



*TDL Senior Technician, Gordon Fraser, advises a prospective student on the intricacies of machine knitting (left) and PhD student, Donna Cleveland, demonstrates the lab's new felting machine (right).*

### Wearable Technologies/e-Textiles symposium 14 October – call for presentations

The Textile and Design Lab's annual symposium will be held on Wednesday 14 October and will cover the subjects of e-Textiles and Wearable Technologies. There are still opportunities for academic and industry partners to present their work at the symposium alongside keynote speakers, Dr Oscar Tomico from Eindhoven Technical University in The Netherlands and Genevieve Dion from Drexel University in the US. The event is aimed at industry, researchers, academics and students. The TDL is asking for expressions of interest for presentations from the commercial, educational and research sectors, including postgraduate students who are researching in this field. Please email [tdl@aut.ac.nz](mailto:tdl@aut.ac.nz) for more information.

### Faculty research showcase

AUT's Faculty of Design and Creative Technologies showcased its vast range of research capabilities at the recent Research Evening organised by the Research and Innovation Office. The event was attended by dignitaries, commercial and research partners from around New Zealand. Colab's network of labs including the Textile and Design Lab, 3-D Printing Lab, Motion Capture Studio and Play Interactive Gaming Lab (PIGSTY) were all represented at the event.

### Wearable Tech Group meet-up hosted by TDL

Around 30 members of the Wearable Tech Group attended the latest meet-up hosted by the Textile and Design Lab in July. The Group was initiated by Callaghan Innovation in conjunction with industry partners operating in the wearable technologies arena in order to create networking opportunities and a greater voice for its members of this growing community. Five AUT undergraduate and

postgraduate students also attend the meeting at which they were given the opportunity to make brief presentations on the work that they are doing in this field.

### **Developing international linkages**

TDL co-director Associate Professor Frances Joseph recently visited The Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel where she met with Chief Executive Officer Edwin Keh to find out more about the diverse industry linked research projects they are running. Frances also visited colleagues at Dong Hua University in Shanghai to discuss the work they are doing in the area of nano-fibre yarn development and applications.

### **Knitwear Design short course Sat-Sun 15-16 August**

Places are still available on our forthcoming Knitwear Design short course in which participants will be introduced to the Shima Seiki Apex 3 design system. Course presenter and former AUT Master's graduate, Alysha Gover, has recently attended a second training session at Shima's headquarters in Wakayama, Japan, to familiarise herself with the new design programme. The TDL recently commissioned six new Apex 3 systems, which are available to students and commercial designers. Read more about registering for our short courses or email [tdl@aut.ac.nz](mailto:tdl@aut.ac.nz) for more details.

### **1-day felting workshop and felt making sessions**

Our next 1 day felting workshop takes place on Tuesday 1 September during which participants will be taught how to use the lab's Feltloom needle-felting machine as a tool for textile design and creation. An understanding of the machine operations and techniques for making felted fabric designs that can be used for items such as scarves and shawls will be gained. The workshop will appeal to anyone who has an interest in designing and creating felt based materials and products. [Register here.](#)

The lab is also running a series of 3-hour felt making sessions for those who have previously attended one of our 1 day workshops or induction sessions and who wish to make their own materials and products on the Feltloom. [Read more](#) about our felt making sessions.

### **2015 short course programme**

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

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

*Illustrator Basics for Textile Design: 30 November-1 December*

*Digital Textile Design (Intermediate Level) – Repeating Patterns: 10-11 December*

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

*Knitting Basics: 10-11 December*

*Introduction to Textiles: 3-4 December*

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