

**Katherine (Katy) Polston, Ph.D.**

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**EDUCATION**

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**Doctor of Philosophy**

December 2014

**North Carolina State University at Raleigh**

Textile Technology Management

Dissertation: *Self- and peer-assessment of product creativity in a collaborative environment: A research study with undergraduate textile and apparel design students*

Advisors: Dr. Lisa Parrillo-Chapman and Dr. Marguerite Moore

**Master of Science**

August 2011

**North Carolina State University at Raleigh**

Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management

Thesis: *Capabilities and limitations of print-on-demand inkjet digital textile printing and the American craft niche market*

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Parrillo-Chapman

**Bachelor of Science**

December 2006

**The University of Texas at Austin**

Textiles and Apparel: Apparel Design Concentration

**Sydney University**

Fall 2004

Semester Abroad

**Certificates**

Certificate of Achievement in Teaching, Awarded by NCSU

April 2014

Consumer Textile Product Design and Development, Awarded by NCSU

August 2011

Business Foundations Certificate, Awarded by The University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business

December 2006

**Additional Training**

Lectra Modaris, Raleigh, NC

August 2011

Lectra Kaledo: Print, Knit and Weave, New York, NY

March 2010

Nordstrom Management Training "Advance", Austin, TX

October 2007

Collection Design in Industry I & II, 40 hours, Austin, TX

Summers 2004 & 2005

## TEACHING AND ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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### Assistant Professor of Practice

Spring 2016 – Spring 2017

University of Nebraska – Lincoln, College of Education and Human Sciences  
 Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design  
 Apparel and Product Development Faculty

#### Undergraduate and Mixed Level Courses

- TMFD 112: Product Development I: Garment Assembly
- TMFD 123-900/700: Clothing and Human Behavior (Online and Blended)
- TMFD 206/830: Textiles

#### Graduate Courses

- TMFD 899: Thesis Credit Hours
  - Advising graduate student's thesis on home-based female textile designers
- TMFD 896: Independent Study
  - Supervising graduate student on engineered print design

#### Graduate Student Committees

- Co-chair: MFA - Thesis Option, Khadijah Baaqil
- Member: MFA - Exhibit Option, Katherine Rodriguez
- Member: Ph.D., Wei Li

### Lecturer

Fall 2015

University of Nebraska – Lincoln, College of Education and Human Sciences  
 Department of Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design  
 Apparel and Product Development Lecturer

#### Undergraduate Courses

- TMFD 112: Product Development I: Garment Assembly
- TMFD 123: Clothing and Human Behavior (Online)
- TMFD 206: Textiles

### Instructor

Fall 2014 - Spring 2015

Kansas State University, College of Human Ecology  
 Department of Apparel, Textiles & Interior Design  
 Apparel Design Instructor

#### Undergraduate Courses

- AT 325: Apparel and Textiles Retailing
- AT 410: Apparel Production 2
- AT 610: Computer-Aided-Design for Apparel
- AT 655: Pattern Development 1
- AT 670: Apparel Pre-Production Processes

**Teaching Assistant**

August 2011 - May 2014

North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC  
Fashion and Textile Design Co-Instructor

**Undergraduate Courses**

- FTD 104: FTD 104 Fashion and Textile Design First Year Studio1
- FTD 105: FTD 104 Fashion and Textile Design First Year Studio 2

**Textile Design Instructor**

Summer 2011, 2014

North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC  
Summer Textile Exploration Program (STEP): Four-day textile design camp for high school students

**ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCES**

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**MAGIC Study Tour**

August 2016

Faculty attendee of three-day department study tour to MAGIC trade show in Las Vegas, NV. 8 undergraduate students and three faculty members attended.

**India Study Tour**

December-January 2016/17

Faculty attendee of "India: Textiles, Tourism and Asia's Twenty-First Century Economic Tiger."  
Co-departmental international study tour with Hospitality, Restaurant and Tourism Management and the Textiles and Merchandising Department. Locations include Ahmedabad, Varanasi, Jaipur, Agra, and Delhi.

**New York Study Tour**

May 2017

Faculty co-organizer of week-long department study tour to New York, NY.

**INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE**

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**Specialty Finishes Internship**

September 2012 - August 2013

Cotton Incorporated, Cary, NC  
Dyeing and Finishing Applications Lab

- Assisted head of Specialty Finishes and trained supervisor on use and maintenance of direct-to-garment Brother pigment and roll-to-roll Mimaki reactive inkjet textile printers
- Led product development intern teams in use of Adobe Photoshop, digital inkjet printers, surface design processes, and chemical and physical textile finishes

**Digital Printing Internship**

Summer 2012

Cotton Incorporated, Cary, NC  
Dyeing and Finishing Applications Lab

- Assisted head of Digital Printing Laboratory with collaborative design projects with national retailers, product development of digital denim, color management procedures and CAD design development
- Learned about product design and development processes using Adobe Photoshop, digital inkjet printers, and screen printing for textile and apparel manufacturing

**Digital Printing Internship**

February - July 2010

Spoonflower, Incorporated, Mebane and Durham, NC

- Learned to install Mutoh MC3 nano-pigment printers
- Set-up and printed customers' files, processed finished product for shipment
- Co-ran and maintained up to eight Mutoh MC3 nano-pigment printers
- Customer service, assisting customers regarding technical and artistic issues with digital file set-up, color management and website navigation

**Alterations Shop Administrator**

August 2008 - July 2009

Nordstrom, Austin, TX

- Oversaw organization and quality control of alterations
- Performed minor alterations during peak hours
- Assisted customers and salespeople inquiring about alteration details, providing consistent customer service

**Salesperson**

March 2007 - August 2008

Nordstrom, Austin, TX

Point of View Department (Misses)

- Aware of customer needs, fit, and price preferences and body styles, and assisted customers on purchases and upselling for coordination of outfits based on preferences
- Informed customers on shipped purchases, alterations, sales and new merchandise
- Dressed mannequins and merchandised point-of-sale displays, resulting in increased sales
- Consistently maintained philosophy of Nordstrom and brand reputation

**Apparel Design and Visual Merchandising Internship**

September 2006 - February 2007

Storyville Boutique, Textiles Internship, Austin, TX

- Assisted owner/manager in daily duties
- Met with sellers, providing feedback to store owner on merchandise assortment and variety

- Merchandised point-of-sale displays, windows, and mannequins on weekly basis, resulting in an increase conversion rate from foot traffic to purchases
- Organized and styled fashion show promoting boutique at local music venue, Antone's, which resulted in increased brand awareness

### Salesperson and Visual Merchandiser

May 2005 – May 2006

Hatbox, Austin, TX

- Educated customers about hat styles, sizing and selection
- Advised customers on hat selection based on face shapes, personal preferences and persona/brand image, especially for musicians and artists
- Millinery and haberdashery experience; shaping, steaming, and embellishing hats
- Merchandised point-of-sale displays
- Promoted store at local music festivals, including SXSW and ACL, at point-of-sale booths and downtown store location
- Recruited and trained new employees; Key-holder duties

### HONORS & AWARDS

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ISSOTL Student Grant, October 2013, Raleigh, NC

AATCC Herman & Myrtle Student Paper Competition Award, March 2011, Charleston, SC

### PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & EXHIBITIONS

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#### Published Manuscripts

Polston, K., Parrillo Chapman, L., and Moore, M. (2014) *An evaluation of skill levels of print-on-demand inkjet digital textile printing users*. International Journal of Fashion Design, Technology and Education, 8(2), 87-96. DOI: 10.1080/17543266.2014.992050

#### Refereed Presentations and Proceedings

*(Presenter Underlined)*

Polston, K. (2016). *Students' perceptions and attitudes towards rubric assessment of creativity*, Oral presentation at International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference for Concept, Research and Teaching Scholarship; presented November 9, 2016, Vancouver, Canada.

Polston, K. (2014). *Rubric assessment of creativity*, Poster presented at International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference for Concept, Research and Teaching Scholarship;

presented November 15, 2014, Charlotte, NC. Peer reviewed proceedings available:

<http://itaaonline.org/>

Polston, K., Parrillo-Chapman, L., and Moore, M. (2014). *Creativity assessment*, North Carolina State University Teaching and Learning Symposium; presented April 15, 2014, Raleigh, NC

Polston, K. (2013). *Assessing skill levels and niche market identities of print-on-demand inkjet digitally printed textiles*, North Carolina State University Graduate Student Research Symposium; presented March 19, 2013, Raleigh, NC

Polston, K., Parrillo-Chapman, L. (2011). *Color management for digital textile printing*, American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists 2011 International Conference; presented March 23, 2011, Charleston, SC

### **Invited Presentations and Proceedings**

*(Presenter Underlined)*

Polston, K., Parrillo-Chapman, L. (2011). *Color management process for digital textile printing and textile design students*, Southern Textile Association Conference; presented April 12, 2011, North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC

### **Creative Design Research: Juried Exhibits**

Polston, K. (2014). *Waterfall*. Digitally printed silk gown, submitted to International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference, Creative Design Exhibition, November 12-15, 2014, Charlotte, NC. Jury: 43% accepted

### **Creative Design Research: Submissions**

Polston, K. (2016). *WearWhere, Prada Marfa*. Digitally printed cotton poplin, submitted to International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference, Creative Design Exhibition, November 8-11 2016, Vancouver, Canada. Jury: 45% accepted

Polston, K. (2016). *Material Scale*. Silk crepe and polyester organza gown, submitted to International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference, Creative Design Exhibition, November 8-11 2016, Vancouver, Canada. Jury: 45% accepted

### **Juror, Creative Exhibitions**

“Make it With Wool” State Contest-Kansas; judged junior and adult division, Manhattan, KS, November 2014

### **Grants & Committee Presentations**

*Using the ITAA Meta-goals for outcomes assessment and program improvement*. Special Topic Proposal, ITAA 2015. Curricular Development and Review Committee, under the direction of

Barbara Frazier. Presented at International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Conference  
November 13, 2015, Santa Fe, NM

## **SKILLS**

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Learning Management Systems: Canvas, Blackboard, and Moodle

Lectra Kaledo Textile and Fashion Design Suite

Adobe CS6/CC: Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign

Product Development: Optitex PDS & MRK, Lectra Modaris & Vectra FashionFP cutter, Gerber Accumark

X-Rite i1iO Spectrophotometer and RIPMaster Software

Large format inkjet digital printers: Mutoh MC2, Mutoh MC3, Mimaki 1600S

Statistical Software: JMP, SPSS PASW (Quantitative), QSR NVivo (Qualitative)

Survey Software: SurveyMonkey, Qualtrics

Additional Skills: crochet, photography, fashion illustration, painting, sculpture, jewelry design

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC)

Apparel Technical Design Association (ATDA)

International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL)

International Textile and Apparel Association (ITAA)

## **LANGUAGES**

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Beginning French