

KATHERINE “KATY” POLSTON, Ph.D.

Portfolio: www.katherinepolston.com

EDUCATION

North Carolina State University at Raleigh

Ph.D. Textile Technology Management, December 2014

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: Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management, August 2011

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

Advisor: Dr. Lisa Parrillo-Chapman

The University of Texas at Austin

Bachelor of Science: Textiles and Apparel: Apparel Design Concentration, December 2006

Semester Abroad: Sydney University, Australia, Fall 2004

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 II, 40 hours, Austin, TX, Summer 2005
- Collection design in industry I, 40 hours, Austin, TX, Summer 2004

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Teaching Experience

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 Studio 1

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

Textile Design Instructor, Summer 2011, Summer 2014

North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC

Summer Textile Exploration Program (STEP); Four-day textile design camp for high school students

RESEARCH**Graduate Research Assistant**, Summer 2014

North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC

- Special topics course focusing on sustainability in global cotton supply chain
- Working with a collaborative team of three instructors, researched cotton sustainability issues in agriculture, fibers and yarns, fabric formation, dyeing and finishing, and branding

Graduate Research Assistant, Fall 2009 - Summer 2011

North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, Raleigh, NC

Digital Design Lab, under direction of Dr. Lisa Parrillo-Chapman

- Researched capabilities and limitations of inkjet digital textile printing, resulting in two internal research projects
- Calibrated printers using XRite i1iO spectrophotometer
- Created color catalogs for CAD color management in RIPMaster software
- Trained graduate and undergraduate students on use of printers and spectrophotometer
- Collaborated with second research assistant and advisor on external product development research project for vertically integrated textile design company
- Performed regular cleaning, maintenance and color management processes on Mimaki TX1600S, Mutoh MC2 and Mutoh MC3 inkjet digital textile printers

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE**Dyeing & Finishing Research****Specialty Finishes Internship**, September 2012 - August 2013

Cotton Incorporated, Cary, NC

Dyeing and Finishing Applications Lab

- Assisted head of Specialty Finishes
- Trained supervisor on use and maintenance of direct-to-garment Brother pigment and roll-to-roll Mimaki reactive inkjet digital 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, a processing finished product for shipment
- Co-ran and maintained up to eight Mutoh MC3 nano-pigment printers
- Provided excellent 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

Nordstrom, Austin, TX, March 2007 - August 2008

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
- Key-holder duties

Apparel Design and Visual Merchandising

Storyville Boutique, Textiles Internship, Austin, TX, September 2006 - February 2007

- 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
- Key-holder duties

Salesperson and Visual Merchandiser

Hatbox, Austin, TX, May 2005 – May 2006

- 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

- ISSOTL Student Grant, October 2013, Raleigh, NC
- AATCC Herman & Myrtle Student Paper Competition Award, Charleston, SC, March 2011

SKILLS

- Lectra Kaledo Textile and Fashion Design Suite, Adobe CS6/CC: Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign
- Pattern drafting: Optitex PDS, Optitex MRK, Lectra Modaris, Gerber Accumark, Lectra Vectra FashionFP cutter
- 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

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & EXHIBITIONS

Type	Number
Published Manuscripts	1
Refereed Presentations/Proceedings	4
Invited Presentations	1
Juried Exhibitions	1
Juror, Creative Exhibitions	1

Published Manuscripts

1. 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, DOI: 10.1080/17543266.2014.992050

Refereed Presentations and Proceedings

(Presenter Underlined)

1. Polston, K. (2014). *Rubric assessment of creativity*, 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/>
2. 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

3. 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
4. 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)

1. 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

Juried Exhibitions

1. 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. Design catalog available: http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/itaaonline.org/resource/resmgr/Publications/ITAA_2014_Design_Catalog_Fin.pdf

Juror, Creative Exhibitions

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

GRANTS & COMMITTEES

1. *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. Accepted for ITAA 2015 International Conference.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC)
- American Association of University Women (AAUW)
- Apparel Technical Design Association (ATDA)
- International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL)
- International Textile and Apparel Association (ITAA)
- The Textile Institute (TI)

LANGUAGES

- Beginning French