

Jessica Saunders

Curriculum Vitae

The programmes I lead are internationally recognised, with a rapidly growing reputation for ethical and socially empathetic design. My research feeds into the curriculum, encompassing policy and legislation waste in fashion and emerging nanotechnology. I have created a team dynamic that supports students through innovative, motivational and forward-thinking teaching methods. As Director of Programmes (Fashion), my duties flow across a range of disciplines and departments which has required collaboration across subject areas both internally and externally. My role as Interim Associate Dean allows me to instigate and lead on School wide initiatives such as attainment, NSS and student/staff welfare. Providing a supportive framework for Programme Directors and Course Leaders in producing world leading students who are changing the values and vision of Fashion.

Current Role

Interim Associate Dean School of Design Technology London College of Fashion appointed in Nov 2021, combining this role with Director of Programmes (Fashion)

Director of Programmes, Fashion, London College of Fashion appointed 2017

6 Courses, catering for 750 Students

MA FDT Menswear

MA FDT Womenswear

PG Dip Fashion Design Technology + Low Residency

BA (Hons) FDT Menswear

BA (Hons) FDT Womenswear

These courses are prominent across the globe and attract students and staff from a wide range of backgrounds and nationalities. I actively teach across the programme, disseminating my PHD work and tutor MA Womenswear students, where the level of attainment and progression to PhD has risen significantly since 2018, together with the diversity of the student body.

“MA Fashion Design Technology Womenswear and Menswear are world leading courses that challenge the conventions of fashion design, producing some of the industry's most progressive designers and labels including Olivia Rubens, Barbra Kolasinski, Bethany Williams, Harikrishnan and Joao Maraschin. Encouraging new definitions and notions of fashion practice LCF's MA courses produce a community of critical thinkers, researchers, and practitioners who are responsible, accountable and resourceful.“

["https://londonfashionweek.co.uk/designers/london-college-of-fashion-ual"](https://londonfashionweek.co.uk/designers/london-college-of-fashion-ual)

PHD

My research is based on developing legislation for sustainable e-textile design and production to mitigate toxic e-textile waste. The importance of this research is growing as the development of e-textiles speeds up. As a result of conference participation, I have been invited to write a chapter on sustainable e-textiles for Southampton University e-textiles network and have been invited to speak at a number of conferences and sit on the British Standards Committee for the Electrotechnical Environment and Nanotechnologies, for the UK and International TC111 plus and advisor on Global Electronics Council e-textiles re-purposing, recycling and disposal.

Conferences and Professional Achievements

2023 Invited Speaker International Electronics Recycling Congress (IERC)

2023 Stakeholder specialist Nano Risk Governance Council
2023 Invited expert Reach TV Nanotechnology in Fashion
2022 IOM3 Invited speaker Webinar Workshop
2022 Social Design institute showcase <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4Uh7d11Euw>

2021 Speaker E-textiles Network Global Conference
Extended Abstract "Can Design for Disassembly Principles Inform Policy for E-Textiles Waste?"
Engineering Proceedings: Abstract: <https://www.mdpi.com/2673-4591/15/1/14>

2021 E-Waste World Global Conference _ E-waste world Keynote Speaker
2021 Chatham House Panellist, Reinventing Sneakers: Will shoes have a regenerative future?
<https://www.chathamhouse.org/events/all/research-event/reinventing-sneakers-will-shoes-have-regenerative-future>

2021 Invited Speaker Global E-waste Conference
2020 British Standards Committee Member for both Electrotechnical Environment and Nano Technologies
2020 Global Electronics Council Standards Committee member for Health and Wellness Wearable Electronic Devices, design for re-use and recycling, and responsible end of life management.
2020 Speaker E-textiles Network Global Conference: *Proceedings*, Volume 68, E-textiles 2021,
Extended Abstract: [doi:10.3390/proceedings2021068003](https://doi.org/10.3390/proceedings2021068003)

2020 Speaker Digital Fashion Innovation, E-Symposium, published book of abstracts.
2020 Speaker Policy Lab, Policy development for e-textiles waste.
2020 Published Mayor of London, Fashion Curriculum, supporting Key stage 3 teachers and students in understanding the breadth of fashion subjects and career opportunities in the industry, encouraging a diverse group of young people to consider a fashion degree. <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/education-and-youth/london-curriculum/fashion-london>

2012 Guest Speaker on International Women's Day for "Making Herstory" Charity Launch
2011 Guest Lecture V&A, The Legacy of Christian Dior

2023 Working towards Higher Education Principal Fellow
2016 Higher Education Academy Senior Fellow
2015 CMI Chartered Manager
2015 Nominated for UAL Teaching award
2014 Green Gown Highly Commended by the EAUC for embedding sustainability in the curriculum.

Quality Assurance Relationships

2021 Panel Member Validation York College
2020 Panel Member Re- validation Brighton Metropolitan BA (Hons) Fashion Design
2019 Panel Member at the Agile Aging Conference related to PHD
2018 Validation Panel Member University of Brighton BA Hons Fashion
2018 Internal advisor Validation LCF MA Entrepreneurship
2017 Validation Panel Member for Plymouth College of Art for 5 MA programmes.
2016 External Advisor Richmond College
2013 – 2017 External Examiner Hull College Group
2012 External Advisor University of Salford, Manchester
2006/2007 Key Skills Days for year 7 / 8 Westonbirt School (Fashion and Sustainability)

Programme Achievements

Two courses in the Fashion programme have 100% satisfaction survey results, others are over 80% (2021-22)
Students from the programme are receiving awards and setting up businesses or working in industry including:
JW Anderson, Joao Maraschin (BFC +LVMH Finalist), Olivia Rubens (ITS Winner Sustainability), Paloma Spain, Harri, (BFC), Maximilian Davies (Ferragamo), Bethany Williams

High level industry engagement across the fashion programme, for example: Phoebe English, Stefan Cooke, Lulu Kennedy, Sarah Mower Charles Jeffery, Cartoon Network, Warehouse, Zegna, Kering group, Rokit Vintage,

H&M and an ongoing collaboration with Swarovski. Past projects include Volvo XC-90 launch 2015, Mind Candy brand extension 2014.

Created Hybrid Level 3 course to bridge the FE - HE attainment gap for international students, which now successfully feeds into all areas of LCF. The course has a successful and unique embedded language programme.

2011/12 Conceived and produced a documentary, Cut on the Bias, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQyXVgqvFVM> to explore and highlight the final year journey of LCF Part-time Fashion Students.

2011/12 Amnesty International cross discipline project and documentary to raise awareness of human rights in relation to the fashion industry <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8z7kUONLpc>

2010 Saatchi and Saatchi student exhibition

Previous Experience

2013- 2017

Director of Programmes Part time and International Courses

6 courses, catering for 650 Students

International Preparation for Fashion (Cert HE),

Level 3 International: Introduction to Study of Fashion

Part-time degrees:

BA(Hons) Fashion Media,

BA(Hons) Fashion Business,

BA(Hons) Fashion Visual Merchandising and Branding,

BA(Hons) Fashion Design.

17 Direct Report Salaried Staff from a range of disciplines and backgrounds

33 Hourly Paid Lecturers

2009

Course Leader of BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Realisation

Developed and stabilised the course and raised achievement to the current high level, with excellent External Examiner Reports and higher than average retention figures and student employment. Students face four years of challenging study and hail from a range of backgrounds. Engaged in full time work, they require specific attention and careful managing.

Introduced digital print design and embroidery to the curriculum, alongside creative and traditional pattern cutting techniques and a firm commitment to sustainability.

2005

Joined London College of Fashion as an Hourly Paid Lecturer in Textiles for Fashion.

Successful students included Student of the Year Award 2011 and successful applications to the Royal College of Art.

Industry Experience

2003-2006

eVe, brand start up featuring women's wear with digital print and embroidery

Collaborated with Isabella Blow on a regular basis and the brand featured in Tatler.

The brand was unique in the online sector at the time.

1985 -2000

International fashion model with Select Model Management featuring in international catwalk shows, shoots and videos.

Print work included: Harpers, Vogue, Cosmopolitan, Elle

Regular show clients: Burberrys, Windsmoor, Rifat Ozbek, John Richmond, Marks & Spencer

Karl Lagerfeld, Dior, Nicole Farhi, Donna Karan, Aquascutum, Next, Jaeger

Showroom work included: Caroline Charles, Louis Feraud, Tomasz Starzewski, Nicole Farhi and Moschino

Key Photographers: Richard Bradbury, Frank Herholdt, Mike Owen

1985-1986

Sales manager at Fink, selling wholesale collections to high end retailers and boutiques

Academic Qualifications

PhD – Ongoing

HEA Leading Transformation in Teaching and Learning Award in First Line Management Level 3

Pg Dip in Teaching and Learning

PG Cert Teaching and Learning

BA (Hons) Fashion Design Technology, Textiles/ Fashion

Btec Foundation in Art and Design

Diploma in pattern cutting

'A' Level Physics, Maths, English

10 'O' Levels

Interests

Sustainability, vintage embroidery, yoga, technology and photography. The latter has led to recent travel projects for publications such as the Telegraph, Times, Square Mile and Conde Nast Traveller.

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