FIT FACULTY AND THE POWER OF POSSIBILITY

Here’s the thing about a college built on the idea of creativity: it requires every color of imagination, interdisciplinary effort, and far-reaching, visionary strategy. And its foundation is the formidable professional power of every faculty member.

So standing at the head of every FIT classroom, lab, and studio are boldly experimental dreamers and thinkers, inventive entrepreneurs, and some of the most responsive, dedicated, and highly connected people in the creative industries today.

Both individually and collectively, our faculty has what it takes to inspire students...to advance personal expression and communal concerns...and to push what is possible. Together our faculty creates unexpected solutions, provokes the interesting intersection of ideas, reveals deep meaning, and encourages beauty to blossom.

Together, the faculty brings FIT’s institutional intelligence to life.
SINGULAR
SINGULAR
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SINGULAR
In a meeting on campus earlier this year, we were talking about creativity in the context of FIT when one of the professors present said, “Creativity is rewritten at FIT every day.” That really struck a chord with me—and I think with others in the room—because it is a kind of global statement that rings true throughout the college: in the curricula of all of our schools, in our pedagogy, in the work our students produce daily, and in the work of our faculty.

It is our faculty, of course, who tie it all together—who design the curricula, practice the pedagogy, and inspire our students. We have more than 950 full- and part-time faculty members. I cannot tell you how often they tell me—and they will tell you—how privileged they feel to be teaching at FIT and how much they appreciate the opportunity to help their students reach their dreams. For them, teaching is an adventure in discovery. And as one said, “The more I work to inspire students, the more I come away with my own creative fire.” And they have such creative fire!

The evidence of that is everywhere: at our open mic events at a performance space off campus where faculty present their latest research or recite their latest poem; in annual college-wide exhibitions; in presentations at our Center for Excellence in Teaching or in projects they tackle in research release time. We have faculty members whose creative achievements have placed them in the Toy Industry Hall of Fame and the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, who have been tapped by the U.S. Postal Service to design series of stamps, and whose silverwork resides in the Vatican. Indeed, our faculty are Fulbright scholars, Guggenheim fellows, National Endowment for the Arts grantees, and National Science Foundation awardees.

From where I sit, one of the best perspectives on the depth and breadth of our faculty’s creative fire—the sheer scope of it—is in the projects they propose when they apply for sabbaticals. In one year, for instance, sabbaticals were granted for the start of a photo-identification project of threatened marine mammals on Long Island Sound, field work on street fashion in Tokyo, and a biography of the detective fiction writer Dashiell Hammett. On their sabbaticals, professors have designed children’s books, studied letterpress printing in Europe, researched and created oversized paintings of Kabuki characters, explored the medium of egg tempera, researched and illustrated the evolution of a newly chic Manhattan neighborhood, developed protocols for identifying statistical approaches in data quantification, explored design principles in paper and digital maps, and analyzed the 1970s New York art world through the personal letters of Sol Lewitt. They have written books on global governance and finance, labor history as seen through the prism of the modern service industries, and American couturiers in late 19th-century Paris. They have developed texts on economics, the civil rights movement in America, outerwear design, and market research; they’ve written memoirs, fiction, and poetry and prepared artworks for their own exhibitions in galleries and museums throughout the world.

As president of FIT, I of course take great pride in the creative accomplishments of our faculty. But what is particularly gratifying is the salutary impact the sabbatical projects have on the professors and inevitably on the college itself. Having the time to immerse themselves in their projects—no matter the field—they return with rejuvenated creative energy, eager to share what they have learned and achieved. They present their projects in workshops, in the classroom, in departmental or college-wide panels or other venues. Invariably, new courses are developed—enriching our curricula and opportunity for students. In the pages of this annual report, you will see still more evidence of their creative fire, and I think you will understand why FIT’s accrediting agency, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, in one assessment, deemed our faculty a “singular treasure.”

“A singular treasure,” I could not have said it better.
Turning to the maker of the world’s fastest high-speed camera, the Shimadzu Corporation, they asked Shimadzu’s top executives to watch them in action at the museum. When the executives saw exactly what Ellenbogen, Adams, and Bales could—and could not—shoot with the cameras they had at hand, Shimadzu offered to loan them the Shimadzu HPV-X. This half-million-dollar camera shoots at 10 million frames per second, allowing the team to get about 30 frames of the lightning as it moved.

But extraordinary technology was just the start; it took much trial and error for Ellenbogen, Adams, and Bales to figure out the split-second timing involved in tripping the camera. Over time, perseverance led to success: the team produced a groundbreaking video containing the first evidence to support a theory about the propagation of lightning. Of course, for deeply committed artists, scientists, and educators, lightning doesn’t strike just once. So Ellenbogen, Adams, and Bales have embarked on a series of projects dedicated to continuing their work of making natural phenomena visible; applying techniques that advance the creation of images for scientific and conservation purposes; easing the financial, scientific, and artistic process of making high-speed, underwater video in extreme situations; and conducting hands-on student workshops on underwater photography. Individually and as a team, Keith Ellenbogen and his partners in innovation are continuing to bring together the singularly distinctive powers of art, science, and technology.

Keith Ellenbogen—photographer, videographer, and assistant professor of Photography at FIT—has spent much of his career shooting underwater images of marine life in the service of environmental conservation.

But lately Ellenbogen’s head has been in the clouds.

For the past academic year, he has been a visiting artist-in-residence at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Center for Art, Science & Technology. There, in interdisciplinary collaboration with two scientists—Allan Adams, theoretical physicist and associate professor of physics, and Jim Bales, assistant director of MIT’s Edgerton Center (named for the late MIT professor and high-speed photography pioneer Harold “Doc” Edgerton)—Ellenbogen has been developing groundbreaking, ultra-high-speed photographic techniques to capture the formation of lightning.

The first sparks flew when Ellenbogen and Adams met at a dinner party in 2013. At the time, Ellenbogen was working on a project for the New England Aquarium, shooting faster-than-the-eye-can-see movements of cuttlefish, sharks, and goosefish. Because the fish swim at speeds up to two thousand frames per second, revealing stunning, slow-motion movement unseen by the naked human eye. Their extraordinary footage became the centerpiece of the aquarium’s first-ever ad campaign, which was shown on television, on digital displays in Boston’s subway system, and as an IMAX film.

It wasn’t long before the Boston Museum of Science came calling... and things began looking skyward. Ellenbogen and Adams were invited to do a photographic project in the museum’s Theater of Electricity, a room outfitted with the largest Van de Graaff generator in the world. Capable of generating up to two million volts of static electricity, the Van de Graaff essentially makes artificial lightning that behaves like real lightning...and the artist and the scientists were there to capture it.

But once again, the limitation of technology reared its head. Because not even MIT’s highest-speed cameras were fast enough to capture the formation of lightning, all they were able to reproduce was the “afterglow” of the lightning bolt. So Ellenbogen and company did what any true innovators would do: They strategized the best way to get the help they needed.

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When hundreds of thousands of sparks of light travel back and forth between Tesla coils, they reveal rising heat...captured, expressively, as a work of art.
OUR FACULTY INNOVATE IN INNOVATION, COLLABORATE ON COLLABORATION, AND FIND INFINITELY CREATIVE WAYS TO CREATE.
SUSTAINABILITY TO DYE FOR.

REIMAGINE THE GARDEN.

Three FIT Textile Development and Marketing (TDM) students presented a proposal at the 2014 Clinton Global Initiative University. Their idea was brilliant: to create an on-campus Rooftop Natural Dye Garden that incorporates rain collection and composting, while also addressing global environmental challenges and underscoring FIT’s commitment to sustainability. The students—Caitlin Powell, Amber Harkonen, and Meghan Navoy—were mentored by Suzanne McGillicuddy, assistant dean of the school, and taught and advised by TDM faculty members Ajoy Sarkar and Jeffrey Silberman.

DREAM IN COLOR.

At about the same time as the dye garden was getting started, Sarkar—who’s specialty is textile chemistry—had been awarded a Faculty Release Time for Research grant to study the “Optimization and Standardization of Natural Colorants.” Silberman noted that Sarkar’s work was a logical extension of the Rooftop Natural Dye Garden project; Sarkar agreed, and a vital piece of the collaborative puzzle fell into place.

BRING CAMPUS TO THE COUNTRY.

By the summer of ’14, McGillicuddy, Sarkar, and the dye garden’s founders had done their first planting atop FIT’s Feldman Center. Although they cultivated a variety of plants, it became clear they’d need a larger crop yield to conduct credible research and to take them to the next level: extracting natural dyes for use on fabrics. So Silberman volunteered the use of his five-and-a-half-acre farm in northern Westchester. He chose to concentrate on four plant species that yield natural dyes: Japanese indigo, coreopsis, sunflower, and marigold.

SMELL THE FLOWERS. THEN HARVEST THEM.

By October, the plants were ready to be harvested. Sarkar’s senior dye class students went to Silberman’s farm, where they were joined by TDM student Jillian Oldenfeld and Fashion Merchandising Management student Amanda Farr, who—in another kind of interdisciplinary collaboration—prettily maintain the on-campus rooftop dye garden. The week after harvest, Sasha Wright, an ecologist and plant biologist who teaches in FIT’s Science and Mathematics Department, went to the farm to help with winnowing, the process of separating the leaves from the stalks.

COMPOST. EXTRACT.

What the other plant species only require drying before dye can be extracted, indigo requires composting. Some indigo plants for the project is being composted and extracted at the farm; some is being done on campus by the same student team that is composting cotton muslin. All campus-composted indigo is being fermented in the TDM dye labs in preparation for dye extraction.

AND SPEAKING OF COMPOSTING...

Cotton muslin is the fabric used to test drape and fit garments. Free of dyes, printing, or finishing, it—literally—underpins every fashion designer’s creative process. But because it rarely has a life beyond the designer’s studio, muslin is left to “cook” or break down, bacteria. The combination behind FIT’s Great Hall, where muslin scraps are mixed with a variety of organic material and thermophilic (heat-loving) bacteria. The combination is left to “cook” or break down, and ultimately has a new life feeding soil, managing water use, and reducing dependence on pesticides. The nutrient-rich material that is produced is, in turn, used in the dye garden and other campus green spaces.

Today’s textile industry is about more than making pretty fabrics. At FIT, it’s about sustainability. Future-thinking, and creating interdisciplinary intersections between and among faculty, students, and industry. Here’s just one example of a productive campus collaboration:
SUSTAINABILITY TO DYE FOR.

EXPERIMENT!

Sarkar’s initial experiments are focused on testing various methods for extracting colorant from the flowers and leaves of the dye plants; he is also studying the optimum process to get the best yield. The goal now: Initial results show that the indigo harvested and composted both at FIT and at the farm has a strong concentration.

Sarkar and Silberman plan to double the size of the planting area next year, focusing on Japanese indigo and coreopsis. They hope to create a full-system cycle, from planting the seeds through bringing to market garments manufactured with natural dye.

CONTINUE RESEARCHING.

Individually and as a team, Sarkar and Silberman are seeking additional grants to fund new research. One grant application to the EPA is related to further integrating their natural colorant and composting research. The faculty collaborations plan to continue their current lab work by dyeing cotton and wool fabrics with the dyes they have extracted, and studying the properties of the fabrics’ color depth and colorfastness.

INVITE MORE FACULTY TO THE PARTY.

Next up: more FIT faculty are collaborating in related research across schools and departments. Professor Virginia Bonofiglio, Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing, is planning to experiment with indigo for hair coloring. (Turns out henna with an over-layer of indigo yields jet black hair.)

COLLABORATE WITH INDUSTRY.

To achieve the goal of joining forces with industry, Silberman has approached TDM’s Advisory Board member, Cone Denim Mills, to advise on the dye garden project. In addition to being a leading supplier of denim fabrics to top apparel brands since 1891, Cone Denim recently introduced a line of natural indigo denim.

KEEP GROWING SUSTAINABILITY AT FIT.

Sustainability has become part of FIT’s DNA. So in addition to academic programs, course offerings, environmentally conscious operations such as green roofs, the dye garden, and the compost system, FIT also sponsors an annual Sustainable Business and Design Conference. And in June 2015, the college held its second Summer Institute, an annual textile and apparel conference dedicated to the subject of sustainability in fashion and textiles. Attendees included designers, technologists, and educators seeking greater knowledge about what is, historically, an environmentally challenging sector of the fashion industry; all left with deeper understanding of the challenges and promises of sustainability. For the next Summer Institute, Sarkar and Silberman are planning a panel on naturally dyed indigo denims.
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There are countless ways to define “creativity.”

THERE ARE COUNTLESS WAYS TO DEFINE “CREATIVITY.”
BUILDING A “BOTTLE SCHOOL” IN GUATEMALA
AUGUST 2014
Five Interior Design students with Associate Professor Carmita Sanchez-Fong spent a week in August on a service/learning project in the Guatemalan village of Chidorgan. The students—Antonia Dominici, Lisbeth Jimenez, Joanna Kraszewska, Yuku Nagase, and Natale Zepeda—helped build a school using 6,000 bottles.

These “bottle schools,” which are constructed with plastic beverage bottles filled with inorganic trash, cost about half as much as buildings made with traditional construction materials and also provide a way to dispose of waste. The project was coordinated by the nonprofit Hug It Forward and the Community of Friends in Action of Leonia, NJ.

FIT APPOINTS NINE FULL-TIME FACULTY
AUGUST 2014
The college appointed nine new full-time faculty members, of whom seven are classroom faculty. Amanda Greatens, assistant professor of Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing, founded her own color cosmetics company and served as vice president of marketing for Key West Aloe. Christine Lyons, assistant professor of Exhibition Design, is the director of the graphics department at Lee H. Skolnick Architecture + Design Partnership and has taught exhibition design at FIT part time since 2008. Thomas McManus, associate professor of Advertising Design, was art director on the team behind the award-winning Absolut Vodka campaign; he has also worked as group creative director at Prudential Advertising and creative director at Young & Rubicam, Theanne Schiros, assistant professor of chemistry, conducted research at the Columbia University Energy Frontier Research Center, and developed Columbia’s sustainable energy master’s program. Jennifer Schoming, assistant professor of mathematics, has been teaching in FIT’s Science and Mathematics Department part time since 2006. Mario Valero, assistant professor of Spanish, is an FIT alumnus who taught Spanish conversation part time before becoming a temporary full-time assistant professor in fall 2013. Min Zhu, assistant professor of Textile Development and Marketing, was previously a principal at Inversion, LLC, a startup that creates fashionable air filtration. The two new nonclassroom faculty members are Admissions Counselor Mercedes Zepeda, who rejoined the college after working at the Office of Graduate Admissions at the Zicklin School of Business in 2014, and Thomas McManus, associate professor of Advertising Design, who was previously an FIT alumnus who taught Spanish conversation part time before becoming a temporary full-time assistant professor in fall 2013.

RALPH LAUREN EXECUTIVE HONORS ALUMNI
AUGUST 2014
Joy Herfel Cronin, Fashion Buying and Merchandising ‘96, honored the 300-some FIT alumni who work within the Ralph Lauren empire with a reception in August 2014. Cronin is group president of wholesale and retail for the Americas at the company and a member of the FIT Foundation board of directors; she has also co-chaired the college’s past galas. Cronin and President Brown co-hosted the alumni reception at the Ralph Lauren headquarters in New York.

NEW MINORS IN CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY AND ETHICS AND SUSTAINABILITY
AUGUST 2014
FIT launched two new minors this fall. Creative Technology, a five-course program in the School of Art and Design, is for students interested in getting a deeper understanding of digital technology beyond their traditional curriculum. Ethics and Sustainability is an interdisciplinary minor that draws from all three schools. Students in the program gain an understanding of local and global environmental issues, economic and social responsibility, and the impacts of actions, with the ability to critically assess the future philosophical, social, economic, and environmental impacts of their work.

70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SEPTEMBER 2014
In 2014-15, FIT marked its 70th anniversary, noting the remarkable changes that have taken place since the college’s founding in 1944. FIT began as a tiny trade school with 100 students, in borrowed space in the Central High School of Needle Trades; now it’s an internationally renowned college with nearly 10,000 students, a ten-building campus, 48 associate, bachelor’s, and master’s programs, and many thousands of alumni who have become industry leaders. View an interactive timeline of FIT history at timeline.fitnyc.edu.

DESIGN ENTREPRENEURS NYC CLASS GRADUATES SEPTEMBER 2014
The third class of Design Entrepreneurs NYC, the college’s “mini MBA” program run in conjunction with the New York City Economic Development Corporation, graduated in September at an event exhibiting the work of the 34 class members. A panel of 14 fashion executives chose designers Bita and Rouzita Vahhabaghai to receive the grand prize of $25,000. The funds will allow the winners to implement the business plan they created for their luxury handbag collection, Ita Designs. Rebecca Szymczak, owner of the luxury intimates lifestyle brand BEUX NYC, received the second-place prize of $10,000. Gilly Hicks Apparel Group provided funding for the awards.
FIT TEAM WINS RETAIL FUTURES CHALLENGE
SEPTEMBER 2014
For the second consecutive year, a team of FIT students took first place in the Retail Futures Challenge, the international competition held annually at the World Retail Congress. This year’s team worked closely with Samsung to completely redesign a traditional appliance store and create the “Samsung Life Store”—a concept intended to understand the changing needs of millennial consumers and today’s increasingly connected appliances. FIT’s team included Paula Cushman, Advertising and Marketing Communications; Victoria Kulesza and Alison Rebozo, both Fashion Merchandising Management; and Cassandra Napoli, International Trade and Marketing for the Fashion Industries. The students submitted a concept and preliminary research before the congress in Paris. They then displayed their work at the congress and made formal presentations of their projects, including a retail concept, a business model, and an earnings forecast, to a panel of judges and retail executives. The winners were announced at the World Retail Awards dinner September 30. “The students gave an exceptional presentation,” said Fashion Merchandising Management chair Robin Sackin, who advised the team. “It really says a lot about the students and FIT that we have won this major competition for the second consecutive year.”

ALUMNUS WINS SECOND GUINNESS WORLD RECORD
SEPTEMBER 2014
Stan Munro, a 1992 graduate and sculptor of toothpick structures, earned a Guinness World Record in September for creating the “tallest toothpick structure.” Munro won the record with a 16-foot replica of the world’s tallest building, Burj Khalifa in Dubai. That model is part of Munro’s traveling exhibition, Toothpick World. Munro also won a Guinness record for “largest display.”

FIT GRADUATES EARN HIGHEST MID-CAREER SALARIES
SEPTEMBER 2014
The college was well-ranked in PayScale.com’s 2014-15 College Salary Report, the first to include colleges granting two-year degrees. PayScale found that FIT alumni earn the highest mid-career salaries among graduates of schools that offer two-year degrees—an average of $71,000. The Seattle-based company has a database of more than 40 million salary profiles.

pledge purple event on campus
October 2014
A dozen organizations gathered on campus on October 16 for the Pledge Purple event to raise awareness about domestic and sexual violence. The New York City Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence and the New York Police Department were among those participating. Another event took place April 16, 2015, and included performances by the college’s a cappella group, the Skyliners, the Gospel Choir, and the FIT Dance Team. Community members covered a wall with signatures, pledging to help prevent sexual and domestic violence.

inagural fashion heritage week benefits MFIT
OCTOBER 2014
The Museum at FIT was a partner in the inaugural Madison Avenue Fashion Heritage Week, October 20-26. The Madison Avenue Business Improvement District organized the event to showcase the histories of brands including Calvin Klein, Carolina Herrera, Dolce & Gabbana, Ermenegildo Zegna, Hermès, Max Mara, Missoni, and Mulberry. MFIT Director Valerie Steele offered commentary on a companion mobile app and website that explained the works on view. Among the histories on display were Bruno Cuccinelli’s creation of a garment from wool flake to finished piece and a video on the company’s historic workrooms in Solomeo, Italy; Max Mara’s windows focusing on four signature looks from the 1950s, ’60s, ’70s, and ’80s; and a retrospective of the Etro heritage print and its roots in the paisley pattern.
DRESSING THE FIRST LADY

What President Brown called the students’ “memorable White House moment” was made possible by a mysterious project that began in June. FIT Fashion Design students were invited to submit sketches for a daytime dress for an unnamed high-profile African-American woman in her 50s. Koval suspected it was Mrs. Obama and began researching what styles and colors she liked to wear. She settled on a bicolored fit-and-flare racer-back dress made of silk/wool hammered satin and silk crepe, with curved seams instead of darts. Chen’s fluid creation incorporated a slash of purple that disappeared at the waist and returned in the skirt.

Both students had taken a circuitous route to FIT. Koval dreamed of being a designer as a child in Ukraine but couldn’t afford to study at FIT until she was 27. Chen, from Toronto, left a career in financial accounting after falling in love with Project Runway. For both, the journey is paying off.

By the middle of July, their designs were selected as finalists from among the 26 submissions, and the mystery client was revealed. “I was like, ‘Yes! I knew it!’” Koval said.

Koval was mentored by Lela Rose, Chen by Phillip Lim, to edit the designs and produce sample after sample until the dresses were just right. Chen was excited to work with Lim. “He was one of the first people I looked up to as a designer,” she said.

At the event, Mrs. Obama wore Koval’s design, and Chen’s was displayed on a dress form while the First Lady spoke. When Mrs. Obama walked by in her design, the astonished Koval nearly fainted. “She looked so graceful and elegant and beautiful, I wanted to cry,” she said. “She made one of my American dreams come true.”
The designer, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Kimora Lee Simmons announced a $1 million scholarship fund, half of which is designated for first-year FIT students from underrepresented groups. The fund will be dispersed over five years. A total of 85 students will benefit, including 15 who will study abroad. Students in the program will also have the opportunity to intern with KLS.

CHALK! RETURNS OCTOBER 2014
For the second year, FIT Illustration students and alumni used the college’s Seventh Avenue façade as a canvas for their original designs. Angel Garcia, a 2013 alumnus, installed a piece on October 24 as part of a workshop. In all, more than 40 artists chalked their designs on the walls on October 27, to kick off the college’s Legacy Week. Chalk FIT! was on display on the busy corner for a week.

NEW DEAN FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION NAMED NOVEMBER 2014
Deirdre Sato was named dean for International Education in November—a new position that supports an increased global presence for the college and an enhanced learning environment for international students studying here. An FIT aluma, Sato has more than 20 years’ experience in academic administration. Before joining FIT, she was the director of international programs and services at Purchase College, where she expanded study-abroad options and faculty and institutional collaborations. Sato is also the secretary of the steering committee of the SUNY Council on International Education. She has a PhD in international education and a master’s in higher education administration from New York University, a bachelor’s in social relations from Cornell University, and an associate degree in Fashion Design from FIT.

KIMORA LEE SIMMONS ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP FUND OCTOBER 2014
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STUDENT WINS RAY GREENLY SCHOLARSHIP OCTOBER 2014
Evan Chisholm, a second-year student in Fashion Merchandising Management, won the competitive Ray Greenly Scholarship from the National Retail Federation. The scholarship supports students pursuing degrees in fields that address digital retail, recognizing those with “a creative, entrepreneurial spirit who can find innovative ways to connect retail customers to brands and products.” The lengthy application process requires students to show support from faculty, demonstrate good grades, and write a number of essays and a case study; retail industry executives select the finalists.

FIT REVISITS MASTER PLAN FOR ACADEMIC BUILDINGS OCTOBER 2014
The college is updating its 2005 Master Plan focusing on academic buildings and the overall campus. Consultant Fletcher Thompson Architecture Engineering, under the leadership of Patrick Curley, AIA, is facilitating the process, guided by a steering committee made up of 20 leaders in the college administration. The firm toured campus in summer 2014, reviewed previous planning documents, and met with many members of the FIT community to understand the priorities and wishes for academic space. Two town halls were held, in fall 2014 and spring 2015, with the goal of presenting a revised Master Plan to the FIT Board of Trustees in the spring of 2016.

To win the $25,000 top prize, Chisholm bested more than 100 other applicants, including students from the University of Pennsylvania, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Stanford University. In awarding Chisholm first place, the NRF praised his “mind built for business,” and predicted that he “is definitely going places.”

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S.2 MILLION GRANT FOR ENERGY UPGRADES OCTOBER 2014
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S.2 MILLION GRANT FOR ENERGY UPGRADES OCTOBER 2014
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NEW DEAN FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION NAMED NOVEMBER 2014
Deirdre Sato was named dean for International Education in November—a new position that supports an increased global presence for the college and an enhanced learning environment for international students studying here. An FIT alumna, Sato has more than 20 years’ experience in academic administration. Before joining FIT, she was the director of international programs and services at Purchase College, where she expanded study-abroad options and faculty and institutional collaborations. Sato is also the secretary of the steering committee of the SUNY Council on International Education. She has a PhD in international education and a master’s in higher education administration from New York University, a bachelor’s in social relations from Cornell University, and an associate degree in Fashion Design from FIT.
Ten students this fall received internship scholarships through SUNYWorks, a SUNY program partly funded by the Lumina Foundation that aims to relieve some costs incurred when doing unpaid internships for credit. Students submitted an information packet and essay on how the internship and scholarship would help them advance professionally; awards were based on financial and professional need. Advertising and Marketing Communications student Jocelyn Bula completed an internship with Concept Media through the program; AMC student Mollie Flinton interned with Cannon Style. Students submitted an information packet and essay on how the internship and scholarship would help them advance professionally; awards were based on financial and professional need. Advertising and Marketing Communications student Jocelyn Bula completed an internship with Concept Media through the program; AMC student Mollie Flinton interned with Cannon Style.

Three alumni noted in coffee table book


Fashion illustration collection turns 30

To mark the 30th anniversary of the Gladys Marcus Library’s archive of fashion illustrations—which has grown from 30 pieces of original art to over 300—the library in late November mounted the exhibition Fashionable Art: The Frances Neady Collection of Original Fashion Illustrations. Named for a professor of fashion illustration at FIT and Parsons, the collection was started by two former students soon after Neady’s death in 1982. The exhibition, on view in January, included such items as a 1950s Countess Mara advertisement by Alvin Pimler for The New Yorker; a 1981 George Stavrinos illustration of a female figure surrounded by fans for Bergdorf Goodman, and a charcoal and watercolor image created by René Bouché for Vogue in the 1960s. Rosemary Torre, a fashion illustrator and former FIT professor, organized the exhibition. Torre also participated in a panel called “Fashion Illustration Redefined” with illustrators Carlos Aponte and IzaK Zenou, art producer MerriLee Hexter-Ferry-Diaz, and artist agent Stephanie Pesakoff.

Faculty member shows work; receives grant

Michelle Handelman, assistant chair of Film, Media, and the Performing Arts, won an unrestricted $10,000 grant from the Art Matters Foundation in December to develop a film project. Her film, titled Hustlers and Empires, is based on an obscure 1968 FelliIn film; it began shooting this summer. Another project by Handelman, Dorian, A Cinematic Perfume, was shown at the Leslie-Lohman Museum in Soho between February 13 and May 3.

Professor illustrates for screen and stage

Bill Donovan, adjunct associate professor of Illustration, created the artwork for a holiday video for the skin care company L’Occitane. The 40-second spot was shown in all L’Occitane stores during the 2014 holiday season and was part of the company’s social media campaign. A few months later, Donovan created the promotional poster for the Broadway production of Gigi, starring Vanessa Hudgens. For the pink-and-black poster—his first for a Broadway show—Donovan took inspiration from the 1958 film.

Student wins American horror story contest

Fashion Design student Yekaterina Burmatnova created the winning design in a costume contest sponsored by American Horror Story; the FX TV series. Some 800 entries poured in with designs for the show’s circus-inspired fourth season. They were judged by Lou Eyrich, the show’s head costume designer; Stephanie Gibbons, the network’s president of marketing and on-air promotions; and designer Christian Siriano. Burmatnova’s ringmaster costume design consisted of a black-and-white stretch jacket over a long red dress with a puffy skirt. It was encased in a black, crow-adorned birdcage. The prize was $5,000 and the chance to meet Eyrich in New Orleans. Costume designer Jennifer Love turned the concept into reality, and it was featured on the show’s social channels.

Holiday shop raises funds for cancer care

A pop-up shop that donates its profits to charity made a comeback this year and is quickly becoming an annual tradition. Season’s Greet-Inks, a holiday thrift shop in the Pomerantz Thrift Center, was run entirely by Visual Presentation and Exhibition Design students, who designed it with a “fantasy forest” theme. The Society Boutique, the thrift shop run by the Society of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, chose this year’s theme out of 12 proposals. The shop, open from December 10 to 13, raised $19,500 to benefit the society, which supports cancer patient care and research.
COLLEGE IS NAMED TO PRESIDENT’S COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL DECEMBER 2014

The college was named to the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, one of 766 higher education institutions and 19 SUNY campuses to achieve this distinction. The honor roll aims to put “more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.” FIT’s citation is in the general community service category. It is the third time in the past four years that FIT has been named to the list. Since 2011, student engagement at FIT has increased by 35 percent.

FASHIONISTA RANKS FIT NO. 6 IN THE WORLD DECEMBER 2014

Fashionista.com, a top fashion news and industry site, placed FIT sixth on its 2014 list of “The Top 50 Fashion Schools in the World.” The listing, published December 22, praised the college’s teaching of technical skills and called it “a great choice for those who are as career driven as they are creatively driven.” The college has been in the top ten in the world since Fashionista began ranking fashion schools globally in 2010.

COLLEGE HOSTS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS PANEL DECEMBER 2014

New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined the FIT community to discuss the problem of sexual assault on campus, taking part in a panel with MSNBC national reporter Irin Carmon, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) president Randi Weingarten, Howard University professor Tricia Bent-Goodley, and student activists Andrea Pino and Annie Clark from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The AFT hosted the December 15 discussion, followed by a Q&A. “We always focus on the victim and what she was wearing and what she was doing,” Bent-Goodley said. “We need to change the conversation.” Gillibrand, who has spearheaded legislation to reduce sexual assault, spoke about such issues as the too-short statute of limitations and the importance of training police to work with assault survivors. “The number-one reason a survivor doesn’t report is not trusting that justice is possible,” she said. “Regardless of the measure you use, too many rapes are happening on our college campuses today, and not enough justice is being delivered.”

ATHLETIC PROGRAM LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE JANUARY 2015

After a year-and-a-half-long redesign process, the college’s athletics department launched a new website to showcase student-athlete talent, FITTigers.com includes a staff directory, photos, schedules, a list of awards, and athletic facilities information.

ILLUSTRATION CHAIR JOINS PRESTIGIOUS JOURNAL JANUARY 2015

Melanie Reim, chair of FIT’s Illustration MFA program, was invited to join the editorial board of Catwalk: The Journal of Fashion, Beauty and Style. The journal, published by Inter-Disciplinary Press, is a peer-reviewed publication that focuses on the many dimensions—historical, social, economic, political, and artistic—of fashion, beauty, and style.

DR. BROWN JOINS “POWERFUL WOMEN” PANEL JANUARY 2015

President Joyce Brown joined four fashion industry executives on a panel discussion titled “Powerful Women in Fashion/Retail” hosted by the College of New Rochelle. The January 4 event—part of a series that honors women in key industries—also included Julie Gaynor, vice president and general manager of Neiman Marcus in Westchester; Barbara Lamonica, founding partner of the fashion consulting firm Lamonica-Baas Group; Kara Mendelsohn, creative director of the college’s Technical Design program.
FIT TO CONSTRUCT STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDING

BUILDING FOR FIT’S FUTURE
FIT is set to construct a 10-story, state-of-the-art academic building, expected to open in 2019-20. Mayor Bill de Blasio’s executive budget, announced in May, allocated $74 million for the project, matching a 2009 allocation from the State of New York. The first new academic facility on campus in four decades, the structure will be built within the footprint of the existing campus, opening onto West 28th Street. It will provide nearly 100,000 square feet of space for classrooms, studios, and student services. With funding now in place, one year will be spent finalizing the design, and construction will take about three years.

FIT’s student population has doubled over 30 years, but academic space has increased by only 3.68 percent, creating a severe shortage that has limited the college’s growth. FIT needs not only more space, but more modern space, since its specialized fields require advanced technology and areas for students, faculty, and industry to collaborate. The building will address these needs, strengthening FIT’s role as an education leader and a partner to the creative industries in New York City.

Designed by the award-winning New York firm SHoP Architects in a competition sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the dramatic structure will add an exciting element to the neighborhood and bring life to what has been a nondescript block. The innovative design incorporates environmentally friendly technology, reflecting FIT’s commitment to sustainability. The LEED-certified building includes a green roof and a photovoltaic façade that distributes light throughout the space while collecting solar energy for heating and cooling systems. The transparent exterior opens the life of the college to the neighborhood, conveying a welcoming presence and allowing a dynamic interchange between the campus and the surrounding community.

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GRADUATE STUDENTS IN SUNY POSTER SYMPOSIUM
FEBRUARY 2015
Graduate students got the chance to present their research to a large audience at a poster symposium sponsored by SUNY and CUNY titled “Graduate Research: Making a Difference in New York.” The event was held in Albany’s Legislative Office Building on February 11, with an audience of legislative representatives, SUNY administration officials, and members of the public.

President Brown Joins Mayor’s Fashion Working Group
FEBRUARY 2015
In February, Dr. Joyce F. Brown was appointed to Mayor Bill de Blasio’s Fashion Working Group, which is developing proposals to support and grow the fashion industry in New York City.

Congresswoman Maloney Unveils Fashion Report
FEBRUARY 2015
U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney chose the FIT campus to present a report analyzing the economic impact of New York Fashion Week and the city’s fashion industry. The report, which Maloney developed with the Joint Economic Committee, found that Fashion Week generates $887 million in economic activity every year—more than its counterparts in Paris and Milan. “New York is leading in almost every economic indicator,” Maloney said, unveiling the report on February 6. “And the people we’re standing with are the people that made this happen.

Faculty Exhibition Showcases Internationalism
JANUARY 2015
Faculty from the School of Art and Design initiated an exhibition titled Cultural Spheres: 2015 International Exhibition Celebrating Diversity of Culture and Creativity that took place January 24 to February 7 in Gallery FIT and brought together student artwork from FIT, South Korea’s Gachon University, and Taiwan’s Kun Shan University. The exhibition is part of a multi-year project conceived by Suzanne Anoushian, Christie Shin, and Visiting Scholar. C.J. Yeh, all Communication Design, and Curtis Willocks, Photography. The project, which received a Diversity Council grant, also brought one of South Korea’s most renowned designers, Chang Sook Kim, to the college as an International Visiting Scholar.

Graduate students presented the sales implications of radio-frequency identification tags in clothing. Scott Fowler, Illustration, showed a retrospective of the role of black American Illustrators in the movement for equality, and Yesenia Abreu, Sustainable Interior Environments, addressed the ways hotel lobbies can be better integrated with natural environments.

Faculty Contribute Artwork for Veterans Fundraiser
FEBRUARY 2015
A nonprofit dedicated to helping veterans received donations from six FIT faculty members and alumni. Faculty members Steve Brodner, Dennis Dittrich, William Low, Melanie Reim, and Stephen Gardner, who is also an alumnus, along with alumna Bri Herman, created original work for the project 52 Reasons to Love a Vet. The initiative sells artwork in the form of prints, posters, books, and playing cards to raise funds, which are used to help veterans with education and health care.

Six Students Win YMA Scholarships
FEBRUARY 2015
Six FIT students won scholarships from the YMA Fashion Scholarship Fund in spring 2015, Jenny Zhao, Textile Development and Marketing, won the top prize—a $30,000 Geoffrey Beene National Scholarship. (Zhao graduated in May summa cum laude; she also received a Chancellor’s Award and a Raymond Nordholm Memorial Senior Night Award.) Five other students won scholarships from the YMA Fashion Scholarship Fund. Fashion Design students Chelsea Chen, Kurtis Fox, Jody Lee, and Andrea Spiridonakos, and Fashion Merchandising Management student Victoria Kuleza each won $5,000.

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ILLUSTRATION PROFESSOR CONTINUES STAMP SERIES

FEBRUARY 2015

Kam Mak, assistant chair of Illustration, continued his work designing the U.S. Postal Service Lunar New Year stamp series with a design commemorating the Year of the Ram. The USPS commissioned Mak in 2008 to create a series of 12 stamps; this was the eighth in the series. The stamp features a round tray filled with dried fruit and sweets on a blue background, symbolizing togetherness, creativity, and artistic talent—traits of people born in the Year of the Ram. The year runs from February 19, 2015 to February 7, 2016.

LAUREN BACALL IS FOCUS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS’ EXHIBITION

MARCH 2015

Graduate students in Fashion and Textile Studies: History, Theory, Museum Practice paid homage to screen and fashion legend Lauren Bacall in a month-long show this spring. Inspired by gifts of her clothes that Bacall made to The Museum at FIT starting in the late 1960s, the students explored the development of the unique style that Bacall herself called “studied carelessness.” The show, titled Lauren Bacall: The Look, featured garments by designers including Christian Dior, Pierre Cardin, and Norman Norell along with magazine archives and film footage. The exhibition, on display March 5 to April 4, was covered by The Associated Press, Vogue, Women’s Wear Daily, The Daily Beast, Elle, Harper’s Bazaar, Marie Claire, Racked, and New York, among others.

STUDENTS PRESENT COMPOSTING PROJECT AT CJIU

MARCH 2015

Two Textile Development and Marketing students, Lynda Baird and Willa Tokcanis, represented the college at the Clinton Global Initiative University, a weekend-long gathering at the University of Miami that took place March 6–8. This was the second year FIT students participated in the event, which brings together a thousand college students to spur discussion and create solutions to global challenges; of the numerous submissions, only about one in six proposals are selected for selection. Baird and Tokcanis proposed a muslin composting system, a model for reducing the large amounts of textile waste created by the apparel industry. The students devised an on-campus aerobic compost bin, which breaks down the cotton muslin left over from FIT classes into nutrient-rich compost to be used in campus green spaces. (See more on page 17.)

FIT WINS FUSION COMPETITION

MARCH 2015

FIT was named Best Overall School in the 2015 Fusion Fashion Show, an annual competition with Parsons School of Design held on March 7 and 8. FIT Fashion Design major Halsey Byfield was named best designer. The competition was launched in 2000 by a Parsons alumnus to showcase the two schools’ talent. Sixteen students from each school are chosen to participate; all majors are eligible. A series of five shows take place over a weekend and are judged by a panel of industry experts. At this year’s event, which boasted record attendance, judges included Peter Davis, group executive editor of Daily Front Row; James Worthington DeMole, senior fashion editor for Cosmopolitan and Seventeen; style bloggers Tom Fitzgerald and Lorenzo Marquez; Shawn Reddy, a designer at Proenza Schouler; and stylist Mary Kate Steinmiller.

MFIT AMONG CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER’S “TEN BEST”

MARCH 2015

The magazine called MFIT “a haven for fashionistas, with exhibits that look at every aspect of fashion, from the historical garments that inspire current looks to the celebrities who don couture clothing.”

SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL SOURCING FORUM

MARCH 2015

Some 150 attendees came out March 24 for an industry-spanning discussion about creating more sustainable global supply chains. The event, organized by the International Trade and Marketing, and Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing departments and the Enterprise Center, featured more than 25 speakers addressing topics from global sourcing trends to product life cycles. Notable speakers included Maxine Beldt, co-founder of Zady.com; Bob Bland, CEO and founder of Manufacture NY; and Kyle Thomas, sustainability manager for Le Pain Quotidien. One panel addressed the connections between ethical sourcing and preserving indigenous cultures; another, which featured executives from the hospitality industries, examined the importance of worker engagement and health to the sustainability of the corporate enterprise.
Graduating students in the Art Market Master of Arts program curated and presented an exhibition, *de-con-struct*, held in the Lower East Side gallery NOoSphere Arts April 17 to May 10. The show featured ten artists working in a variety of media, and explored the veracity of contemporary artistic norms and social standards. Among the artists featured were Elle, a street artist whose work includes powerful women and references to the natural world; Johanna Goodman, an illustrator known for her whimsical, energetic portraits of celebrities and cultural icons; and John Whitlock, a multimedia artist who creates elaborate, mesmerizing collages of graphic images, videos, and sound. FIT students Nina Blumberg, Cassandra Caro, Bianca Hirschowitz, Johanna Quinton, Caitlin Santomauro, TaraMarie Toci, and Beckie Warren curated the show.

Steven Kolb, the CEO of the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA), visited campus April 9 for a Love Your Library event. Speaking in the Katie Murphy Amphitheatre, Kolb explained to students and FIT community members what he does for the CFDA and shared advice for students’ future endeavors. In his role, Kolb is responsible for all operations and activities for the CFDA, which represents 470 American fashion designers working in women’s wear, menswear, jewelry, and accessories. He manages the CFDA’s membership, trade association activities, and philanthropy. One piece of Kolb’s advice that students later tweeted: “You never know where connections will take you.”
FIT ADDS NEW GREEN ROOF
A green roof was installed on the bridge between the Shirley Goodman Resource Center and the Fred P. Pomerantz Art and Design Center in September 2014. Green roofs, which are covered with low-maintenance sedum plants, contribute to sustainability, insulating the structures from summer heat and reducing water run-off. The college will eventually install green roofs on all campus buildings, replacing each one as a new roof becomes necessary.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:
Weave-a-Thon, a crowdsourced art project using scrap yarn and textiles salvaged from Textile/Surface Design to create a wall hanging.
Field trip to a state-of-the-art New York City recycling facility that uses magnets and lasers for sorting.
Where Does FIT’s Trash Go?, a presentation highlighting the global pathways of materials discarded on FIT’s campus.
Greenmarket, locally grown fruits and vegetables for sale on campus.
Walking tour of Coney Island beach, focusing on environmental challenges facing marine life and ecological systems.
Green roof tours, a rare opportunity to see FIT’s green roofs.
Think Big Challenge Information Session, helping students change current thinking about education, energy, climate change, global health, human rights, and poverty.
Transportation Alternatives 101, presenting cool bikes from Zen Bikes and safety tips from Transportation Alternatives.

SUSTAINABILITY CONTINUES HIGH ON FIT’S AGENDA

FIT adds new Green Roof
A green roof was installed on the bridge between the Shirley Goodman Resource Center and the Fred P. Pomerantz Art and Design Center in September 2014. Green roofs, which are covered with low-maintenance sedum plants, contribute to sustainability, insulating the structures from summer heat and reducing water run-off. The college will eventually install green roofs on all campus buildings, replacing each one as a new roof becomes necessary.

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The Interior Design Department of York University, Parsons School of Arts Club on Gramercy Park. This is the second consecutive year an FIT student has won the prize, a first in the history of the show. The winner is chosen from participants in the club’s annual student exhibition; aside from FIT, participating schools this year were the Art Students League, Lehman College, New York University, Parsons School of Design, Pratt Institute, and the School of Visual Arts. Flora, a Flushing, Queens, native, was graduated summa cum laude in May.

Governor announces legislation to curb assault

May 2015
New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo presented legislation to curb the sexual assault epidemic on campuses at a news conference at FIT on May 11. A standing-room-only crowd of students, staff, and community members filled the room. The “Enough is Enough” legislation would require all New York colleges to adopt strict policies treating sexual assault as a criminal justice matter, not only a disciplinary one. It aims to create a statewide definition of affirmative consent, make it easier for students to report sexual violence by granting them immunity for breaking drug and alcohol use policies, and includes a bill of rights for victims of sexual violence. Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, who endorsed the bill, joined the governor on stage. Other legislators who attended included Representatives Yvette Clarke, Jerry Nadler, Carolyn Maloney, Jose Serrano, and Nydia Velázquez. Also present were former Council Speaker Christine Quinn and New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker.

Valerie Steele honored

May 2015
Museum at FIT Director Valerie Steele received the Millic Davenport Publication Award from the Costume Society of America. The award denotes a book or catalog that “makes a significant contribution to the study of costume, reflects original thought and exceptional creativity.” Steele received the award for the book A Queer Closet to the Catwalk, which she edited and which accompanied an MITF exhibition by the same name. The previous fall, Steele was named to the Business of Fashion’s “Fashion 500” list, which recognizes the most influential personalities in the fashion industry. Her profile notes that she “has been influential in raising public awareness of the cultural and social significance of fashion.”

Brooke Shields, Marc Metrick speak at commencement ceremonies

May 2015
In the packed Jacob K. Javits Center on Manhattan’s West Side, some 4,000 graduating students received their diplomas and a warm send-off in two back-to-back ceremonies on May 21. In the morning, students from the schools of Art and Design and Graduate Studies heard from the governor on stage. Patty Baker School of Business and Technology and the School of Liberal Arts. Renowned architect Daniel Libeskind received an honorary degree. Peter G. Scottie, chairman emeritus of FIT’s Board of Trustees, was honored with the President’s Award for Lifetime Achievement. President’s Awards for Creative Excellence were given to Joy Herbst Cronin, an FIT alumna and Ralph Lauren Corporation group president of the Americas, and alumnus Randy Fenoli, a media personality who gained fame on TV’s Say Yes to the Dress.
Scholar Athletes Honored
May 2015
Three students received SUNY Scholar Athlete Awards: Shannon Molter, Fashion Merchandising Management, for the women’s half marathon; Emily Manoe, Advertising and Marketing Communications, for women’s swimming and diving; and Nicole Druzhinsky, Fashion Merchandising Management, for women’s tennis.

Chancellor’s Awards Recognize FIT Faculty
May 2015
Five FIT faculty members received Chancellor’s Awards: Joseph Antee, Fashion Merchandising Management, and Matthew Petruliu, English and Communication Studies, received Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Excellence in Adjunct Teaching awards went to Georgia Kalivas, Textile Development and Marketing; Chad Laird, History of Art; and Darra Landman, English and Communication Studies. The awards, given by SUNY, are intended to give “system-wide recognition for excellence and consistently superior professional achievement.”

Students Win Chancellor’s Awards
May 2015
Six FIT students were honored with Chancellor’s Awards this year. They are Micaela Burke, Advertising and Marketing Communications; Matar Cohen, Advertising Design; Estefania Garcia-Correa, International Trade and Marketing for the Fashion Industries; Emilie Koss, Textile/Surface Design; Elizabeth Pulos, International Trade and Marketing; and Jenny Zhao, Textile Development and Marketing.

The Future of Fashion 2015: FIT’s Crystal Ball
May 2015
FIT’s annual runway show, held April 30, featured looks by 65 graduating Fashion Design BFA students, and offered a glimpse into fashion’s future. Nearly 400 VIPs, designers, fashion industry insiders, and media attended, and more than 15,000 viewers watched live online. Nicole Richie hosted the show, which, for the first time, included a People’s Choice Award winner selected through online vote.

The Future of Fashion is supported by a $2 million multiyear gift from FIT alumnus Calvin Klein and Calvin Klein, Inc. It is also made possible by a generous grant from MAC. Support for the video presentation was provided by Chico’s FAS. Watch the video and see photos of the Critic Award–winning garments at fitnyc.edu/futureoffashion.

Cosmetics and Fragrance Graduate Students Unveil Luxury Predictions
June 2015
Graduating students in the Cosmetics and Fragrance Marketing and Management master’s program unveiled their research results at an event titled “The Future of Luxury” on June 3. At the event, sponsored by LVMH and the Boston Consulting Group and attended by leading industry executives, students presented their findings on how consumers will purchase luxury goods in 2030. The students pinpointed the growing role of cities globally, the changing dominance of brick-and-mortar stores, and the importance of relationships to consumers as driving factors of change in the luxury market. Their recommendations for purveyors of luxury included taking advantage of mobile technology and playing to younger consumers’ desire for an experience, not just a product.
ILLUSTRATION MFA GRADUATES HOLD HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOP JUNE 2015 Shortly after receiving their MFA degrees, newly minted illustration graduates held a workshop to show more than 20 students from the High School of Art and Design the possibilities of multimedia art techniques. Department Chair Melanie Reim and Professor Anelle Miller, who is also executive director of the Society of Illustrators, planned the full-day workshop, which was held at the society June 13. Topics included printmaking, collage, color paintings, and experiments with black ink.

MFA ILLUSTRATION SHOW JUNE 2015 Nine graduating students in FIT’s Master of Fine Arts program in Illustration created a multimedia, dimensional show, Exit Lines, featuring work that combined two- and three-dimensional forms. The exhibition was held in conjunction with a multimedia workshop for high school students. (See previous item.) The convergence of drawing, painting, and digital media was on display in Gallery FIT from June 16 through July 3. Julet Al, Kowoyang Choi, Scott Fowler, Shunyoung Kim, Lynsey Hirth, Felipe Muhr, Bruno Nadalin, Jorge Saldana, and Han-Yuan Yu created works including mini doramas of artists’ homes and studios, a three-dimensional installation of Times Square and an animated trip through the American Museum of Natural History.

WWD FEATURES FIT’S VISION FOR THE FUTURE JUNE 2015 A feature article in Women’s Wear Daily’s digital edition on June 19 profiled the college’s growth plan for the future under the headline “FIT’s 2020 Vision.” The article, by Arthur Friedman, detailed the impact of the new academic building planned for 28th Street on the college’s educational capabilities and student life, and noted President Joyce F. Brown’s goal to promote closer ties between the college and the business community.

CAROLINA HERRERA RECEIVES ARTISTRY OF FASHION AWARD The Couture Council honored designer Carolina Herrera with its 2014 Artistry of Fashion Award at its annual luncheon on September 3, held at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center. The award was presented by comedian Seth Meyers, who has long had an interest in the fashion industry. Guests included Ralph Lauren, Oscar de la Renta, Donna Karan, and Calvin Klein; actresses Lucy Liu and Reesie Zeltweger; and editors Anna Wintour of Vogue and Graydon Carter of Vanity Fair. Museum at FIT Director Valerie Steele said, “Carolina Herrera became famous for creating the kind of elegant, beautiful clothes that she herself wears.” Herrera said she was honored to receive the award. “I have great admiration for The Museum at FIT because it is a link between fashion, culture, and the rich history of our industry,” she said. The Couture Council supports museum exhibitions, acquisitions, and programming.

FASHION AND TEXTILE HISTORY GALLERY FAKING IT: ORIGINS, COPIES, AND COUNTERFEITS DECEMBER 2, 2014–APRIL 25, 2015 Investigated the history of both authorized and unauthorized copying, as well as the various factors that have led to gray areas in authenticity.
### Statement of Revenues

**For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015**

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<td><strong>Net Total</strong></td>
<td>$110,276,242</td>
<td>$33,702,442</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$144,078,684</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>$24,076,669</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$24,076,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>45,373,631</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>45,373,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Counties</td>
<td>26,415,344</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>26,415,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$95,865,644</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$95,865,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Aid Appropriations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$11,503,499</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$11,503,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>5,464,014</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>5,464,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$16,967,513</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$16,967,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gifts and Grants</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State</td>
<td>$115,563,495</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$115,563,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>5,464,014</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>5,464,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$121,027,509</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$121,027,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>$201,112,542</td>
<td>$35,171,222</td>
<td>$639,611</td>
<td>$6,502,584</td>
<td>$243,425,959</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statement of Net Position

**For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>The College</th>
<th>Student Workers Corporation</th>
<th>Student Faculty Corporation</th>
<th>FIT Foundation</th>
<th>Total Reporting Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$8,137,949</td>
<td>$4,281,061</td>
<td>$6,500,615</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$22,120,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Share of Pledged Cash</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short-term Investments</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Short-term Investments</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Securities</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Receivables</strong></td>
<td>$13,357,591</td>
<td>$2,547,045</td>
<td>$5,606,285</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$21,511,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Prepaid and Deposits</strong></td>
<td>$13,357,591</td>
<td>$2,547,045</td>
<td>$5,606,285</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$21,511,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Revenues Receivable (Net of Allowances of $6,072,700)</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Revenues Receivable (Net of Allowances of $6,072,700)</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bonds Proceeds Held by Trustees</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term Investments</strong></td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$12,693,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted Long-term Investments</strong></td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Pension Assets</strong></td>
<td>$8,137,949</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$8,137,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property, Plant, and Equipment (Net of Depreciation)</strong></td>
<td>$78,406,368</td>
<td>$131,070,093</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$209,586,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$94,905,860</td>
<td>$162,694,104</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$257,604,074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Outflows of Resources</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Amount on Refunding</strong></td>
<td>$4,648,208</td>
<td>$7,099,779</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$7,405,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Amount Related to Pensions</strong></td>
<td>$4,648,208</td>
<td>$7,099,779</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$7,405,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Deferred Outflow of Resources</strong></td>
<td>$9,396,416</td>
<td>$14,199,556</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$15,600,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$18,200,356</td>
<td>$1,243,406</td>
<td>$67,720</td>
<td>$380,029</td>
<td>$21,510,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interest Payable</strong></td>
<td>$195,237</td>
<td>$3,251,113</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$3,446,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accrued Retiree Health Benefits</strong></td>
<td>$44,274,984</td>
<td>$179,046</td>
<td>$202,001</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$44,485,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Due to Pledged Cash</strong></td>
<td>$25,712,942</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$25,712,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Due to Affiliates</strong></td>
<td>$2,034,815</td>
<td>$3,661,938</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$5,699,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Revenue and Credits</strong></td>
<td>$3,461,234</td>
<td>$4,004,945</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$7,466,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term Debt</strong></td>
<td>$7,253,230</td>
<td>$128,810,741</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$136,064,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$118,270,274</td>
<td>$147,017,763</td>
<td>$236,255</td>
<td>$43,003,013</td>
<td>$336,542,065</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Inflow of Resources</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deferred Amount Related to Pensions</strong></td>
<td>$10,263,505</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$10,263,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Position</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted</strong></td>
<td>$99,476,292</td>
<td>$91,451,288</td>
<td>$102,765</td>
<td>$2,855,309</td>
<td>$197,658,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Investment in Capital Assets</strong></td>
<td>$7,050,201</td>
<td>$1,032,491</td>
<td>$1,971,701</td>
<td>$40,515,287</td>
<td>$40,620,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted—Spendable</strong></td>
<td>$6,252,292</td>
<td>$1,971,701</td>
<td>$1,971,701</td>
<td>$40,515,287</td>
<td>$40,620,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted—Permanent</strong></td>
<td>$6,252,292</td>
<td>$1,971,701</td>
<td>$1,971,701</td>
<td>$40,515,287</td>
<td>$40,620,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Position</strong></td>
<td>$199,993,575</td>
<td>$233,189,647</td>
<td>$512,765</td>
<td>$48,872,018</td>
<td>$310,165,986</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Statement of Expenses and Changes in Net Position

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

#### Expenses

##### Functional Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>Student Housing Corporation</th>
<th>Student Faculty Corporation</th>
<th>FIT Foundation</th>
<th>Total Functional Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional</td>
<td>$72,647,034</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$72,647,034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Service</td>
<td>186,314</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>186,314</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Support</td>
<td>26,206,010</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>26,206,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Support</td>
<td>39,747,918</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>39,747,918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Maintenance and Operation</td>
<td>30,043,434</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>30,043,434</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Aid and Loan Expense</td>
<td>296,291</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>296,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Functional Expense</strong></td>
<td>$180,969,508</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$180,969,508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

##### Expenses of Affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>Student Housing Corporation</th>
<th>Student Faculty Corporation</th>
<th>FIT Foundation</th>
<th>Total Functional Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Charges</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$17,013,560</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$17,013,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and College Subsidies</td>
<td>4,836,666</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>365,439</td>
<td>4,671,413</td>
<td>9,687,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>$446,221</td>
<td>2,590,197</td>
<td>$2,650,940</td>
<td>$2,650,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$195,498,390</td>
<td>$29,468,636</td>
<td>$824,660</td>
<td>$6,875,212</td>
<td>$232,666,898</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Increase/(Decrease)

| Net Increase/(Decrease)      | $155,190,190 | $29,468,636                 | $824,660                    | $6,875,212     | $193,366,898           |

#### Net Assets—Ending

| Net Assets—Ending            | $109,993,575 | $33,185,547                 | $512,765                    | $49,672,518    | $193,366,405           |

---

**Financial Aid**

- Departmental support: 64%
- Capital and other: 3%
- Financial aid: 34%
- Unrestricted: 35%
- Temporarily restricted: 60%
- Permanently restricted: 5%
DONORS DONORS DONORS

DONOR PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN

- 43% Corporations
- 29% Foundations
- 28% Individuals

$500,000 AND ABOVE
Calvin Klein, Inc. (a PVH family company)
Kimora Lee Simmons/Russ Philanthropic Arts Foundation, Inc.

$100,000–$499,999
Calvin Klein Family Foundation
The Estée Lauder Companies Inc.
G-III Leather Fashions, Inc.
Morris Goldfarb
Edwin A. Goodman
Joan and George Hornig
Jane Hertzmark Hudis
Joan and George Hornig

$50,000–$99,999
Carolyn Herrera, Ltd.
The Coby Foundation, Ltd.
Cosa Nova Fashions Limited
Cotton Incorporated
Josie Cruz Natori
Josie Frank
Joy Herfel Cronin
Carolina Herrera
Macy’s Foundation
Natori Co.
Pat and Jay Baker Foundation, Inc.
Jeffrey and Elizabeth Peek
Polo Ralph Lauren Corporation
John Rigas
Rosenthal & Rosenthal Inc.
J. Michael Stanley
Toy Industry Association, Inc.

$25,000–$49,999
Advanced American Style Inc.
Advantar Communications Inc.
Andrew and Ann Tisch Foundation
Angelo Donghia Foundation Inc.
Dr. Jay and Pat Baker
Pamela Kathryn Baxter
BC International Group, Inc.
Jacalyn E.S. Bennett
BrandingIron Worldwide Inc.
Pamela Kathryn Baxter
Dr. Jay and Pat Baker

$10,000–$24,999
ABG Standard Operator LLC
Amale Aberra
Alexandra & James LLC/Lebental & Co.
Alicia + Olivia Inc.
Ann Inc.
Giorgiana Appignani
Anne Baker
Barnes & Noble, Inc.
Dennis Bassio
batulature beauty, LLC
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Cynthia Breen
Ineke Buchman
Burberry Limited
Burlington Coat Factory, Inc.
Council of Fashion Designers (CFDA)

$5,000–$9,999
A Papas Corp.
Bahnik Foundation
Barclays Wealth
Bonne Cashin Foundation
Brown Shoe Company, Inc.
Buffalo & Associates
Capital One Bank
Carolee LLC
Celine Inc.

CHR Fashion Distributors LTD
Charles Schwab Charitable Fund
CIT Group, Inc.
Lita Cunningham
Nina Rennert Davidson
Susan Daykin
The Fashion Service Network Inc.
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Fieldean Investment Company
The Fragrance Foundation
Alexia Ghadamian
Givaudan Fragrance Corporation
Glenn Raven Inc.
Global Brands Group USA
Lynn Goldstein

Barbara Caplin Stanton
Lari Stanton
Swarovski North America Ltd.
TAG Associates LLC
C. William Tanzi
The TJX Foundation, Inc.
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Give online by credit card at fitnyc.edu/givetofit.

By Check/Money Order
Please make your check or money order payable to:
FIT Foundation
227 West 27 Street, Room C204
New York, NY 10001-5992

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Double or triple the impact of your gift by having your company match your contribution to FIT. Search for your employer in our matching gift database online by visiting fitnyc.edu/givetofit and clicking “Give to FIT.”

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Shari Prusin, deputy to the president

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Mary E. Davis, dean for the School of Graduate Studies
Steven Frumkin, dean for the Jay and Patty Baker School of Business and Technology
Patrick Knisley, acting dean for the School of Liberal Arts

THE MUSEUM AT FIT
Valerie Steeke, director and chief curator

FIT ADMINISTRATION AS OF JUNE 30, 2015

FIT FACTS AS OF SPRING 2015

FOUNDED DATE
1944

ACCREDITATIONS
Middle States Commission on Higher Education
National Association of Schools of Art and Design
Council for Interior Design Accreditation
American Alliance of Museums

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS
School of Art and Design
Jay and Patty Baker School of Business and Technology
School of Liberal Arts
School of Graduate Studies
Center for Continuing and Professional Studies

PROGRAMS
Associate in Applied Science 15
Bachelor of Fine Arts 14
Bachelor of Science 12
Master of Arts 4
Master of Fine Arts 1
Master of Professional Studies 2
Credit Certificate 11

COLLEGE FACULTY
Full-time 240
Part-time 704

ENROLLMENT
Associate 4,741
Bachelor’s 3,517
Master’s 197
Nonmatriculated 1,307
Total 9,764

DEGREES AWARDED
2014–2015
Associate 2,115
Bachelor’s 1,528
Master’s 71
Certificates 53
Total 3,772

DIVERSITY
International Students 12%
Asian 10%
Black 10%
Hispanic 10%
Multiracial 3%
White 46%
Female 85%
Male 15%

FIT FOUNDATION
Joyce F. Brown, president
Sherry F. Brabham, chief financial officer
Robert Ferguson, executive director

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Jill Granoff, secretary
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Kevi Mansell
Tom Nastos
Elizabeth T. Peek
Roberto Ramos
Bruce P. Rockowitz
Peter G. Scotes
Gary Sheinbaum
PRODUCED BY
Communications and External Relations

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Power of Possibility: Nancy Garfinkel
Highlights: Irina Ivanova

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Pentagram

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