Thinking about studying abroad? Based on my first hand experience, I strongly encourage all students to study abroad. It is a big commitment, but an even greater adventure. Though it can be costly, there are many programs to choose from along with many great resources. From learning independence, trying new things, and meeting all kinds of people, there is much to gain from studying abroad. In my opinion, it is worth every penny.

Unlike many, I decided to study abroad at the very last-minute, and I mean one week before the deadline-last minute! Following a fairly difficult semester, I decided to look into the possibility of fulfilling a life-long dream of visiting Paris, France. Rather than planning for a year, or a semester, I started planning just a week before the applications were due, and applied through the American Institute for Foreign Study. Although a cliché, I have to say if I can do it, anyone can! I was approved to study at the Catholic University of Paris.

As a Textile and Apparel Management major and French minor, you can imagine my elation to live in Paris for the spring 2018 semester. I lived in a beautiful Parisian home with the most kind-hearted, wise, little old French lady. I made friends from around the world. In addition, I went on new adventures almost daily. Some of my favorite adventures included: discovering hidden cafes and thrift stores, visiting world renowned museums weekly, and traveling to Santorini, Greece for a weekend. These are the kinds of memories I will cherish for years to come.

Having the opportunity to travel and experience different cultures is a great privilege. It is an opportunity that can be hard to come by after college. For this exact reason, I would encourage anyone who is thinking about studying abroad to go for it. It can be a scary, nerve-wracking experience, but one that you will not regret.

Should you have the opportunity to study abroad, I would like to leave a small piece of advice. Document your experience as much as possible, whether it be in a journal, with photography, or through videos. Studying abroad is one of those experiences you will look back on and realize it helped shape you into the person you are today. In the wise words of author and journalist, William Langewiesche, “so much of who we are is where we have been.”
Visual Art & Design Showcase: February 5-16, 2018

Six Textile and Apparel Management students were selected as finalists for this year’s Visual Art and Design Showcase! Senior Olivia Eastman won an Award of Merit in Applied Design for her work “Cracking a World” with mentor Dr. Jean Parsons. Read more: http://hes.missouri.edu/news.html#VADS

As a juror in the 2018 Visual Art and Design Showcase, FIT instructor Tetsuo Tamanaha visited TAM facilities, the historic clothing collection, and the Product Development capstone class. Learn more about Ted and the other jurors here: https://undergraduatestudies.missouri.edu/showcase/2018-jury/
FSF Scholarship Competition Winner!

Congratulations to Apparel Marketing & Merchandising student Rylie Bryant, winner of a $5,000 scholarship in the 2018 Fashion Scholarship Fund (FSF) competition. Rylie was among 540 competitors who submitted case studies for the competition. In January, Rylie attended the FSF Scholarship Gala in New York City with award winners from across the country.

Here is what Rylie had to say about her experience: "Winning the YMA Fashion Scholarship Fund competition, and attending the Awards Gala was both humbling and rewarding. The relationships that I built, the opportunities I was presented with, and the doors that were opened by being a YMA FSF recipient are invaluable."

For more information about the 2019 competition, please go to: https://www.ymafsf.org/fsfcasestudy/.

2018 “Fashion for All” Student Design Competition

Congratulations to Apparel Product Development student Andrea Bilgrien, 3rd place winner and $1000 scholarship recipient, of the national Fashion for All student design competition co-hosted by the Runway of Dreams Foundation and the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists. The competition challenged students to design a clothing item that reimagined fashion and function for people who are seated/wheelchair users. Andrea’s jacket design, titled “Gilded,” was created for women over 50 years old and use wheelchairs. Andrea said of her target market and jacket design, “women in this age bracket are essentially ignored by mainstream designers, let alone women in this bracket who also have limited mobility. My goal with this project was to create a sophisticated, unique, and most importantly, easy to wear garment that makes the wearer feel confident while simultaneously designing to accommodate varying levels of mobility.” Dr. Kristen Morris was her faculty mentor.

Fashion Stylist Speaks to ATAM

Laura Farris Schuffman, TAM Advisory Board member, spoke to ATAM members about “Styling 101” at their March 12 meeting. Laura works with Freeform (previously ABC Family), serving as a style consultant and network “stylista.” Most notably, Laura has worked as a stylist with the cast of Pretty Little Liars and is the official stylist for the Hasbro My Little Pony Equestrian Girls. Students were excited to host Laura, and learn more about this increasingly popular career option.
New York Fashion Week Competition!

Chelsea Harrell (TAM ‘19) and Olivia Bleeker (TAM ‘18) won a department wide competition that allowed them to attend NY Fashion Week, all expenses paid, in February 2018. The Collegiate Licensing Company (CLC), in conjunction with IMG Fashion, developed an “insiders” view of fashion week for the competition winners. The competition was also sponsored in partnership with MU Licensing & Trademarks, and the Mizzou Store. Here is what Olivia and Chelsea had to say about their experience.

One of the highlights of this trip was the “behind the scenes” access we had at Fashion Week. Not only did the networking panels provide an extensive amount of information, but there was also the opportunity to meet executives from IMG, peek behind the scenes at the shows’ backstage area, and spend time in the VIP lounge. The night after we arrived, we had dinner with the IMG coordinators and the other students who were selected from their respective universities to participate in this amazing opportunity as well. What made this experience truly unique was the diversity of majors within our group. It was satisfying to know that although some of us are pursuing different career paths, we all have a passion for one thing in particular: fashion.

The following morning, our journey through NYFW officially began! When we first arrived at Spring Studios, the venue for “NYFW: The Shows,” we glimpsed what it is like to be backstage and see the models briskly get ready for their shows. Following the backstage tour, we were able to see two notable designers’ shows, Dion Lee and Son Jung Wan. After being intrigued by these shows, it was evident that there was a remarkable production team that played a significant role in making this magic happen, as we learned more about at the networking panel.

At the networking panel, we heard from professionals who were editors, marketing managers, and advertising creatives. Through their very distinct roles in the industry, it was clear how helpful the TAM courses are in preparing us for our careers. From these professionals discussing the need for marketing skills and product development skills, it was apparent that our courses will be very beneficial in launching us into the industry as successful employees. After returning from NYFW, we truly have a passion like never before to be even better students and to soak up all the knowledge that we can in order to hit the ground running once we graduate.

New York City is such an incredible place, and it honestly only gets better during NYFW season. The amazing things that there are to love about New York coupled with it basically being heaven for fashion gurus made it so difficult to leave. If you are a TAM student that has the opportunity to apply for this trip in the future, we really encourage you to take advantage!
Graduate Students Reflect Globalization of Our Industry

TAM graduate students recently gathered for a photo opportunity. Listed from back to front are back row: Shuyi Huang, Hail Ipaye, Lida Aflatoonny, Abby Romine, Nicole Eckerson, Dipali Modi, front row: Rafiqul Rana, Balou Wang, Max Duroseau.

Not shown: Claudine Barner, Kerri McBee-Black, Eunmi Lee, Rachel LoMonaco-Benzing and Angela Uriyo

Graduate Student Presents Design at The Costume Society of America

A TAM graduate student, Lida Aflatoonny presented her design research at the Costume Society of America in Williamsburg/Virginia for the 44th annual symposium. She conducted this research with a TAM faculty, Dr. Parsons last year. The design research is about "Size adaptive garments for toddlers as an approach to maximize fitting and durability".

Langsam Award Winners-Dr. Parsons & Ms. Johnston

Dr. Jean Parsons & Nicole Johnston were selected by a committee of undergraduate students to receive the Langsam Faculty appreciation award. The award, which includes a $500 prize, was started by the Langsam family to recognize faculty efforts to help students prepare for, and especially to find, promising career opportunities.
Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection: 1967—2017

The Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection (MHCTC) has preserved local and regional dress and textile history since 1967. In its 50th year, the collection now includes over 6,000 pieces of men’s, women’s, and children’s apparel and household textiles. Dr. Laurel Wilson, former MHCTC Curator for more than twenty years, created the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection. An endowment to assist the collection in the execution of its mission: teaching, research, exhibition and preservation has been established, and our $100,000 ANNIVERSARY YEAR GOAL was met $101,000. If you would like to further support this important resource, please consider partnering with us as we continue efforts towards future preservation and scholarship at the University of Missouri! You may give directly to the collection endowment online: https://mizzougivedirect.missouri.edu/Item.aspx?item_id=61, or contact the HES Office of Advancement for more information: (573) 882-5142; HESDevelopment@missouri.edu.

ART (and Fashion) IN BLOOM    March 16-18, 2018

Over 1,400 guests browsed this year’s Art in Bloom event at the Museum of Art and Archaeology! New for 2018: Students in MU’s Wedding Floral Design Course in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources created floral headwear and jewelry inspired by floral garments from the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection!

50s: Forms in Fashion Pop Up Exhibit

In collaboration with the MSA/GPC free film The Phantom Thread set in 1950s London, the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection revealed popular forms and fashions of the 1950s with a pop-up display of over 40 clothing and textile artifacts from MHCTC collections. Guests also enjoyed videos of vintage fashion shows of the period while browsing the exhibit in Gwynn Lounge prior to the evening film screening next door in Wrench Auditorium.
Representative Hartzler Visits TAM

Vicky, Hartzler, U.S. Representative, 4th district visited the TAM department to see recent updates. Rep. Hartzler is an HES alumnae. She is seen here along with Dean Rikoon, Jean Parsons, and Pam Norum.

Dr. Ha-Brookshire - El Salvador

Dr. Ha-Brookshire is working with US government for “Building El Salvador’s Trade, Transportation, and Competitiveness in Textiles and Apparel to improve Economic Prosperity in the Region”

TAM Advisory Board Meeting

The 35th Annual TAM Advisory Meeting kicked off the first day of the meeting with a symposium entitled “The 3 C’s: Communicate, Collaborate, and Cooperate.” Following the symposium, the Student Showcase highlighted work of our undergraduate and graduate students. The second day of the Advisory Board meeting featured the always popular “Round Robin” sessions. The afternoon wrap-up session, “Industry Updates,” gave board members the opportunity to share what is new in the industry from their companies’ perspectives. We are thankful to Design Resources, Inc. (DRI) in Overland Park, KS who graciously provided financial support for the meeting.

Jake Hammel HES Award

TAM is proud to announce that Jake Hammel (BS ’10) was the recipient of the 2018 New Professional Award. This is one of three annual awards bestowed by the HES Alumni Awards Program. Since graduation, Jake’s career has taken off exponentially, and he has paved the wave for a career in an area of our field that didn’t exist even ten years ago-Social Media Marketing (SMM). Since Jake graduated in 2010, he has worked in a variety of positions in SMM within the fashion industry, and at each step has had increasing responsibility. Currently, Jake oversees Influencer Marketing at BMF Media where he has created his hybrid role of PR, Social Media, and Digital Marketing. Ever since graduation, Jake has also been actively engaged with the TAM department and our students. Specifically, he has hosted students at his company during the annual New York Experiential Learning Trip, been a virtual guest speaker in several TAM courses, and is also on the TAM Advisory Board. In addition, he hires our students as interns, mentoring and guiding them to navigate this new field of the industry. Congratulations, Jake!
Congratulations May 2018 TAM Candidates for Degrees

The Department of Textiles and Apparel Management graduated 59 undergraduate students this semester. These new TAM alums are ready to make an impact on the fashion industry. We wish them the best as they move forward with exciting careers! We are also saying goodbye to four of our graduate students.

Ardito, Delaney
Basa, David
Bell, Rebekah
Bestgen, Bailey
Bleekeer, Olivia
Callis, Grace
Carroll, Kelsey
Crusoe, Ebony
Dalton, Eleanor
Dopp, Sarah*
Dykes, Rukiya
Eastman, Olivia*
Ellis, Meagan
Farrington III, Roger
Fox, Dylana
Gates, Dylan
Grimmer, Paige
Hamilton, Joseph
Hartmann, Lauren
Hill, Ellie*
Hobby, Jennifer
Kaufman, Kelley
Kboudi, Ryan
Keesling, Mallory
Kehoe, Juliana
Kilgriff, Sophia
Lampione, Haley
Loesche, Maia*
Luer, Cassidy
Lupardus, Amanda
Mack, Jordan
Mattix, Mackenzie*
McGee, Eli
Messner, Amanda
Miller, Alexa*
Morrison, Haley
Novak, Emily
Patterson, Natalie
Rader, Megan
Raines, Nicholas
Rainey, Devan
Ranstead, Jessica
Reagan, Kerry*
Rock, Courtney*
Saenz, Jasmine
Schneider, Natalie*
Scott, Madison
Shipley, Shannon
Slazink, Sydney
Smith, Kylie*
Stephens, Hunter
Storm, Jenna
Tiefenbrunn, Lindsay
Tihen, Lauren
Weber, Kelly
Willson, Eleanor
Wood, Kaleb
Worsham, Danielle
Yip, Regina
TAM Graduate Students
Lomano-Benzing, Rachel
Modi, Dipali
Rana, Md. Rafiqul Islam
Uriyo, Angela

* = an Outstanding TAM Senior