

Campus Newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS all round!

With the Graduation Ceremony, the end of year showcase *STOCK*, and the Fashion Show, this issue promised to be crammed from the outset, but events in the Interior Design Department—not least of which was Oksana Akishyna’s success in winning the New Designers Interior Design Association Award—means we really have an abundance of good news, two extra pages, and less white space than ever before!



Dr Hagmen addresses the graduates and their guests at this year’s Commencement Exercises



Interior Design student, Oksana Akishyna, winner of a year’s internship with Gensler

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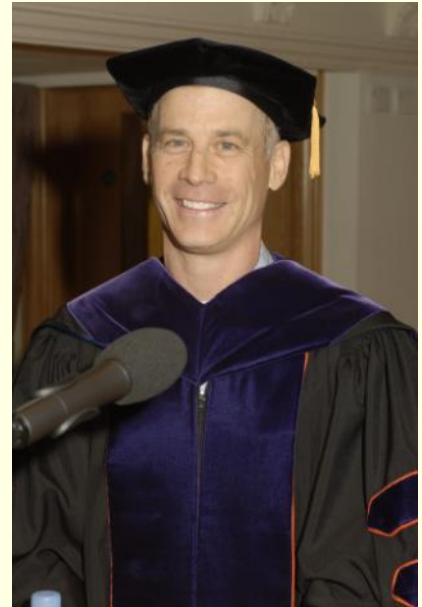
COMMENCEMENT EXCERCISES



Nancy Mann

AIU London's 2011 Graduation Ceremony took place at Cadogan Hall in the heart of Chelsea on June 4th, a extremely sunny Saturday that turned out to be a very warm day—the hottest of the year so far.

Stephen J. Tober, Chief Executive Officer of AIU and President of AIU Online, gave an inspirational welcome address in which he reminded students that they have only "one ride on the carousel." Urging them to take time to relish "every view and make the very most of what the ride provides," he



Steve Tober

recalled a time when he had not felt able to appreciate each part and spoke movingly of how much his life had been transformed once he aquired the ability to do so. He ended by reminding graduates that they should not think graduation is all about themselves, and that they should instead consider how to serve others.

Joanna Severin, Valedictorian for the Class of 2011, spoke of her greatest joy at AIU London being the opportunity to be "in the midst of so much energy and intelligence from all walks of life and all corners of the globe." Joanna, who originates from Sweden, commended Mark Gower for his "energy, passion and intelligence" which had helped as well as challenged her. Joanna was recently runner-up in The Young Interior Designer of the Year Award and now has a full-time job with Pope Wainwright.

Degrees were conferred by Nancy Mann whose own life story is inspirational. An Interior Design graduate of AIU London in 1981, she has since worked in management and consultancy capacities and has also run her own business as an architectural designer. Having been

a member of AIU's Governing Board of Trustees since 1986, she is now Chair of the Board of Trustees. Last year she was presented with the first AIU Lifetime Achievement Award by The AIU Alumni Association Houston Chapter.



Denisa Guler, outstanding student in Interior Design, with Mark Gower



Valedictorian, Joanna Severin

This is the second time AIU London has used Cadogan Hall for the graduation ceremony. Originally opened in 1907, Cadogan Hall is a prestigious concert venue and also the home to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



Colin McDowell—author, journalist, and for more than fifteen years fashion writer for The Sunday Times—in full flow during his keynote address as he urged students to develop a game plan, to work out “Who needs me?” so that their vitality and their “trained minds and experience of living in one of the world’s greatest cities” can be put to best use. After the address, Mr McDowell was awarded an Honorary fellowship by Dr Randolph Cooper.

Below: Outstanding Master of Business Administration student, Fatima Salihi (left) receives her award from Dr Drew Hageman



Above: Anne-Kathrin Grünewälder (left), the outstanding student in Fashion Marketing, receiving her award from Dean Gill Stark

INSIDE STOCK

The end of May brought us STOCK, this year's exhibition of the work of the 2011 graduates in Interior Design, Visual Communication and Fashion.



The interior space was created by students in the Interior *Event Design* course. The Visual Communication graduate exhibition was produced by students in the Spring term as part of the *Business Practices* course. Fashion students displayed work which also featured at the Fashion Show held the following week in The Old Truman Brewery, in Brick Lane. Students from the *Fashion Event* course kindly helped with hospitality on the evening, preparing and serving refreshments.



Angga Pramudito was awarded the John O'Connor prize for Visual Communication for his graphic design work.

Erin Solomons received the Visual Communication Faculty prize for 'Best in Show'.

David Otokpa was commended for his leadership in successfully organising the Visual Communication event as a celebration of our 2011 graduates.

Gill Coupland

STOCK UPSTAIRS



Left: Part of the *Fight Club* series of photos by David Otokpa, designed to explore our human fascination with violence but presenting the violence in such a manner that it will not alienate the viewer.

Right: Winner of the Visual Communication “Best in Show” prize, this intriguing work by Erin Solomons deliberately masks the face in order to oblige the viewer to search for subtleties within that image and within other images of domestic interiors to inform the ambience and narrative of the portrait.

What kind of story do you think this picture is telling? Once you’ve decided, turn to the back cover to see if it confirms your choice.



FASHION MARKETING



Some of the entries in the Fashion Marketing Exhibition, which ran alongside the Fashion Show in The Boiler House at The Old Truman Brewery in Brick Lane on May 31st.

Fashion Marketing students created both the companies and their products for their final year projects.



Photos by Tony Rogers of ASA Infinity www.asainfinity.com

Top left: **Style Coach**, an image consultancy created by Viktoriya Kalinina to help clients look and feel their best, promises "What You Wear Can Change Your Life."

Top right: **KIN** by Ester Milebratt, with its representative display of all-sized tee shirts, combines "family with fashion" to provide "Quality Fashion and Quality Time".

Above: Kathryn Doughman's **Glow** offers a range of maternity lingerie.

Left: Kimiko Ramos' **You Beauty** creates opportunities for clients "to express and share their passion for beauty and fashion".

FASHION SHOW



Three striking outfits on the catwalk at the Fashion Show and Marketing Exhibition at The Boiler House, Brick Lane on May 31st Centre design is by Dalal Alhasan. Left and Right are both by Bettina Barletta.



Left: A different view of the Fashion Marketing Exhibition, this one capturing some of the bustle and glamour of the evening

Photos by Tony Rogers of ASA Infinity
www.asainfinity.com

More Great Competition News!

In July, the Interior Design department exhibited works by graduating students at New Designers 2011. Oksana Akishyna won the New Designers Interior Design Associate Award for Spatial Design with her Thesis Design project. Her brief was to design “a public building, which would break down the barriers associated with classical music and make it more accessible to the public”. Oksana’s prize is a year’s paid internship with Gensler.

Joanna Severin, another AIU London Interior Design graduate, was runner up for the award. (Readers may recall that Joanna was also runner up in The Young Designer of the Year Award in March.) Commenting on the quality of the work by AIU London students, the New Designer judges said they could have given our students 3rd, 4th and 5th place because the work was so outstanding!

Right: One of several perspectives from Oksana’s award-winning thesis project, the *Urban Music Hall* which has a

bar and two outdoor performance areas on the flat roof linked by a transparent corridor so that people can move easily from one performance to another. The main performance area is inside



Francesca Gernone

The Interior Design department warmly welcomes Francesca Gernone.

Francesca graduated from the Royal College of Art with an MA in Architecture and Interiors and has since worked for a number of respected design companies including Branson Coates, Zaha Hadid, and her current employer, Pringle Brandon.

We are very pleased that Francesca is joining the Interior Design faculty. She will be teaching Universal Design this term.

Mark Gower

the building but is nevertheless highly accessible as it can be viewed from the first and second floors as well as from the deliberately incorporated short cut between two streets where, in Oksana’s words, passers-by “can hear the classical music and stop to look at the performances below”.

Mark Gower

In July, the Interior Design department welcomed Mark Gower to his new role as Program Chair. Mark has worked in the Interior Design Program at AIU London since January 2010. He is also a guest lecturer at Kingston University.

Mark graduated from the Royal College of Art in 1999 with an MA in Architecture and Interiors. His undergraduate studies were completed at Kingston University where he earned a First Class Honours degree in Interior Design. He has worked with various design companies on an interesting range of projects that include the recent redevelopment of Fenwick on Bond Street and a European tour stage set for Liberty X. Other clients have included Tesco, B&Q Hong Kong, Land Rover and Superdrug. In 2008, he founded Mark Gower Design, which creates unique contemporary pieces of Art in which line drawings, usually derived from photographs taken in succession, are layered over each other to give the vivid impression of movement.



In June, Mark was highly commended in this year's Valedictorian speech during the Graduation Ceremony—see page 2.

Jana Crippen

Also in July, Jana Crippen accepted the position of Interim Head of Liberal Arts (Gen Ed) which was previously occupied by Dr Kathy Tidman. Jana will also continue in her role as Co-ordinator of the Learning Centre's resource team.

Jana earned her MA in English Literature at the University of Southampton in 2006 having previously received a BA in English Literature from the University of California.

Her earlier employment includes teaching, student support, mentoring, trainee placement -access to Higher Education, and an information and training post at the University of London.

We hope to have an interview with Jana in a future edition.

ALWAYS WANTED

News to showcase **your** department.

Tell us what's going on while it's happening before you forget!

Please email submissions to
dcurtis@aiulondon.ac.uk

SHOOTING THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Most people passing through or by 110 Marylebone High Street will surely have noticed this eye-catching outfit, created by Fashion Design student Padraic Cowley, which has occupied the window and other prominent positions during the last six weeks or so. Here it is modelled in a series of pictures taken during a mock photo shoot, at the last Fashion Show, set up to provide observers with a sense of how fashion pictures are created.



Left: Visual Communication student, David Otokpa, caught in the act of taking the pictures above by Tony Rogers.

Tony Rogers of ASA Infinity, www.asainfinity.com

STAFF MBA SUCCESSES



Suzanne Foster and **Adriaan Nieman** are two of several employees to recently complete AIU Masters degrees in Business Administration (if others would like to make themselves known, **Newsletter** would be happy to feature them next time).

Suzanne can be found in the Registrar's Office and has worked at AIU London for two years now. She says she wanted to do the degree because it was a good opportunity to get a qualification. The focus of her MBA was Management.

Adriaan works in the Finance Department and has been with AIU London for five years. He wanted to complete the degree to further educate himself and decided to specialize in Project Management. Although he doesn't

envisage beginning further studies anytime soon, Adriaan hasn't ruled them out altogether. He's a keen athlete and recently knocked twenty minutes off his previous best triathlon time—so far, he's competed in six. Now he's training for a September half marathon. Exactly when he ever found time to study with all that training going on is a great mystery, but that's probably where the project management skills come in!



Sharon Rainbolt has always inhabited in the suburbs of Chicago and currently lives just twenty minutes driving distance from work with her husband, Chad and their rescue boxer/mastiff, Bean.

Sharon recently completed her MBA through AIU Online with a concentration in Organizational Psychology and Development—a natural choice for Sharon as she is very process minded and always looks for ways to enrich her working environment.

Sharon has worked with AIU London since 2004, moving to the Study Abroad team in 2007 and taking over Student Services responsibilities for students who want to take classes at AIU for a term or two then transfer the credits to their home institution back in the United States. She is now part of a small but efficient team and liaises with anyone and everyone possible at the London campus to help set realistic expectations for students. Sharon says the most rewarding part is when a student manages to overcome almost insurmountable obstacles to make it to London to study. She's discovered that these students rarely take the opportunity for granted and end up making the most of the experience, both for themselves and those around them.



Bean—whose breath smelled just like coffee the day the Rainbolts brought her home!

BREAKFAST IN THE CITY



Summer in London is always unpredictable on the weather front, but staff and faculty arrived to work with the bright surprise of a free breakfast on Tuesday July 12th.

With such an international team, it was important that the menu catered to all tastes with French croissants and Pain au Chocolat to North American Breakfast tortillas, Dutch gouda cheese on bread, and fruit for the health conscious; the result—no-leftovers!—meant a job well done.

It was a nice opportunity for colleagues from different departments to mingle, chat ,and enjoy a well-deserved breather during a busy academic year.

Kimberley Beltgens

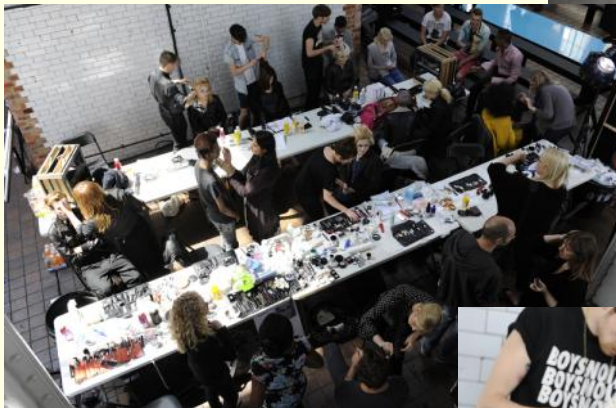


Oh yes, it's a wonderful world . . . if only every working day began with a slap-up breakfast and the chance to socialize!

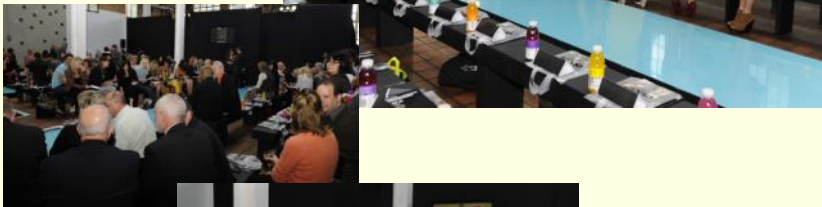


MAKING MAGIC

BEHIND THE SCENES



Some of us may not get to fashion shows very often, much less ever glimpse behind the scenes, so here are a few shots to reveal some of the magic that transformed an essentially empty and unlvely space into a display of grace and beauty for the May Fashion Show.



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Events!

Every Friday until week 9:

The Learning Centre is hosting English language and essay writing workshops at 11am in conjunction with Liberal Arts faculty. Workshops run for one hour. There is no need to book. Overspill workshops will be arranged if there is sufficient demand.

Other Events:

Please see departmental notice boards for details.

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