

Indiana University Department of **Apparel Merchandising** & Interior Design

VIEWPOINT

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Asia trip opens students' eyes to global merchandising

In May, 20 apparel merchandising students traveled to Asia to study the apparel industry on the other side of the world. Students visited factories and spoke with many people involved in all phases of apparel production. The seminar provided exposure to many businesses in Hong Kong, Macau, and China, with appointments during the days and cultural experiences throughout. Student **Lizzie Nelson** said of the trip, "This trip not only taught me a lot about cultural differences, language barriers, and independence, but also totally submersed me in a place directly related to my future career. This experience is unmatched, and the magnitude of what I learned could never have been taught in a classroom."

At each appointment, the people were incredible and students learned so much. Students had the opportunity to visit factories and not only see garments being sewn, but also see textile testing, pattern-making, cutting, yarn dyeing, knitting machines, linking, jeans being washed and processed, and much more. Students listened to owners and managers of factories, vice presidents at Target Sourcing Services, the vice chair of the Textile Council of Hong Kong, the director of public affairs for the U.S. Consulate, agents, and many others who answered hundreds of questions.

Some of our appointments included: Global Affairs, Eloise Paul's former agent in Hong Kong and China; EPE, a woven factory; the U.S. Consulate; Nameson Industrial, a sweater factory in Hong Kong; Fu Seng, a T-shirt factory in Macau; an embroidery factory in China; the Pressfield Knitting Factory in China, complete with dormitories and recreation facilities; a dyeing mill; Yuhui, a children's woven garment factory; and a washing factory. We also visited Target Sourcing Services, thanks to TSS president Stacia Andersen, and Fountain Set Fabrics, thanks to Donna Williams at Kohl's.

Lisa Poltarak summarized the feelings of all of the students when she said, "There are



Janis Shaffer

Manager of Fu Seng factory Thomas Lo displays a shirt for AMID students.

no words that can describe all of my feelings and emotions about the seminar." Even the more than 20 typed pages some of the students wrote in their journals could not adequately express what each student gained from this life experience!

Impressions from students

Callie Blyze: "I now think outside the U.S. borders, and the world has become much smaller to me. The trip has given me even more dedication not only to my career path, but also to humanity and the wonderful people we met in China. Everywhere I looked, there was something for me to learn."

Colleen Brooker: "This was my first visit to a foreign country, and I was thrown into the Chinese culture. I observed it, absorbed it, and fell in love with it! I was able to study what I love with first-hand experiences. The only response I can think to give is — absolutely amazing!"

Carrie Curtis: "My eyes were always wandering and taking in all that I could. After being there only one day, I felt like it had been a week because we learned so much!"

Meghan Cutsumbis: "Every class I've

taken within the major was covered somewhere during the trip, and it really reinforced how much I do really love the industry!"

Kelsea Foist: "I have a new respect for all the hard work that goes into a seemingly simple shirt, sweater, or pair of jeans. I also will never forget when the waiter at one of the group dinners put a Peking duck on the table and it looked me right in the eye!"

Amy Friedman: "I don't know how to explain such an experience to my family and friends; even the pictures don't justify what kind of journey we had. I still am in awe of watching the linkers and the hand-embroiders strategically doing their job with such skill. ... I admire the factory workers and their dedication."

Catherine Smith: "I can't even try to pick out one instance where I was impacted the most because every minute we spent in Hong Kong and China I was learning something, whether it was industry related or about the country or culture in general."

For more on each appointment and pictures, visit the Asia Web site at www.indiana.edu/~amfsem.

— Libby Spille

Student Activities

SIFE scores at regional competition in Ohio, goes to national

Students in Free Enterprise had an incredible year of developing projects that truly made a difference in the community. This year, two student groups taught children in the community. One group worked with the Girl Scouts on financial skills, the other taught in local elementary schools about globalization of the apparel industry. SIFE began two new entrepreneurship projects with businesses. One project helped with target marketing for a laptop bag startup based in Atlanta, and another assisted a local well-established salon. SIFE students also worked with a group of at-risk high school students from Camp Atterbury, hosting them for a day on campus to give them a glimpse of college life. For the first time, these Atterbury students have considered college as an opportunity within reach. SIFE's largest project has students creating a fair-trade store in Bloomington, which hosted four different fair-trade sales in the



SIFE members, poised to take on regional and national competitions, include, from left, Erin Hocker, Jaclyn Abraham, Meghan Cutsumbis, Molly McCormick, Alison Blench, Aviva Katz, and Emily Hoover.

community this year. The sales totaled more than \$9,200 in products from around the world. Sales will go directly back to the artisans, enabling them to send their children

to school, have access to medical care, and create an overall better standard of living.

Seven SIFE students presented these projects in front of national business leaders at the SIFE U.S. Regional Competition in Cincinnati and were awarded regional champions! This championship defined the IU SIFE chapter as one of the top performing teams in the Midwest and allowed the team to present their projects at the three-day national competition in Kansas City, Mo., in May. The competition was a great experience for all of the students, and it made them realize the potential for future students participating in SIFE. Team member Aviva Katz said, "The whole weekend made me realize how important SIFE is, and it has made me want to make even more of an impact on our campus to get as many people involved as possible. I can't wait to start back up in August with SIFE!"

— Mary Embry

Tales from our trips: AMID students recount busy travel year

MAGIC trade show

In February, selected AMID students traveled to the 2006 Men's Apparel Guild in California Trade Show hosted in Las Vegas to sit in on meetings between selected buyers and manufacturers, some of which were even IU AMID alumni. Exposure to companies in children's, women's, and men's apparel and accessories helped students better understand the challenges of the wholesale and retail sides of the industry. Some of the vendors we visited were Mighty Fine, Chaps Ralph Lauren, Ghecko Hawaii, and Tandy Brand Accessories. Students had the opportunity to attend the Julie Hughes sourcing and trade seminar, along with a fashion trend informational session by Catrina Macnab, head of trends at Worth Global Style Network. At the sourcing seminar, Jim Leonard, the chair for the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, and Tony Piscatelli, the supervisor and import specialist for textiles, spoke along with other industry professionals. It was great to see how prepared students were for this session. We incorporated what we had learned in classes and understood the discussion issues of sourcing and imports.

The experience was unforgettable and truly inspired us all. Being a senior, I found this trip to be a motivational resource, since I will soon be working in this industry. I have finally been able to experience one of

the most informational and exciting events that the retail industry conducts. I cannot wait to be the one teaching AMID students about my job someday in future trips to MAGIC.

— Pam Probst

Target Distribution

On Nov. 8, Janis Shaffer's H204 Apparel Manufacturing and Quality Analysis class spent the morning at the Target Distribution Center in Indianapolis. The morning began with a question-and-answer session with Target employees Dave King, Kim Kautsky, and Sara Morgan. The students were given a guided tour of this distribution center, where they could see firsthand the technology used in getting goods to more than 1,350 Target stores nationwide.

After quality, Target Corp.'s most important goal is "speed to market," and the students learned that the distribution centers are an essential component in accomplishing this task. Technology is key for the distribution centers; every item waiting to be

shipped out is coded, and therefore it can always be located and accounted for. The class also watched how goods were brought into the warehouse. Specifically, in just 10 feet the boxes were scanned and sent to either inventory or to be immediately sent out to stores. The students learned that much of Target's technology is radio frequency identification ready. Kautsky also mentioned the importance of logistics to the distribution center in order for the merchandise to reach the store as soon as possible, which requires an extremely organized system of delivery.

The students were excited to learn

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Dave King, of Target, shows AMID students locations of Target distribution centers.

MERC scholarships give support to AMID students

The Merchandising Education and Research Center was fortunate to have \$40,000 donated in corporate scholarships for apparel merchandising students. The list of awards and sponsorships has continued to grow, and students are thrilled for the opportunity to apply. The scholarships benefit sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and are awarded for a range of criteria including excellence in academics, leadership, and work contribution. This year many companies also provided additional support to help students attending the Asia field seminar. Awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,500 each and are greatly appreciated.

- Federated Field Seminar Awards: **Nichole Common** and **Elizabeth Spille**
- Finish Line Underclassmen Awards: **Christina Bires** and **Natalia Paez**
- Gap Inc. Planning and Distribution

Award: **Stephanie Dorland**

- Kohl's Field Seminar Awards: **Nichole Common** and **Lisa Poltarak**
- Kohl's Retail Studies Awards: **Nicole Moll** and **Rachel Prescott**
- Macy's East Leadership Award: **Tara Halpin**
- Macy's Midwest Leadership and Initiative Award: **Emily Hoover**
- Macy's South Field Seminar Award: **Meghan Cutsumbis**
- Macy's South Underclassman Award: **Brittney Meek**
- Macy's South Work Contribution Award: **Grace Henderson**
- Macy's West Professional Development Awards: **Weronika Gierlak** and **Elizabeth Spille**
- Nameson Industrial, Ltd. Internship Award: **Kim Ruggles**
- RB Concepts Field Seminar Award:

Pamela Probst

- Sears "Excellence in Academics" Senior Award: **Jamie Held**
- Sears "Excellence in Academics" Junior Award: **Lisa Barger**
- Sears "Excellence in Academics" Sophomore Award: **Meghan Mulvaney**
- Smith Sport'n Shoe Retailing Award: **Julie Carman**
- Target Field Seminar Awards: **Callie Blyze** and **Whitney Parkhill**
- Target Internship Award: **Susanne Simeri**
- Target Merchandise Planning Awards: **Heather Basore** and **Rebecca Tehrani**
- World Wide Apparel Field Seminar Award: **Kelsea Foist**
- Young Menswear Association Field Seminar Awards: **Rachel Buchanan**, **Cassie Ellis**, **Amy Friedman**, **Tiffany Koch**, and **Elizabeth Nelson**

Trips

(continued from page 2)

their own Bloomington Target store is one of the greatest volume stores in the nation during the weeks leading up to the fall semester, more commonly known as "move in." Another highlight of the day was hearing from Sara Morgan about her experiences working in the distribution center. Her experience in a male-dominated environment opened the eyes of many female students to the possibility of a career in distribution. Spending time at the Target Distribution Center was an invaluable experience that allowed the students to put their coursework into perspective.

— *Lisa Barger*

Wal-Mart headquarters

In the fall of 2005, 20 students traveled to Wal-Mart corporate headquarters in Bentonville, Ark., for a field seminar to learn more about Wal-Mart and to gain exposure to the corporate world of retailing. Many Wal-Mart executives spoke to the group, and students learned about Wal-Mart's sourcing, product development, buying, marketing, and long-range planning. In addition to acquiring vast amounts of knowledge about the retail industry, students were impressed with how the professionals at Wal-Mart presented a sense of family camaraderie.

Amazing presentations and in-depth question-and-answer periods with their upper-level executives gave us a first-hand understanding about what makes Wal-

Mart successful. They even gave us an extensive look at their Metro 7 fashion line for women, which was actually being announced in New York the day we were there. Students were also able to engage in the famous Saturday morning merchandising meeting. This "meeting" reminded us of a large group of close-knit family members getting together to share, even though the discourse involved topics such as profit margin, comp store sales, and global expansion.

One of my favorite aspects of the trip was having the privilege to job shadow a buyer. Because this was my first trip to a corporate office, I had never seen all of the facets that go into buying and planning decisions. Some of the key ingredients for a successful career in buying include negotiating with vendors, utilizing solid financial and analytical skills, and researching and adapting to changes in customer profiles.

Overall, the greatest reward from this trip was seeing how a corporation operates. Wal-Mart has set the bar high, and it was great to see the largest retailer from the inside. The visit has confirmed my passion for the retail industry, enabled me to acquire knowledge that is directly applicable to my coursework, and has even aided in my internship search and interviewing skills.

Although I was overwhelmed going to Wal-Mart headquarters, it was the single most beneficial experience I could have done for my career. The bottom line is that everyone wants to know what makes Wal-

Mart so successful, and I tell them over and over: it's the people!

— *Victoria Benincasa*

Bradford Woods retreat

The Bradford Woods leadership retreat is an invaluable experience that 20 AMO members participated in to help develop leadership and communication skills. Bradford Woods is affiliated with IU and offers a 5,000-acre property, filled with outdoor challenges and led by trained professionals in leadership development.

The retreat consisted of a day's worth of activities designed for the group to get to know each other better and to work on teamwork and trust issues. One of the most valuable activities consisted of blindfolded students in a rope maze with no actual end. The leadership trait we learned was that even leaders sometimes need to ask for help, and it helped us all learn to communicate better.

They had us perform activities all day and then recapped the day's activities to discuss what had been learned and how it could be applied to other group work and careers. Problem solving and communication was a highlight. One activity that helped us learn more about problem solving and communication was a puzzle that consisted of using a jump rope as the group and having to do a sequence. This activity made us work together as a team by using everyone's input to obtain the goal in the end.

— *Bryan Campbell*

Visit us online at www.indiana.edu/~amid



Fashion show rocks styles of the '80s

Each year the AMO organizes a fashion show to coincide with the year-end banquet in Alumni Hall at IU. This event is free to the public, and many students, faculty, sponsors, and parents attend this ever-amazing show. This year on March 30, the show *Rockin' the Runway: History of the '80s* took center stage. The '80s-inspired show began with the IUBBOYS, a break dance team at IU. The show continued with designs from Urban Outfitters, ChaCha, J.R. Stallsmith, Charlotte Russe, and costume construction technology students.

Since this year's theme revolved around the fashion history of the '80s, the students worked with the retailers and CCT students to develop the fashion in a way that reflected the 1980s fashion history from shoes to hair. Looking around the stores one now sees several pieces from the 1980s, such as leg warmers, leggings, fish nets, and cut off shorts, which were all utilized to bring these creative looks together.

All of Alumni Hall was '80s inspired, with the colored lights and stage decor. All of the stage presentation, lighting, filming, and IPEG imaging were also made possible by IU students. This show was a great way to showcase everyone's talents, creative abilities, and overall ability to develop and generate an idea through communication and teamwork. It was



David Bracho

Danielle Goodman models a designer corset at the AMO fashion show. Behind the scene, Jamie Held, sports a designer dress.

amazing to see all the work that went into this show. The help and support received was extremely generous, and a great team of people made this lasting memory possible.

— Weronika Gierlak,
Leah Greive, and Rachel James



Janis Shaffer

AMO awarded campus leadership award

The Apparel Merchandising Organization was in great company with Dance Marathon, as both received IU Leadership Development Awards at the campus Student Organization Celebration. This award is given to organizations on campus that encourage leadership development and promote leadership opportunities for its members, the campus, and the community. Darrell Ann Stone, associate director of student activities, presents the award to AMO leaders, from left, Libby Spille, Tiffany Koch, Lisa Poltarak, Jaclyn Abraham, Meghan Cutgumbis, Rachel Buchanan, Kelsea Foist, Rachel Prescott, and Erin Stromquist.

Students win YMA awards

On Jan. 11, five IU apparel merchandising students were invited to the annual Young Menswear Association's Scholarship and Awards Dinner in New York City. The student attendees, each receiving \$5,000 scholarships, were **Jamie Held, Andry Chairil, Heather Basore, Justin Stutzman, and Emily Tharpe.**

During the YMA Awards event, the committee displayed and promoted each scholar's design sketches and biographical information as a way of highlighting and introducing each attending YMA scholar.

In addition, scholar designs, pictures, and biographical information were included in a tribute journal presented to each of the YMA attendees. The journals were also used as a bound, supplement insert for *MR Magazine*, a leading fashion industry trade magazine read by more than 25,000 industry leaders.

That evening, each scholar was assigned a specific industry executive to facilitate introductions, conversations, and networking during the full-floor reception that preceded the awards dinner. I was given the opportunity to be paired with Karen Murray, president of menswear brands for Liz Claiborne.

In addition, some of the most influential personalities in the apparel industry were recipients of the annual AMY Awards. The 2006 honorees included: Denise Seegal, president, VF Sportswear Coalition – Nautica and Kipling, U.S.; Paul Fitpatrick, senior vice president, GMM, Men's & Children, Macy's West; and Vanessa Castagna, executive chair, Mervyns.

Justin Stutzman stated, "It was a wonderful experience to spend an evening with so many respected individuals in the apparel and garment industry. It was also a pleasure to meet fellow scholars with the same ambitions and goals as myself. Overall, the learning experience was invaluable. I am thankful for the people I have met throughout the process of the YMA-AMY awards."

— Jamie Held

AMO stresses teamwork for busy year of activities

The Apparel Merchandising Organization had more than 400 members this year, so the concept of teams was even more important to the continued success of the organization and its members. Teams are under the direction of officers. They meet together at meetings and gather for outside activities to build friendships.

AMO members are tracked on a point system, based on attendance and service at the following activities: the monthly mass meetings; the team activity; philanthropic events; the marketing committee; senior council career night; the internship panel; the Chicago trip; and the career seminar. The goal of the point system is to engage members. The members work to achieve "star member" status based on their points. The highest achieving members are honored at the end of the year as gold-star members.

Gold-star members this year include **Colette Berkel, Julie Bernstein, Bryan**

Campbell, Stephanie Dorland, Kelli Dove, Alisha Hays, Juliann Price, Susan Spears, and Mindy Wolfran. Members of the year include **Marilynn Kaufmann and Natalia Paez.**

All of the members dedicate countless hours of time and effort to the success of AMO, causing the organization to rise to such a high level. The organization is instrumental in helping students market themselves to recruiters, educating students on industry professions, and helping students to build leadership skills. This year, AMO was recognized for the third year in a row as the largest group to participate in the Jill Behrman Run/Walk and took second place in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl For Kids' Sake. They also sponsored a successful recruiter panel in the fall and took 96 students to Chicago for the fall seminar. They had great industry speakers at the meetings, hosted an internship panel

with seniors serving as panel members, and sponsored the annual career seminar and pizza party. AMO organized leadership development programs at Bradford Woods, one for officers and one for emerging leaders, and organized several monthly philanthropy events. They successfully raised more than \$4,000 at an auction, providing 10 leadership scholarships to AMO students. Finally, they hosted a year-end banquet and had another amazing fashion show. We can say that AMO was an important part of the Apparel Merchandising Program, and the team spirit drove the organization to success.

To find out more about AMO's mission and the activities and opportunities we offer to build leadership, communication, networking skills, and insight into the industry, please visit our Web site at www.indiana.edu/~amo.

— *Lauren Goode*

Meet the graduating seniors



The seniors have had an extremely busy year marketing themselves at career fairs, AMO events, and information sessions, eventually leading to interviews for positions in the industry. Listed below are some of the seniors and positions they have accepted. We hope some of them are starting at your company, and we know they would love to meet IU AMID alumni.

- **Taylor Alexander**, Kellwood Co., Sag Harbor assistant retail analyst
- **Erin Anderson**, Wal-Mart, buyer trainee
- **Elizabeth Bahra**, Target Sourcing, associate product manager
- **Heather Basore**, Target, business analyst
- **Courtney Bennett**, Kohl's Corp., merchandise analyst trainee
- **Julieta Beverido**, Mervyns, business analyst trainee
- **Jessica Biber**, Dr. Tavel Optical, management
- **Alexis Boyan**, Coach, management
- **Jacqueline Breen**, Kohl's Corp., merchandise analyst trainee
- **Sara Colle**, Woodbury, financial account executive
- **Michelle Czarnecki**, Careerbuilder.com, sales representative
- **Lauren Davis**, Target Sourcing, associate product manager
- **Megan Dawson**, Gap Corp., retail management
- **Deanna Dorrance**, Kohl's Corp., merchandise analyst trainee
- **Jessica Epstein**, Target, business analyst
- **Amy Friedman**, Sears, inventory analyst
- **Jamie Frisch**, Ross Stores, regional analyst
- **Elizabeth Gertiser**, Target, associate product manager
- **Kathryn Goins**, Cathy's Concepts, creative assistant
- **Lauren Goode**, Macy's West, merchant trainee
- **Erin Hackerman**, Mervyns, business analyst
- **Tara Halpin**, Macy's Merchandise Group, product assistant
- **Lyndsey Handschiegel**, Smith Barney
- **Jessica Happe**, Kohl's Stores, retail management training

- **Beverly Heim**, Amazon.com, apparel coordinator
- **Jamie Held**, World Wide Apparel, resources merchandising assistant
- **Valerie Hirsch**, Sears, management trainee
- **Crystal Kenealy**, Fossil, brand representative
- **Kayla Kinser**, Simpson Race Products, sales representative, product development
- **Katie Kruse**, Ulta, merchandising manager
- **Nicole Moll**, Kohl's Corp., merchandise analyst trainee
- **Maggie Moore**, Macy's West, merchant trainee
- **Jackie Morgan**, Target Sourcing, associate product manager
- **Sarah Napier**, Macy's West, merchant trainee
- **Kari Orschell**, Coach, assistant manager
- **Han NA Park**, a.testoni, assistant merchandiser
- **Jenny Payne**, Mervyns, business analyst
- **Andrea Preciado**, Target Sourcing, associate product manager
- **Pam Probst**, Macy's West, merchant trainee
- **Courtney Rogers**, Kohl's Corp., merchandise analyst trainee
- **Alex Schneider**, Liz Clairborne, sales coordinator
- **Kandi Sibert**, Kohl's Stores, retail management training program
- **Melissa Singer**, Macy's East, assistant buyer
- **Stephanie Swanson**, Macy's Central, retail management
- **Rebecca Tehrani**, Bloomingdales, assistant buyer
- **Emily Tharpe**, Target Sourcing, associate product manager
- **Megan Tillinghast**, Macy's Central, retail management
- **Erica Ulrey**, Charlotte Russe, management

Exhibition displays Kinsey clothing, Collyer jewels

Was there a Mrs. Kinsey? Certainly. This well-received exhibit at the Monroe County History Center through March 26 focused on Clara Kinsey, the wife of famous IU sex researcher Alfred Kinsey, her ancestors, and family. The Elizabeth Sage Historic Costume Collection joined forces with the Kinsey Institute to present



Clara Kinsey's 1930 outdoor wear and 1928 orange silk chiffon dress were among the clothing exhibited.



this look at a remarkable woman who was an accomplished scholar, mother, naturalist, and athlete. Drawn from the holdings of the Sage Collection along with Kinsey Institute photographs, artifacts on view included a wedding dress from 1806, children's clothing from the 1960s, and some of Mrs. Kinsey's rugged and functional, yet stylish, and well-worn, outdoor wear. Anne Call, Clara and Alfred Kinsey's daughter, shared family anecdotes with attendees of the Nov. 4, 2005, opening of the exhibit.

This summer, the Sage Collection will continue the tradition of beautiful and interesting exhibits with *Bijoux: The Jewels of Esther Collyer*. Running through August, the exhibit highlights an impor-

tant private collection of ethnic and costume jewelry, lovingly gathered through the years by one of Bloomington's most stylish women, Esther Collyer.

Collyer's eclectic collection spans the 1930s through the 1990s and hails from exotic locales, such as Mexico, Nepal, and Japan. The collection includes pieces from some of the most well-known names in costume jewelry, such as Hattie Carnegie and Monet. This unique and artistic offering will be on display in the Fine Arts Library foyer, between the IU Fine Arts Museum and Fine Arts Library.

For more information about the Sage Collection or the exhibits, contact assistant curator Kelly Richardson, at (812) 855-4627 or ksrichar@indiana.edu.

— *Kelly Richardson*

Kelly Richardson

AMID department gives thanks to advisory council

The national advisory council met in January the day after the career seminar, and many topics were discussed as they relate to the department. We greatly appreciate their support and suggestions for ways to help us make our department the best it can be. We hope many of you have seen the new brochure that was developed as a result of the meeting a year ago. Advisory council members also heard presentations from SIFE and AMO about what they have done during the year.

Advisory Council

- Rick Bomberger, CEO, RB Concepts
- Martin Cohen, owner, Tooflee Footwear by Herschel's
- David Cross, director of college relations and recruitment, Sears
- Patrick Donahue, director, Arts and Sciences Career Services, Indiana University
- Jerry Eckstein, vice president, Vald'or Inc.
- Mike Johnson, vice president, divisional merchandise manager, Kohl's
- Kurt Kress, AS/BS'87, vice president and director of hat design, Riviera Trading
- Glenn Lyon, president, Finish Line
- Rick Maguire, senior vice president, merchandise planning, Target
- Gwen Neace, manager, corporate college relations, Federated Department Stores
- Jeremy Perelman, senior equity analyst, J. Goldman & Co.
- Marny Reed, marketing consultant

- Bobby Reiss, president and CEO, World Wide Apparel Resources
- Beverly Rice, former vice president of merchandising, Jacobson Stores and L.S. Ayres
- Hal Schwartz, senior account executive, Wee Play
- Kristin Scott, vice president, Gap Outlet, Gap Inc.
- Steve Smith, owner, Smith's Sport'n Shoe
- Susan Stokes, account manager, Nameson Industrial
- Claire Watts, executive vice president of merchandising, Wal-Mart
- Tom Wilson, president, MotionWear
- Olivia Ziegler, vice president, Jones New York

Honorary members

- Alan Gilman, president and CEO, Consolidated Products Inc.; former chair and CEO, Abraham & Straus and Sanger-Harris
- Eloise Paul, former merchandising vice president, Paul Harris; and IU AMID faculty

Career seminar inspires students, includes alumni support

This year's career seminar in January was a huge success. The day included a recruiter breakfast, seminar sessions from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., a national advisory council panel, and the AMO pizza party.

We were lucky enough to have many alumni attend the seminar this year, which allowed us to have an alumni panel session. The students enjoyed learning about the industry from their perspective and how their education helped in their jobs. "Listening to the corporate office representatives speak was encouraging, intriguing, and made individuals feel as though they would be an important part of any organization in the decision-making process from the very beginning of one's career," said student **Rachel James**.

At the AMO pizza party, students were awarded more than \$40,000 in scholarships, sponsored by many companies.

"I thought that this year's career seminar was really diverse and educated students on a variety of jobs and positions. Many different

companies were represented, so it appealed to a wider group of majors," surmised student **Kelsea Foist**.

"I thought that this year's career seminar was really diverse and educated students on a variety of jobs and positions." — Kelsea Foist

The list of speakers from this year's career seminar included: Shannon Bedore, Wal-Mart, buyer; **Andrea Ferenchik**, BS'92, Frances & Grace, owner and entrepreneur; **Jessica Grover**, BS'05, American Eagle Outfitters, assistant buyer; **Julia Hanson**, BS'91, Estee Lauder, education executive; **Kelly Haramis**, AS/BS'05, Motionwear, designer; **Jodi Kinzie**, AS/BS'99, World Wide Apparel, merchandising coordinator; **Melanie Metzger Knopke**, BS'99, Mark Shale, buyer; **Kurt Kress**, AS/BS'87, Riviera Trading, vice president and director of hat design; Donna Ott,

Coach, field service trainer; **Lynn Plummer**, BS'02, Sears, buyer; **Renee Reyes**, BS'02, Macy's South, associate planner; **Jeremy Sanders**, BS'99, Target.com, merchandise planning; Liz Senn, Macy's Midwest, buyer; **Ryan Timm**, BS'04, Kohl's, product development manager; William Trovinger, Mervyns, business analyst; **Sara Turner**, BS'04, Von Maur, buyer; **Autumn Tush**, BS'02, Dana Buchman, account executive; Tracy Von Anandel, Carson Pirie Scott & Co., buyer; and Sue Witkowski, Macy's West, store manager.

The advisory council panel included: David Cross, Sears, director of college relations; **Kurt Kress**, AS/BS'87, Riviera Trading, vice president and director of hat design; Gwen Neace, Federated, manager of college relations; Jeremy Perelman, J. Goldman & Co., senior equity analyst; Bobby Reiss, World Wide Apparel, president; and Olivia Ziegler, Jones New York, vice president.

— Maggie Moore

Alumnus from Bangladesh offers insight

Maashed Abdullah, BS'02, proudly calls the profusely humid, heavily populated, and booming apparel-exporting country of Bangladesh home. Students in IU's AMID program were fortunate to have him come to the United States to speak and address eager students' questions about Bangladesh and the apparel industry there.

Abdullah directs the marketing and sourcing department at Dressman, a basic shirt factory in Bangladesh, consisting of a nine-floor space in a 80,000-square-foot building. The company runs a 12 woven shirt manufacturing factory line operation, which could have easily assisted in the manufacturing of our Tommy Hilfiger or Izod brand shirts, two of the company's U.S. partners. Relevant to the students' current studies, the majority of the factory uses the "cut, make, and trim" method.



Maashed Abdullah, BS'02

Abdullah made it clear that his production facility strictly incorporates compliance rules with routine audit team checks for workers' age, salary, hours, and safety. Women provide the primary income for the families of Bangladesh, which explains why

there are 1,600 employed females whom Abdullah describes as, "loyal, detail-oriented, and extremely hard working." The employees receive benefits such as on-site medical staff, festival bonuses, and maternity leave with two months' pay.

Abdullah delivered an eye-opening depiction of not only Bangladesh, but also of the apparel industry. He wowed the audience with his genuine personality,

unique sense of humor, and indisputable love for his culture. It was great to have Abdullah on campus, who traveled far just to help the AMID students better understand the global impacts of our industry.

— Carey Adams

Apparel Merchandising

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Apparel Merchandising and Interior Design and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to iualumni@indiana.edu.

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Alumni Corner

Christine S. Julian-Debaltzo, BS'91, is the marketing director for a mall in Cincinnati.

Andrea Paulus Kreps, BS'91, MS'95, is director for MBA student services at the University of Notre Dame.

Andrea Gargasz Ferenchik, BS'92, and her husband, Tim, started a line of laptop bags, Frances & Grace Laptop Bags, in 2004.

Tracy L. Luekens, Cert/BS'92, is the director of merchandise and advertising for Macy's Midwest, based in St. Louis. She oversees fine jewelry.

Rennae Csernik King, BS'98, is vice president of Warnaco/Calvin Klein Swimwear Division in New York. She writes that she has "turned Calvin Klein swimwear into a global business and is launching three new product divisions." She manages all aspects of the swimwear division, including design, product development, merchandising, and sales. King and her husband, Clayton, '97, live in Millburn, N.J.

"I have relocated back to St. Louis from Milwaukee after living there for two-and-a-half years," writes **Carrie S. Goldfeder**, BS'02. "I am now working for the Bass division of Brown Shoe Company. It's great to be back in the shoe industry. Hope everyone is doing well!" She lives in Chesterfield, Mo., and can be reached at cgoldfeder@brownshoe.com.

Kelly Whitaker Sutter, BS'04, married Aaron M. Sutter, BS'04, on Aug. 20, 2005, in Beck Chapel at IU Bloomington. Their reception was held in the Indiana Memorial Union's Frangipani Room. Kelly is a market analyst for Beazer Homes. The Sutters live in Fishers, Ind.

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