

Alumni of the Retailing and Tourism Management Department at the University of Kentucky

Note: Information is accurate as of the publication of this page. New information may be available.



Bella Cho, M.S., 2014

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Internship Project: *R&J Accessories, Lexington, KY*

Aniket Sengupta, M.S., 2014

Major Professor: Dr. Min-Young Lee

Thesis Title: *Brand Analyses of Global Retailers versus Local Retailer in the Indian apparel consumer market*

Aniket is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky in Agricultural Economics.



Elvis Burrow, M.S., 2014

Major Professor: Dr. Jason Swanson

Thesis Title: *Board Governance of World-Class Annual Sport Championships: Learning from Kentucky to Create Tourism Opportunities in the Bahamas*

Elvis is currently working on making the 2016 Bahamian Olympic Team for swimming!

Natasha Saunders, M.S., 2014

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Thesis Title: *Consumers' Perceptions of Retail Shopping Needs in a Rural Community: Boyle County, Kentucky*

Natasha is currently an Extension Associate for Extension and Student Diversity Recruitment and Retention in the College of Agriculture, Food & Environment at the University of Kentucky.



Meredith Cinnamon, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *Post-Use Analysis of Firefighter Turnout Gear: Phase III*

Meredith is currently attending North Carolina State University to pursue a Ph. D. in Textile Technology Management.

Michelle Han, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Jason Swanson

Thesis Title: *Effects of Restaurant Tax and Price Increases: Implications for Managers, Policymakers and Lobbyists*

Michelle is currently a Tourism Marketing Intern with the Pacific Asia Travel Association in Bangkok.





Farah Delshad, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Susan Michelman

Thesis Title: *The Run for the Roses: Fashion Forecasting the Kentucky Derby*

Farah attended a program on fashion journalism in London through Conde Nast. She has applied for a position at Latin American Vogue.

Susannah Treese, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Susan Michelman

Thesis Title: *The Peacock Revolution and the Beatles: British Men's Fashion from 1963 to 1968*

Susannah is an Assistant Manager at The Buckle in Lexington, KY.



Mary Graham, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Thesis Title: *The Effect of Personal Scandal on Celebrity Athletes and Shopper's Purchase Intentions and Attitude Favoability*

Mary is the Academic Coordinator for the Department of Retailing and Tourism Management.

Erin Whitt, M.S., 2013

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman

Thesis Title: *Body Image and Appearance-Management Behaviors of College Age Males*



Nattanit "Kiwi" Piyakran, M.S. 2012

Major Professor: Dr. Susan Michelman

Thesis Title: *Impact of Fashion Bloggers on Female Generation Y Consumers' Attitudes Toward the Purchase Intention of Apparel Products*

Kiwi worked for one of the biggest Thailand retailers as an International Merchandiser for the local clothing brand called "Lyn Around". She worked there for 10 months until she switched to a job as a Merchandiser for Versace Group Thailand.

Kelli Murphy, M.S. 2012

Major Professor: Dr. Scarlett Wesley

Thesis Title: *The Influence of Culture: A Comparison of White American and Hispanic American Teens Information Sources and Store Attribute Preferences*

Kelli is the Wholesale Account Manager for Bella Bliss, a children's boutique in Lexington, KY.





Chelsea Blackwell, M.S. 2012

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman
Thesis Title: *A Family Affair: An Analysis of the Means-Seaton Family Wedding Gowns from 1885-1892*

Chelsea is currently attending The Ohio State University pursuing in a Ph.D. in the department of Consumer Sciences, Fashion and Retail Studies.

William F. Stevenson, M.S. 2012

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman
Research Title: *Function and Artistry: The Anatomy of a Ballet Costume*

Will is the Assistant Manager at Leslie's PoolMart in Lexington, KY.



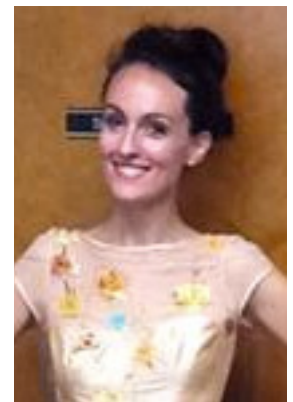
Erika Ferrell, M.S., 2011

Major Professor: Dr. Min-Young Lee
Thesis Title: *Consumer's Motivation for Purchasing Fair Trade Clothing*

Erika launched an eco/fashion-friendly line of t-shirts called Cotton Vinyls. Cotton Vinyls t-shirts are 100% eco-friendly, and uniquely hand-dyed, hand-cut, and screen-printed. Cotton Vinyls was brought to life with the goal to blend fashion, music, and environmental awareness.

Chelsea McCown, M.S., 2011

Major Professor: Dr. Susan Michelman
Research Title: *Balenciaga: Techniques and Designs to Inspire a New Garment*
Chelsea is on faculty at the International Academy of Art and Design, Orlando.

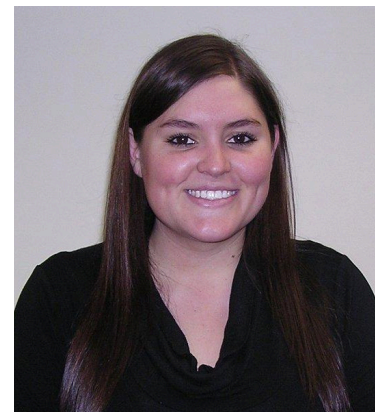


Sarah Piester, M.S., 2011

Major Professor: Dr. Susan Michelman
Thesis Title: *Issues in Expanding Access to University Costume Collections*
Sarah is the Director of Community Relations and Special Events for the Lexington Legends Professional Baseball Club. Her job duties include maintaining, enhancing and developing community initiatives while developing promotion campaigns and branding in the community. This includes community appearances, press conferences, marquee for tickets, fan fest and Opening Day initiatives.

Carly Lucas, M.S., 2011

Major Professor: Dr. Scarlett Wesley
Thesis Title: *How and Why Generation Y and Baby Boomer Consumers use Fashion Brands' Social Media*
Carly is a Retail Merchandiser at Blick Arts Media, a national art supply store, in Galesburg, IL.





Stacy Klausung, M.S., 2011

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *Post Use Analysis of Firefighter Turnout Gear: Phase II*

Stacy is a Project Manager at ArcWear in Louisville, KY. ArcWear is a textile testing company that focuses on Professional Protective Equipment.

Aquiashala Brantley, M.S., 2010, College Teaching and Learning Certificate, 2010

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Thesis Title: *A Quantitative Study of Females: Ethnicity and its Influence on Body Image, Thin-Internalization and Social Comparisons*

Aquiashala is an assistant manager for Sherwin Williams. She works at one of the district stores in Louisville, KY.



Laura Parks, M.S., 2010

Major Professor: Dr. Scarlett Wesley

Thesis Title: *The Effects of Celebrity Endosers on the Purchasing Intentions of Teens*

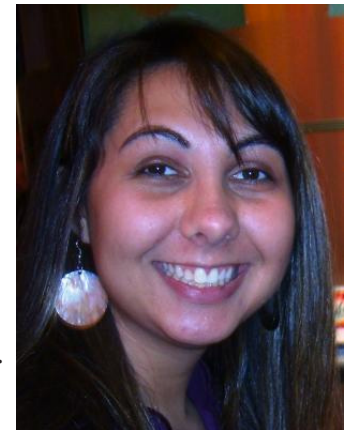
Laura is a Replenishment Buyer for Nordstrom in Seattle, WA.

Jennifer Maloney, M.S., 2010

Major Professor: Dr. Min-Young Lee

Thesis Title is: *Consumer Willingness to Purchase Organize Products: Application of the Theory of Planned Behavior*

Jennifer is a contract Fabric Developer for Carhartt in Dearborn, MI. She will help the fabric development team throughout the fabric development process by updating databases and tracking reports, maintaining seasonal fabric development libraries / files, and assisting with tracking and communicating fabric development status for new fabrics.



Anna Solka, M.S. 2010

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Thesis Title: *The Influence of Gender and Culture on Generation Y and Consumer Decision Making Styles*

Anna is a Junior Media Planner/Buyer at MediaCom. MediaCom is one of the world's leading media agencies, they plan and buy media for our clients around the world.

Deena G. Cotterill, M.S. 2009

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth P Easter

Thesis Title: *Post Use Analysis of Firefighter Turnout Gear*

Deena is the Quality Assurance Manager for VF Imagewear in Nashville, TN. VF is an \$11 billion apparel and footwear company owning brands such as Vans, Lee, The North Face, and Ella Moss.





Megha Gupta, M.S., 2009

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Thesis Title: *Assessment of the Impact of Product Involvement on Generation Y Decision Making Styles*

Megha is currently a third year PhD student in the Department of Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The title of her dissertation is “Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Apparel Industry: Perspectives of Indian Manufacturers”.

Jodie Belcher, M.S. 2008

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *An Analysis of the Care and Maintenance of Fleece Products*

Jodie is a Material Developer at Nike, Inc. in Portland, Oregon. She is responsible for creating care and content labeling information for new products as well as maintaining the database of existing information and staying current on worldwide rules and regulations regarding care and content labeling.



Avery Malone, M.S., 2008

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman

Thesis Title: *Historic Dress as a Teaching Tool in the Middle School Social Studies Classroom*

Avery is Director of Tour Operations at ASHLAND, The Henry Clay Estate, a National Historic Landmark and House Museum located in Lexington, KY. She is responsible for the volunteer program and oversees scheduling of regular and special group tours and helps with planning for special events.



Alison Sarucci, M.S., 2008

Major Professor: Dr. Vanessa Jackson

Research Title: *Company & Ecommerce Business Plan: The Blueprint & Design of Spring Star Gymnastics & Cheer*

Alison is the Visual Manager at Abercrombie & Fitch in Houston, TX. Alison is responsible for overseeing and analyzing daily operational reports about the business while managing and organizing daily and weekly schedules. She coordinates and appropriately positions merchandise in the store to maximize and increase exposure to products. She updates the store on corporate standards that include lighting, store atmosphere, visual displays, marketing, and stock-room systems.



Amber Chatelain, M.A., 2008, College Teaching and Learning Certificate, 2007

Major Professor: Dr. Scarlett Wesley

Thesis Title: *An Exploratory Study of Entertailing and its Effect on the Generation Y Consumer*

Amber Chatelain is the Lead Faculty member in the Fashion Retail Management department at the Art Institute of Tennessee-Nashville. She devises and implements quarter lesson plans for undergraduate students for the following courses: Introduction to Retailing, Fashion History I & II, Textiles, Fashion Drawing, Consumer Behavior, Fundamentals of Business, Sales and Event Promotion, Visual Merchandising, and Event and Fashion Show Production.





Rebecca Fields, M.S., 2008

Major professor: Dr. Scarlett Wesley

Thesis title: *An Investigation of Hispanic Consumers' Perceptions of Environmental and Personnel Encounters in Service Settings*

Rebecca is the co-owner of a new dance studio in Lexington called Premiere Dance where she makes all overhead decisions with her partner and instructs classes in the evening.

Molly Kessinger, M.S., 2008

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman

Thesis Title: *Quantitative Measures Representing the Difference Between Proposed Fashions in Publications and Dress Worn by Women Photographed in Media Coverage in Central Kentucky from 1940-1950 and 1964-1974*

Molly works at the Indianapolis Museum of Art as a curatorial intern with the textile and fashion arts collection. She works with the assistant curator of the collection gaining hands-on experience with the day-to-day workings of the collection.



Kasey Doty, M.S., 2007

Major professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *An Analysis of the Care and Maintenance of Performance Textiles and Effects of Care on Performance*

Kasey is the Key Account Manager at Bureau Veritas, in Atlanta, GA, a testing, inspection and certification company that reduces risk and improves performance and promoting sustainable development.

Nicole Huffman, M.S. 2007

Major Professor: Dr. Kimberly Miller-Spillman

Thesis Title: *Perceptual Effects of Docents' and Costumed Interpreters' Dress on Visitor Experiences at Historical Sites*

Nicole enjoys volunteering at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site to help others learn how individuals lived, dressed and worked in the 19th century. During the winter and spring, Nicole spends one Saturday a month as an Auntie in Fort Vancouver's Dame School training young girls in the 19th century household arts. She also trains girls to become costumed interpreters.



Kristin Simmons, M.S., 2006

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *Analysis of the Labels of Firefighter's Protective Clothing*

Kristin Simmons began her career in Product Development at Atkins and Pearce, Inc in Covington, KY. Atkins & Pearce is a textile manufacturing and processing company that explores the structural properties of textiles for new applications to provide a wide range of products from candle wick to drapery cords. For the past three years Kristin has worked with their marketing group, colleagues from the product development group, and/or customers to develop technical textile products with a focus on functional coatings for yarns and fibers. The favorite part of her job is the fact that she is constantly learning and that she has the opportunity to work with high tech fibers such as aramids, UHMWPE, and LCP on a daily basis.



Mika Turner-Pryor, M.S. 2005

Co-Major Professors: Dr. Susan Michelman and Dr. Jason Carpenter
Thesis Title: *Country Selection in International Sourcing Decisions: A Proposed Framework*

Mika was a Human Resources Coordinator at a manufacturing plant in Lexington, KY. She has held several positions at the corporate level for Abercrombie and Fitch, Express, and The J. Peterman Company.

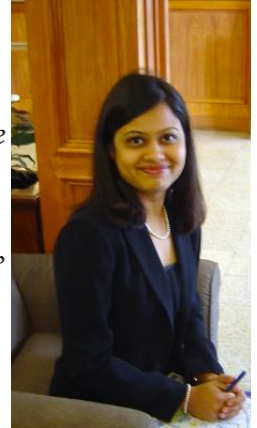
Mika is now a full-time Lecturer in the Department of Retailing and Tourism Management at the University of Kentucky.

Preeti Joshi, M.S., 2005

Major Professor: Dr. Jason Carpenter

Thesis Title: *Relationships Between Consumer's Shopping Orientation, Prior Purchase Experience and Online Purchase Situation*

Preeti Joshi was a Lecturer and internship coordinator in the Department of Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles at University of Kentucky. She worked in Mumbai, India for two years as an assistant buyer and as a product development executive. She is now a Raw Materials Coordinator for Kohl's Department Stores in Milwaukee, WI.



Debra B. Cotterill, M.S. 2001

Major Professor: Dr. Laura Jolly

Thesis Title: *Rural Kentuckians: Effects of E-Commerce on the Acquisition of Food and Fiber Products*

Debra Cotterill is the Director of the Nutrition Education Programs at the University of Kentucky. Prior to assuming this role, she worked for 15 years as the Mason County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences. Her experiences also include community college instructor and entrepreneur. Through her position as a Family and Consumer Sciences agent, Debra taught and contributed to the development of educational materials in nutrition, food safety, textiles, clothing and wardrobes, family financial security and entrepreneurship. She also served as an advisor to Extension volunteers and regional entrepreneurs. Her work included community development, budget management, program impact and supervision. Debra has received the Distinguished Service, Continuing Excellence, Research and Communication Awards from National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.



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Cynthia J. Fanning, M.S., 1991

Major Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Easter

Thesis Title: *Consumer Responses to the Retail Environment: An Exploration of Color, Lighting and Density*

Cynthia "Cinthy" is the Product General Manager at GE Consumer and Industrial in Louisville, KY. She has held various positions at GE since 1991. She was a Field Black Belt for Commercial Quality; a Master Black Belt for Sales and Commercial Quality Leader; and a Master Black Belt for Sales and Commercial Quality Leader where she was responsible for the product development, pricing, positioning, and \$900M global net sales of washers and dryers.

