

Fashion and Textiles – Cumulus Working Group (open to all)

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This Cumulus working group will be introduced with a recently published book *Crafting Textiles in the Digital Age* (Bloomsbury, September 2016) that examines the intersection between craft and digital technology in textile practice. The editors of the book are Nithikul Nimkulrat, Faith Kane and Kerry Walton.

The questions regarding (1) how textile and fashion practitioners can integrate craft and digital technology in their practice and (2) how traditional and more advanced technology are learnt and taught in higher education will be the starting point of the roundtable discussion.

Specific questions that the working group will aim to address include:

- Can fashion, textiles and other design disciplines such as product design and accessories design abandon handwork completely?
- What is the best practice that craft and digital technology can go hand in hand?
- What is the role of collaboration in such intersection between craft and more advanced technology?

Special Presentation for Cumulus Kolding 2017: Redo

Collaboration with Ecco will be taken as an example to shed light on how the intersection between craft and more advanced technology takes place in higher education through collaboration with a company.

The last 4 years Helle Gråbæk, Head of Textile at the Design School Kolding, has been in charge of the education part of the ECCO collaboration. The main motivation for ECCO is to be able to attract Danish designers as employees.

The collaboration has been unfolding and evolving organically. Based on insights from previous years' student workshops, the content of the course in the following year has been taken to a new level. Participants in the course are students from a wide range of design disciplines including industrial design, fashion, textile and accessory design. The first patent application with ECCO is pending.

The very special thing about ECCO is their open mind and curiosity regarding students. ECCO have a history of hiring mainly industrial designers. Today they recruit a much higher number of students for internship, BA & MA collaborations, trainee positions and regular jobs. A large number of the new jobs are created, especially in the field of colour/material design & innovation in which textile designers are looked-for.