

EDITORIAL

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This edition of the Journal of Arts, Fashion, and Design Education aims to disseminate the work developed and expanded by authors selected from among those presented at the 15th Fashion Colloquium. Each article in its new version was submitted to the journal's reviewers for evaluation, with a more accurate validation of its relevance for the dissemination of research on fashion education.

Above all, this edition aims to record the unusual proposal of the 14th Fashion Schools Forum “Doroteia Baduy Pires,” which was based on a reflection on the training of students in fashion and fashion design and their employability in the job market, based on a research announcement¹ we launched the previous year, addressed to all higher education course coordinators, in order to identify the employability of graduates from the last 5 years and thus have a minimum of data to discuss the profile of fashion courses offered in our country.

Through this collaborative research, we wanted to learn about the situation of higher education courses and form a broad overview that would also serve to disseminate successful actions that could be replicated in other courses and states. We were also driven by the search for a parameter to understand the curricular changes that have occurred in Fashion and Fashion Design courses over the last five years, especially at this moment, when the economy is charting new paths for the future of professions within society in general and the fashion system in particular.

The research instrument was developed and reviewed by members of ABEPEN's Teaching Directorate and distributed via the institution's mailing list to all registered course coordinators. The objective was to attract the largest possible and representative participation from Brazilian courses.

Certainly due to the numerous tasks of the course coordinators, the response to the research proposal was modest, but sufficient to promote a lively debate at the Forum on Monday, September 2, 2019, at the Uni-sinos – Porto Alegre Unit.

Through the presentations and debates, we can see that, currently, a new profile is coming into the classroom based on new ways of designing and producing, leading to the dematerialization of the curriculum and flexibility in the choice of educational content offered. Most of them have a new consumer awareness. They are digital natives (Generation Z and Alpha) who consume products or courses through Instagram, since this platform allows us to operate here and anywhere in the world.

The intention of the 14th Fashion Schools Forum “Doroteia Baduy Pires” was to discuss the issue based on real facts and outline answers to questions such as: _ Has

what students learn in Fashion or Fashion Design degrees helped them or distanced them from the most sought-after segments in the market?

Students pointed out that when they seek employment in the industry, they are not always successful, and they constantly hear that their training is not what the industry needs. On the other hand, there is still debate about the reasons and market impact on the training of young students to the detriment of important and necessary areas such as teaching, research, museology, fabric and object conservation, gallery exhibition curation, among other opportunities for improvement that fashion needs and requires.

We invite teachers/coordinators from the following schools to participate in this edition: SENAC (SP), UNIFEBE (SC), and UEL (PR). The contributions made by your interlocutors heated up our discussions, illuminated paths for this new teacher/advisor/proponent, and motivated us even more to continue this collaborative research for our constant reflection on Fashion Education in the country.

So, we will keep the research going, and the new results might be on the agenda at the next Fashion Schools Forum, happening September 9–12, 2020, in Fortaleza.

We thank everyone for their attention and wish you enjoyable reading and ongoing discussion of our teaching, research, and outreach activities.

Editors,

Maria de Fátima Garcia de Mattos and

Mara Rúbia Sant'Anna-Muller