INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE AND APPAREL ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

VOL. 48 #3

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- President's Message
- Message from 2025 Conference Co-Chairs
- 2025 International Bazaar
- 2025 Faculty Award Winners
- New Administrative Leadership Workshop Series
- TAPAC - New Accredited Institution
- 2025 ITAA Election Results
- Positions Since Last Newsletter
- DON'T FORGET IMPORTANT DATES

Greetings, ITAA community!

As I write this, my social media feed is filled with photos from your recent awards ceremonies, fashion shows, and study tours. It's inspiring to see the creativity and dedication on display. I hope you're enjoying some rest after a busy season - producing fashion shows, helping graduate students complete their degrees, serving on search committees, and juggling the many responsibilities of our multifaceted roles. Meanwhile, Council members, committee chairs, and many dedicated volunteers continue to work through these next few months on conference abstracts and paper reviews, design reviews, undergraduate task force report, financial planning, our social media strategy, and much more. Through it all, Council remains grounded in our 2022-2027 Strategic plan, using it as a guide to ensure we are meeting our goals and staying aligned with our mission.

Many of our members earned awards for excellent teaching, scholarship, and service this year at their home institutions. Additionally, this newsletter includes the recipients of our ITAA Faculty Awards. Congratulations to all the honorees! The inaugural Industry Excellence Award winner is also revealed in the newsletter. I look forward to working with our Industry winner over the coming year.

I'm excited to announce a new opportunity funded by the Better Buying Institute which was founded by 2016 ITAA Fellow, Marsha Dickson. This new initiative will focus on rewarding innovations in teaching about responsible purchasing practices. The format will be very similar to the existing Nancy Rutherford Teaching Innovation award. More details will be shared in a webinar planned for early August.

Summer in the US marks a season of transition for many of our members. Graduates step into the next phase of their journeys, and some faculty begin exciting new roles. Congratulations to all the recent graduates - and best wishes to all who are entering new chapters of their careers!

Finally, be sure to read the results of the elections for Council and Nominating Committee. Thank you to everyone who stepped forward to run for a position—your willingness to serve ITAA is deeply appreciated.

Best,

Melanie

Melanie Carrico - mrcarric@uncg.edu

Greetings ITAA Members!

Planning for our fall conference in St. Louis, MO is coming along, and the tour planning committee has been hard at work developing an exciting slate of tours for Wed. Nov. 19th. Registration details will be included in the August newsletter and posted on the conference webpage. In the meantime, we wanted to tease what we have in store for you.

Our full-day tour theme is, "St. Louis Grown, Nationally Known," and will feature stops at several businesses of varying sizes with headquarters in St. Louis. We will also break for lunch on your own in a popular St. Louis dining district.

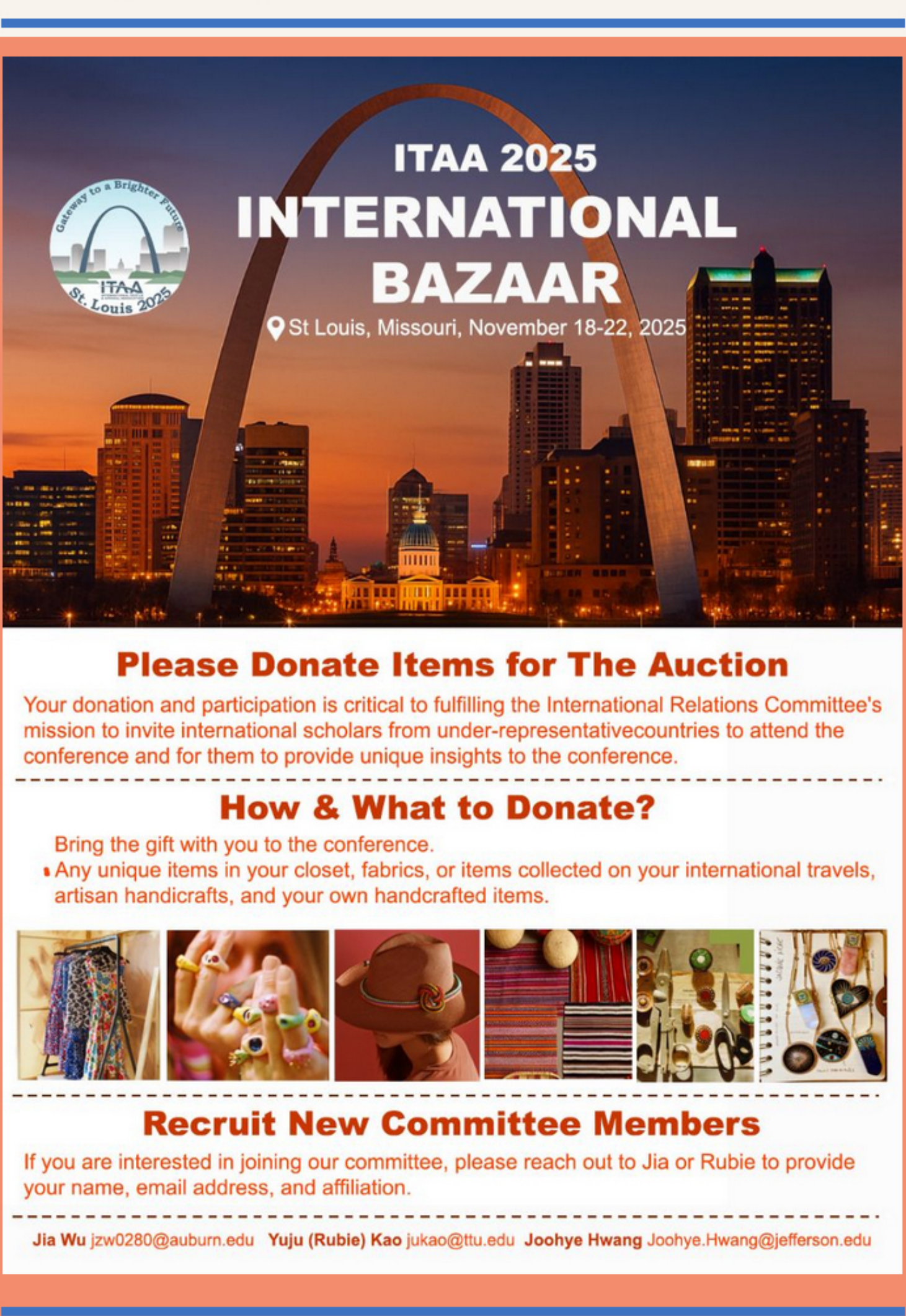
Our half-day morning tour theme is, "Secondhand St. Louis," and will include stops at a range of locally owned sustainable businesses, including a designer consignment store, a vintage store, and a secondhand sorting facility.

Our half-day afternoon tour theme is, "Show-Me Shopping: The St. Louis Edit," and will feature meetings with both national and local retailers in Plaza Frontenac followed by time for shopping in Webster Groves, one of St. Louis's premier shopping neighborhoods.

We hope our tour offerings will have something for everyone and provide an excellent introduction to St. Louis's vibrant apparel industry!

Looking forward to seeing you all in St. Louis,

Laurie Apple & RayeCarol Cavender



ITAA 2025

INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR

St Louis, Missouri, November 18-22, 2025

Please Donate Items for The Auction

Your donation and participation is critical to fulfilling the International Relations Committee's mission to invite international scholars from under-representativecountries to attend the conference and for them to provide unique insights to the conference.

How & What to Donate?

Bring the gift with you to the conference.

- Any unique items in your closet, fabrics, or items collected on your international travels, artisan handicrafts, and your own handcrafted items.

Recruit New Committee Members

If you are interested in joining our committee, please reach out to Jia or Rubie to provide your name, email address, and affiliation.

Jia Wu jzw0280@auburn.edu **Yuju (Rubie) Kao** jukao@ttu.edu **Joohye Hwang** Joohye.Hwang@jefferson.edu

2025 ITAA FACULTY AWARD WINNERS

ITAA recognizes excellence in the areas of teaching, conducting research or contributing service in our discipline through our annual ITAA Faculty Awards. The winners for this year have established distinction in their respective award category, are active in ITAA, and have demonstrated professional leadership. We will congratulate the faculty award winners in person at the 2025 ITAA Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, November 19 - 22, 2025.

2024 ITAA Fellow
Nancy Nelson Hodges

2025 ITAA Fellow
Lynn M. Boorady

2025 Mid-Career Excellence Award
Jiyun Kang

2025 Mid-Career Excellence Award
Tunmin (Catherine) Jai

2025 ITAA Rising Star Award
Song-Yi Youn

2025 Teaching Excellence Award
Ling Zhang

2025 Teaching Excellence Award
Kelly L. Reddy-Best

2025 ITAA Industry Excellence Award

Cotton Incorporated

INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE & APPAREL ASSOCIATION

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP SERIES, 2025-2026

Announcing the ITAA Leadership Development Workshop Series

The ITAA Administrative Leadership Committee, through ITAA Professional Development, is excited to introduce the ITAA Leadership Development Workshop Series launching in August of 2025. This five-part series is designed to help faculty members and administrators develop essential leadership skills tailored to academic and professional environments.

Expert Moderators & Engaging Content
Dr. Lynn Boorady and Dr. Jung Ha-Brookshire will facilitate the workshops, drawing on their extensive expertise and professional networks to offer valuable insights. Sessions will include interactive discussions, curated readings, practical worksheets, and real-world case studies to enhance learning.

Why Participate?
Navigating leadership roles in academia and professional organizations requires specialized skills. This workshop series will explore the specific challenges of academic leadership and offer practical strategies for overcoming them. Participants will develop deeper understanding of leadership dynamics, effective team management, budgeting, and strategic decision-making all while expanding their professional networks.

Workshop Objectives
Participants will:

- Develop key leadership skills tailored to academia and professional organizations.
- Enhance their ability to manage teams, communicate effectively, and resolve conflicts.
- Understand how data plays a crucial role in decision-making and budgeting strategies.
- Gain tools for managing change, innovation, and strategic planning.
- Build a network of peers within this inaugural cohort to share insights and challenges in leadership roles.

Topics
The series consists of four 90-minute online sessions and one 4-hour in-person session (during the annual conference) over the course of one academic year. Sessions are scheduled as follows:

1. Understanding Leadership (August 12, 2025; 2:00 pm EST online)
2. Effective Communication (October 14, 2025; 2:00 pm EST online)
3. Data-Driven Decision-Making (November 19, 8:00 am– 12:00 pm in-person at the ITAA Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri)
4. Budget Management (February 10, 2026; 2:00 pm EST online)
5. Work-Life Balance (April 14, 2026; 2:00 pm EST online)

Cost & Registration
The complete workshop series is available to active ITAA members for **$1,500**. A 10% early registration discount is available for those who register by **July 31**, reducing the total cost to **$1,350**. If you previously attended the *Data-Driven Decision-Making* workshop at the 2024 ITAA Annual Conference, you are eligible to enroll in the remaining four online sessions for $900, with the same 10% early registration discount available. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants who complete the full workshop series will earn the **ITAA Leadership Certificate**, and their accomplishment will be recognized in the ITAA newsletter. Please note that all proceeds from these workshops go directly toward supporting ITAA's operational expenses; the workshop leaders graciously volunteer their time and expertise.

To register for either option, please visit:
https://itaa.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/itaa/event.jsp?event=7188&

Who Should Attend?
This workshop series is ideal for:

- Faculty seeking leadership roles in academic or professional organizations.
- Current department chairs, program directors, or committee chairs.
- Faculty aspiring to serve in professional organizations or academic administrative positions.

Join Us!
Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your leadership skills and connect with peers in academia. Register early to take advantage of the discounted rate! For more information, visit the ITAA website or contact executive_director@itaaonline.org.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Lynn and Jung

TAPAC
Textile and Apparel Programs Accreditation Commission

TAPAC Congratulates California State Polytechnic University, Pomona!

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona's Apparel Merchandising and Management program has been awarded accreditation by the Textile and Apparel Programs Accreditation Commission, effective May 2025 through April 2032. We congratulate the administration, faculty, staff, and students for their demonstration of achievement of the TAPAC Accreditation Standards, evaluated within the context of the mission, goals and purpose of the program. TAPAC accreditation standards are based upon achievement of student learning outcomes addressing the ITAA Meta-Goals. TAPAC accreditation standards also address the institutional systems and program resources that are foundational to providing the higher education learning environment for textile and apparel education.

Designation of TAPAC Accreditation is recognition of the quality of California State Polytechnic University-Pomona's Merchandising & Management program. Parents, students, and employers of graduates can be assured that the program has undergone a rigorous peer review and that the program provides its graduates with skills and knowledge for professional careers in the apparel and textiles industry.

2025 COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

On behalf of the ITAA Nominating Committee, we would like to announce the results of the 2025 ballot. Congratulations to the ITAA members who were elected by majority vote of the membership for each of the following offices.

We wish to thank all ITAA members who were willing to have their names placed on the 2025 ballot. We look forward to the continued engagement of the members in activities of the organization and encourage everyone to consider serving our association now and in the future.

Charles Freeman
President Elect, 2026
President, 2027
Counselor, 2028

Kelly Cobb
VP of Professional Development
2026-2028

Hyo Jung (Julie) Chang
VP of Scholarship
2026- 2028

Beth Myers
Treasurer
2026 - 2028

Ellen McKinney
Nominating Committee
Member-at-large

Amrut Sadacher
Nominating Committee
Member-at-large

Positions Since Last Newsletter

Middle Tennessee State University - Lecturer

IMPORTANT DUE DATES NOT TO FORGET

- Design Abstract Submissions due today, June 1
- ITAA-KSCT Joint Symposium abstracts due, June 15
- 2025 Graduate Award Applications due by July 1

Sherry Schofield, Ph.D.
Executive Director, ITAA
executive_director@itaaonline.org
850-408-5145

INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE & APPAREL ASSOCIATION

This email was sent to itaasherry@gmail.com. Click here to unsubscribe.