

## **Mika Turner-Pryor M.S.**

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### **Teaching Experience**

**LECTURER** (Spring 2014 – current) University of Kentucky

**MAT 237** – Aesthetics in Merchandising  
**MAT 247** – Dress and Culture online using Blackboard  
**MAT 359** – Human Resource Management  
**MAT 120** – Textile Science

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR** (Fall 2013) University of Kentucky

**MAT 114** - Introduction to Merchandising  
**MAT 237** – Aesthetics in Merchandising  
**MAT 247** – Dress and Culture online using Blackboard

**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT** (2004-2005) University of Kentucky

**MAT 520** – Textiles for Interiors  
**MAT 515** – Specification and Evaluation of Textiles and Apparel  
**MAT 247** – Dress and Culture  
**MAT 547** – Social and Psychological Aspects of Apparel  
**MAT 414** – Merchandising Strategy Analysis

**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT (ONLINE COURSE MANAGEMENT)** (2004-2005) University of Kentucky

**MAT 247** – Dress and Culture  
**MAT 559** – E-Tailing Apparel and Textiles  
**MAT 547** – Social and Psychological Aspects of Apparel

### **Industry Experience**

**Groovycheeks Cloth Diapers**, Lexington, Kentucky

**Owner/Founder** of company (2011-Current)

Manage all economics of merchandising, merchandise planning and control, sourcing, product development, product testing, marketing, sales (both online retail and wholesale), budgeting, and daily running of the business. This business allows me to serve in several positions within the

retail industry, therefore giving me a greater understanding of numerous roles which are covered in many of the classes offered in the Retailing and Tourism Management Department at the University of Kentucky. Website design and management, sales and promotions, international sourcing are a few of the responsibilities in this position. Maintaining strong relationships with business owners is essential as a wholesale business owner in order to sustain retail outlets for my product. I have made several local and international industry contacts in this position.

**Express, Columbus, Ohio**

**Jr. Production Coordinator** in men's tailored and women's jacket, skirt, and pant departments, (6/2000 – 12/2003)

Managed all sourcing, costing, and placing orders with overseas vendors. Merchandise planning and control and economic development overseas were part of my responsibilities. Coordinated delivery dates between vendor and merchandising team. Worked with vendors to maintain 2.5 AQL quality level. Tracked lab dip and fit approval dates to maintain delivery requirements. Domestic travel required. This position gave me experience in both entry level positions such as tracking lab dips and samples to a middle management level as a sourcing coordinator. I not only worked in these positions but I worked closely with the design team, the buying team and the technical fit approval team. I have a wide range of knowledge in areas that are covered in introduction to merchandising classes along with aesthetics in merchandising classes offered at the University of Kentucky.

**Abercrombie and Fitch, Columbus, Ohio**

**Assistant Buyer** in men's and boy's woven shirt and sweater departments, (11/99 – 6/2000)

Maintained relations with overseas vendors. Worked with design and technical team on product development and aesthetic qualities of the product and product environment (both in stores and in the A&F catalog). Managed economics of retailing by negotiating costing and delivery with vendors and maintained high IMU and quality level for Fall 2001 season. This position as an assistant buyer gave me knowledge into product forecasting, consumer behavior, retail trends and design aspects of the apparel industry. I also worked with the visual design team for in-store displays of my product category but also with the marketing department for print advertisements.

**The J. Peterman Company, Lexington, Kentucky**

**Production Assistant** in men's department, (9/98 – 3/99)

Communicated and maintained relations with vendors (overseas and domestic). Assisted in production tracking. Managed lab dips, trim approval and purchase order process. Tracked samples for hard goods development. This position gave me experience in entry level positions and allowed me to understand the retail industry.

**Structure, Lexington, Kentucky**

**Personnel/Operations Manager** for in-store operations, (5/98 – 9/98)

Hired and trained new colleagues. Scheduled 22 part-time employees. Handled public relations, accounting, and payroll responsibilities. This in-store position gave me insight into visual display, aesthetic properties of the retail environment and consumer behavior.

**The Apparel Mart, Atlanta, Georgia**

**Production Assistant** for Fall 1999 fashion shows, (Spring 1998)

Collected samples from wholesale vendors in the Apparel Mart for Fall 1999 Fashion show. Dressed models and aided in facilitating shows for department store buyers. This position was

my first real experience into the corporate retail industry. I was able to see how buyers and wholesalers worked together to reach goals and agreements.

## **Education**

*University of Kentucky*, Lexington, Kentucky

**M.S.** in Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles, 2005

Thesis: “*Assessing the Competitiveness of Source Countries: an Application and Extension of Porter’s Diamond Model*”

Cognate Area of Study: International Sourcing of U.S. retail firms

GPA 3.6

*University of Kentucky*, Lexington, Kentucky

**B.S.** in Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles, 1998

Minor: Business Administration

GPA 3.106

## **Honors, Awards, and Funding**

**eLearning Innovation and Design Lab** (2014). University of Kentucky

**Research Assistant/Fellow** (2004). University of Kentucky

Lion Apparel, Funded: \$3,000.

**Alda Henning Scholarship** (2004). University of Kentucky

Funded: \$1,000

## **Publications**

**Turner, Mika**, Jason M. Carpenter, and Susan Michelman (2005). “*Assessing Source Countries for U.S. Retail Product Developers: Utilizing National Competitive Development as a Framework*,” Proceedings of the Association of Marketing Theory and Practice Annual Conference.\*

Moore, M., Carpenter, J., Joshi, P. and **Turner, M.** (2005). “*Generation X versus Generation Y Consumers: An Evaluation of Retail Format Preference and Patronage Motives*,” Presented at the American Collegiate Retailing Association Conference.\*

\*Denotes refereed, double-blind reviewed publications.

## **Presentations**

**Turner, Mika**, Jason M. Carpenter, and Susan Michelman (2005). “*Assessing Source Countries for U.S. Retail Product Developers: Utilizing National Competitive Development as a*

*Framework*,” Presented at the Association of Marketing Theory and Practice Annual Conference, Jeckyll Island, Georgia.

Moore, M., Carpenter, J., Joshi, P. and **Turner, M.** (2005). “*Generation X versus Generation Y Consumers: An Evaluation of Retail Format Preference and Patronage Motives*,” Presented at the American Collegiate Retailing Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

## **International Study**

**Indonesia**, Jakarta and Central Java  
(May 2004)

Toured apparel factories and wash houses to gain a better understanding of the garment production process. Incorporated into Thesis research for M.S. degree at The University of Kentucky.

**India**, Mumbai  
(May-June 2004)

Toured garment factory and textile mill to record weaving, apparel production, and finishing techniques. Met with factory marketing department to see specialized techniques specific to Indian garment manufacturing. Incorporated into independent study for M.S. degree at The University of Kentucky.