

# Personalia

## South African student wins Global Design Competition

Open to thousands of students around the world, this year's design competition from the Society of Dyers and Colourists (SDC) saw finalists from nine countries gather together in Goa at the end of June for the grand final. Moipone Qekisi, a fourth year textile student from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in South Africa, was announced as the global winner of the SDC Colour Design Award 2009 at the first ever SDC competition final held outside the UK.

As the leading educational charity dedicated to advancing the science of colour worldwide, the SDC encourages the creative use of colour in fashion and textile design and is a committed sponsor of young designers. This competition captures the imagination of budding designers with a brief encapsulating colour and – new for this year – encouraging sustainable thinking.

With a winning entry entitled 'My perfect world', Moipone outlines her approach, 'My design is inspired by children; their innocence, dreams and playfulness. In the midst of all the unrest in the world, children still have a way of finding happiness, while adults are living in fear of the unknown. The main inspiration for this design came through a drawing workshop that I conducted with the children from the Sinethemba Children's Home. I then carried out research into the psychology of colour and chose colours that matched with what the children envisioned their perfect world to be like. I re-interpreted elements of the childrens' drawings into my designs.'

She continues, 'From a sustainability aspect, I chose organic cotton as the basis of my entry because it is environmentally friendly and grown without the use of synthetic insecticides, herbicides or fertilisers in a way that is not harmful to people and the environment. I took advantage of its natural colour, using screen-printed designs and eco-friendly water-based inks.'

As part of their prize, each of the ten finalists received an all-expenses-paid trip of a lifetime to India. More than 200 guests saw Miss Qekisi take the top prize of £1000, plus the Veronica Bell Trophy. Other winners included Nancy Taplin from Colchester School of Art and Design, UK as the first runner up, and Denise Wong from Hong Kong Design Institute as the second runner up. Angelina Anderson, Nabil Hasan Khan and C S Balajee were also commended by the judging panel, made up of internationally-renowned colour consultants Latika Khosla and Sue Williams and Goa-based fashion designer Savio Jon.

Chair of the judging panel, Latika Khosla of Freedom Tree Design based in Mumbai, commented, 'The quality of entries and their diversity in interpreting the issue of colour and sustainability was a real eye opener. The winners were chosen on the basis of how true they were to their original ideas; how closely they integrated the idea of sustainable design into the project; and, most importantly, the ones that in future would inspire a whole lot of us to be touched by colour design.'

The grand final of the design competition, sponsored by **VeriVide** and **Pantone**, was hosted by **SDC India** and run alongside the 2009 SDC international conference 'Sustainability in Coloration: Vision 2020'. The finalists were: Angelina Anderson from Australia; Nabil Hasan Khan from Bangladesh; XiYue Zhao from China; Denise Wong from Hong Kong; Bijal Vora and C S Balajee from India; Nadia Khan from Pakistan; Moipone Qekisi from South Africa; Nancy Taplin from the UK and Erika Neumayer from the USA. The winners were announced at the awards ceremony, sponsored by **Clariant**, where all the finalists received gifts provided by Pantone Asia.

Further information about the competition can be obtained from Dr. Carmel McNamara at [carmelmcn@sdc.org.uk](mailto:carmelmcn@sdc.org.uk).

## UFI announces changes in senior management staffing

John Shaw, President of UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry, announced today that Vincent Gérard, UFI Managing Director since 2001, will leave his position on 31 July 2010. Shaw announced that the UFI Board of Directors has approved the selection of Paul Woodward, currently UFI's Asia/Pacific Regional Director, successor, effective August 1, 2010.

Woodward will be based in the UFI Headquarters office in Paris where he will ensure the continuity of UFI's programmes and policies. He will be responsible for the management of UFI's teams in Paris (Headquarters), Abu Dhabi – UAE (Middle East/Africa), and Hong Kong (Asia/Pacific) where BSG will continue to provide UFI services to the association's members in the region. UFI members are responsible for the management and operation of over 4,500 exhibitions and 181 exhibition centres around the world.

## New CEO for SATRA

Austin Simmons has been appointed SATRA's top executive position after Richard Turner retired as chief executive at the end of June.

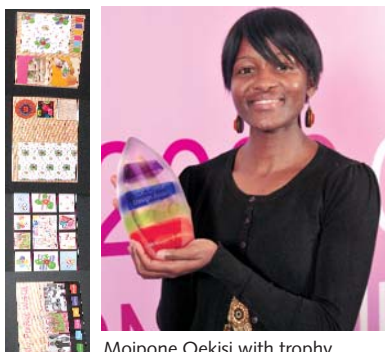
Mr Simmons, who was deputy chief executive from 2007, has worked closely with Mr Turner for 13 years with a direct involvement in developing corporate strategy and initiatives across SATRA's consumer and industrial product sectors. Most recently he has been leading efforts to enhance SATRA's benefits to members. Mr Simmons will be only the seventh person to hold the position in SATRA's 90 years of operation.

Mr Turner originally started at SATRA as a chemistry technician in 1963, quickly becoming involved with work on adhesive primers. He was one of the first to use the technique of thin layer chromatography. After a short period at Caswell and Co and Clarks, Mr Turner returned to SATRA in 1973 to become head of the uppers and components testing group, before taking over materials research. In 1989 he became an assistant director, in 1994 he was appointed to the SATRA Board of Directors, becoming deputy chief executive in 1997 and chief executive in July 2007.

For more information:  
[www.satraproducts.co.uk](http://www.satraproducts.co.uk) ◆



The winner Moipone Qekisi (back row, fourth from right) pictured with finalists, judges and SDC president (front row: Sue Williams, judge; Mike Bartle, SDC president; Latika Khosla, judge; Savio Jon, judge).



Moipone Qekisi with trophy.