Special Issue: ‘The Circular Economy’

The International Journal of Sustainable Fashion & Textiles (SFT) is a peer-reviewed academic publication and the world’s first ongoing subscription journal dedicated to the area of sustainability and ethics in the fashion and textiles industries. Its principal objectives are to provide a platform for the advancement of sustainable fashion and textiles innovation, raise awareness of the environmental and social issues surrounding these industries, and disseminate ideas about ways in which sustainable solutions might be implemented. The journal aims to approach the broad subject of sustainability from both an academic and industry perspective, inviting stakeholders from all areas of the fashion and textile industries to submit innovative research which will inform future sustainable developments. The subject is approached from a range of perspectives, publishing a variety of conceptual, theoretical and practice-based work from around the world. The journal will encourage interdisciplinary research that crosses – and indeed challenges – the boundaries between the humanities and the social sciences, in an aim to unite and enlarge an increasingly global community of researchers and practitioners working in this extremely topical area.

Submissions for the second issue of the International Journal of Sustainable Fashion & Textiles (SFT) are invited which contribute to new knowledge on the circular economy relating to the fashion and textiles industries. Over the last decade interest has grown in the concept of the circular economy, accelerated due to the negative effects of the current ‘take - make – dispose’ linear system, now threatening environmental destruction and imbalance to natural ecosystems. Only by adhering to the laws of ecology can we hope to close the circle. Everything is connected to everything else; everything must go somewhere and must fit within the law of nature. In brief, the focus of the circular economy is to keep materials in use for as long as possible and for those products to retain their value, through various channels, such as reuse, recycling, long-lasting design, maintenance, repair, refurbishing or remanufacture. To do this efficiently all stakeholders along the supply chain need to collaborate, from material supplier to designer, manufacturer, distributor, consumer and end of lifecycle service provider. As we reach the point of no return in our destruction of the planet, we need to look at global solutions to reverse the traditional thinking of putting economy before ecological balance and instead look to new ways of changing our appetite for wealth to fit within the ecological cycles which naturally exist. This concept of the ‘circular economy’ goes somewhere towards promoting an understanding of how radical new business and manufacturing models might be implemented to help society become more sustainable with low usage of material resources, low energy and environmental cost.
Open to innovative research in the field of circular economy within the fashion and textiles industries, we would particularly welcome submissions for the following areas (although the following list is by no means exhaustive):

Circular business models within all levels of the fashion industry;
- Circular economy initiatives;
- Supply chain and LCA in relation to circular economy principles;
- Sustainable fashion practices such as recycling, upcycling, remanufacture;
- Slow fashion and design for longevity;
- Textile cycle of manufacture, circulation, consumption, and disposal;
- Textile recycling initiatives;
- Education: Reframing pedagogical approaches to sustainability using circular principles;
- Consumer attitudes and behaviours to the concept of circular economy;
- Fashion & Textile design for circularity.

SFT invites contributions of the following:
Research Articles: 6000–8000 words
Book/Event/Conference/Exhibition Reviews: 1000–2000 words
Interviews: 1500–2000 words
Industry Reports: 5000 words maximum
Case Studies: 1500–2000

Submission guidelines
Please e-mail contributions to the editor, Debbie Moorhouse, D.Moorhouse@hud.ac.uk. Book Reviews should be sent to the Book Reviews Editor, Corinna Budnarowska, cbud@bournemouth.ac.uk
Extended abstracts should be approximately 700-1000 words in length, and must include a title, keywords, full names of authors (with indication of corresponding author), affiliation, contact details and a short biography of around 150 words for each contributing author. You should include details of how your work responds to the wider conversation on sustainability and give some indication of the format (including suggested word count) of the final article. The submission should be an anonymised Word document attachment. The editors will aim to let prospective authors know their final decision as soon as possible.

All submissions must follow Intellect’s house style. It is the author’s responsibility to clear the usage rights for all images to be published in the manuscript.

Abstracts should be submitted by 1 November 2021
Full papers to be submitted by 1 February 2022
Peer review process to be completed by 31 March 2022
Full paper deadline (if accepted): 31 May 2022