Research Strategy
# RESEARCH STRATEGY

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Our vision is to build a cross-disciplinary research environment rooted in design and design professional practice. Our goal is to conduct research at the highest international level to strengthen the design education and create value for the surrounding society.

Introduction
Research at Design School Kolding is an integral part of the development and the consolidation of the design professional practice as well as the design education. Design research is a young field of research which incorporates substantial diversity and cross-disciplinarity – both nationally and internationally. The research approach at Design School Kolding is characterised by a high degree of integration of design professionalism and knowledge from design. The starting point is research into and with design, with a constant portfolio of researchers and PhD students with a background in design. To ensure cross-disciplinarity, other professions and theoretical approaches are incorporated from the humanities and from the technical sciences.

The overall objective of the research is to produce new knowledge. This new knowledge intends to reinforce a research-based education with knowledge about communication design, industrial design, fashion and textile design, as well as accessory design. The starting point is Design School Kolding’s three strategic focus areas: Sustainability, Play & Design and Welfare & Well-being. All of our research projects reinforce one of the educational disciplines as well as one strategic focus area.

Background
Historically, Design School Kolding is an arts and crafts-based design education focusing on materials, the workshops, and tangibly, an intimate learning from master to pupil. The foundation for the instruction and the training is an in-depth understanding and knowledge about materials, tactility, aesthetics, and form. This grounding still exists and remains an integral part of the programme. However, the handing down of knowledge from master to pupil is no longer “tacit” but an explicit learning process in which design students are taught to reflect on and appreciate their own design process and practice. They also learn to gather knowledge from other professional and academic disciplines and theories, thereby enabling them to develop their design professionalism into a broader context and to put it in perspective.

The research should be viewed as part of the ongoing development of the design profession, where new layers are added and new positions adopted. The research and academisation of the subject is a new layer. The theoretical and academic development of the discipline helps to open new paths for design, both in the education and in the relation to design professional practice, for example by illustrating how knowledge and processes from design can be applied and transferred in a way that creates value at many different levels in society.
Knowledge production at Design School Kolding

The three knowledge areas – scientific research, artistic development and knowledge from practice – constitute Design School Kolding’s collective knowledge base. Scientific research and design based development work, (further elaborated in this section) together constitute the knowledge production generated internally at Design School Kolding. The school considers both categories as equally important and necessary for the design profession. Design School Kolding applies OECD’s Frascati Manual as the basis for a definition. The Manual defines research and development as ‘creative work performed on a systematic basis with the purpose of expanding existing knowledge’. The common denominator for research and development is that it must possess an element of novelty and relate to a universally accepted research concept with emphasis on originality, transparency and legitimacy.

The definition can be separated into the following categories:

**Basic research:** Basic research is experimenting or theoretical work that has the primary goal of obtaining new knowledge and understanding without any particular application in mind.

**Applied research:** Applied research is experimenting or theoretical work primarily directed towards specific areas of application.

**Development:** Development is systematic work based on knowledge attained through research and practical experience, with the goal of creating new or substantially improved materials, products, processes, systems or services.

**Scientific Research**

Knowledge production in research is a result of a scientific research process. Design School Kolding primarily works with applied research as per OECD’s classification, with elements of basic research. Basic research includes research into design methods, materials and design aesthetics. This knowledge production is crucial for design but cannot be directed at any specific application. The majority of the school’s research activities can be categorised as applied research, and the school’s goal and vision for the research is that it must be applicable and relevant. The applied research should be considered closely related to the school’s three strategic focus areas (Sustainability, Play & Design and Welfare & Well-being), which were also designated based on their social relevance.

The most prominent characteristic of design research is its cross-disciplinarity incorporating elements from both the natural sciences and the humanistic research tradition. Design School Kolding exploits this tension by retaining researchers with diverse backgrounds from the design profession as well as other professions. Since the establishment of the research department, the school has assured a development based on the design profession and with the purpose of educating researchers with a design background. Another focus has been to make sure the research is at par with international standards for knowledge production, including publication of design research. This approach has created international networks and achieved results within textile and fashion, design methods, co-design and interaction design. Over the next few years the school intends to further develop the research within these fields with the objective of building dedicated research environments within the strategic focus areas.
Artistic Development
As an artistically based educational institution Design School Kolding has a responsibility to engender knowledge production through artistic based development.

Organisationally the school has separated artistic based development work from scientific research in order to make the area visible and gather experience with frameworks and evaluation of the work. It is a focus area in the coming year to establish synergy and collaboration between research projects and design based artistic development work.

Knowledge production in artistic development at Design School Kolding is primarily carried out as design based development: gathering knowledge through the design process. It is not scientific but should be seen as knowledge acquired through the design development process. In accordance with OECD’s definition of development, new knowledge has to be generated through systematic work based on existing knowledge or research. This definition is not exhaustive in relation to the artistic design development work, since the design process is often based on intuition, which again is based on experience and professional knowledge. Design based development work gives a creative or practicing designer the opportunity to reflect, document and communicate his or her own creative process, within a defined framework, to his professional field in connection with one or more design development projects.

In its 2012 report about artistic development work (which also includes design based development) the Ministry of Culture submitted the following definition: Artistic (and design based) development work is an integral part of an artistic process which leads to a publicly accessible result and is accompanied by a reflection on both the process and the presentation of the result.

The definition aims at making the acquired knowledge explicit and accessible. The school uses the definition as a base and is continuously working on developing and setting criteria for the evaluation of design based development work. All the results of the design based development work produced by the school are evaluated, documented and published. The further description including criteria etc. is provided through a separate strategy and plan for the artistic development work/design based development at Design School Kolding.

Knowledge from Practice
Knowledge from practice is gathered from a constant appointment of guest lecturers, who introduce current professional knowledge into the programme and by the appointment of affiliate professors with considerable professional recognition and experience from practice.

Organisation
The strategic focus areas form the overall framework for the direction of the research and are the basis of the organisation of the research activities. In the coming years Design School Kolding will strive to strengthen the research clusters within Welfare & Well-Being, Sustainability, and Play & Design. The school’s future funding of PhD projects and new senior research staff will sustain this approach. Future research applications will strive to enforce and strengthen the research clusters.

The research also comprises cross-disciplinary themes, which are central to design both in research and education, such as aesthetics, method, and material. The themes overlap and interconnect and the work involves continuing integration, learning and synergy between the fields. Another key element in Design School Kolding’s research approach is the close link between research and instruction. All researchers teach within the school’s curriculum.
Themes and Clusters

The diagram shows how the research is organised in three clusters that support the educational structure with research based teaching. Each researcher relates to both a cluster and an educational discipline in relation to research focus.

Design School Kolding’s strategic focus areas form the overall framework for the direction of the school’s research and development. Moreover, they provide a basis for the organisation of the activities. The three research clusters are within Welfare & Well-being, Sustainability, and Play & Design, and have their counterpart in the three Labs: LAB for Sustainability, LAB for Social Inclusion, and LAB for Play and Design.

Research and development also comprise cross-disciplinary themes, which are central to design in both research and education, such as aesthetics, method, colours and material. The themes overlap and interconnect and the work involves continuing integration, learning and synergy between the fields. Another key element in Design School Kolding’s research approach is the close link between research and teaching. Research and development transfer into the school’s curriculum to
reinforce a research-based education with knowledge about communication design, industrial design, fashion and textile design, and accessory design.

**Welfare & Well-being**
Design can make a difference in the development of new insights, methods and solutions in the welfare society. With the strategic focus area Welfare & Well-being, Design School Kolding wants to contribute to the generation of knowledge within the field that is accessible and adapted into real products and services. In research, the focus is on welfare design related to hospitals and health, for example in the school’s collaboration with Lillebælt Hospital. In 2014, we appointed two assistant professors within this research area, along with a professor in welfare design with special responsibilities (WSR). In the coming year, we will work on further strengthening this research field supported by our partnership agreement with Lillebælt Hospital.

**Sustainability**
The fashion and textiles research at Design School Kolding aims to raise the level of sustainability within the garment and textile sector. Our goal is to contribute with new knowledge rooted in design processes that will tie together more closely the production and consumption of garments and textiles, thus reducing the waste of resources. The cross-disciplinarity of the cluster represents a wide range of approaches such as textile design, fashion design, design methods, textile engineering, cultural studies, business and organisational studies, art history and design anthropology, and the interlinking of these approaches have been built up over the last decade. Design School Kolding is strengthening this cluster by taking on three PhD students in 2015 and appointing two new assistant professors in January 2016.

**Play & Design**
Play & Design is an emerging research theme, which we will expand in the coming years. Our aim is to strengthen our position within methodology of design, with a special expertise in design for play. The research aim is to produce, disseminate and facilitate knowledge about how to design for play in practice by generating new knowledge about “design for play methodology”, process, skills, and collaboration, e.g. bridging practice with research and knowledge from other research fields within play and learning. The goal is to create tangible solutions and knowledge based on explorative processes through “doing and making”.

*(For information about projects in the clusters see “Appendix”)*

**Sustainable Futures – a Research Umbrella**
The themes and clusters all relate to Design School Kolding’s research umbrella: “Sustainable Futures” – the term we have chosen in order to unite the different scientific research approaches. Design has always been preoccupied with the future. It is embedded in the way designers work and think. The design process offers tools and ways through which the designer can understand, analyse and create future objects or services. Creating futures is thus a core element of design and central for understanding the scope of design and the way design is used and understood. As such it is also a core element of design research – both in terms of artistic design development and through scientific research. Through research we strive to contribute in creating futures that enable sustainable approaches. The idea of sustainability traditionally refers mainly to ecology and economics: issues of consumption and products focusing on production, materials, re-cycling, etc. At Design School Kolding we like to define sustainability as also involving politics and culture – issues of welfare and social well-being – forming a direct link to our research themes and strategic areas. Sustainable Futures frames what we are aiming at – namely a close relationship between the
deeper sense and nature of design, i.e. understanding and shaping the future, and a sustainable society.

**Fundraising and Stakeholders**
Fundraising activities are embedded in the above clusters and an integral part of the ongoing activities. The goal is to create an additional focus and growth through fundraising for the research themes/clusters. A number of activities have been initiated and will be completed in the near future, and there are parallel efforts to identify additional opportunities and relevant stakeholders. The fundraising will target private foundations and business collaborations but also established research councils. Over the next period we shall strive to expand the professionalization of the external research financing through more external partnerships both nationally and internationally, as well as exploration of opportunities to apply for funds available through Horizon 2020, Interreg and other EU programmes.

**International Research Collaborations**
Design School Kolding has a broad range of international collaborations in terms of education and offers two out-posts to the students in China, Tongji University, Shanghai and in Brazil, Universidade de São Paulo (USP) in São Paulo. In the coming years the School will seek to extend these collaborations into research activities.

The three research clusters has all established international collaborations that will be further extended in the future.

Under the heading Welfare and Well-being there are several connections. The School has links to the Loughborough Design School and to the Department of Architecture, Urbanism and Planning at KU Leuven, Glasgow School of Arts,

Within the research cluster of Sustainability the School has links to several Nordic universities, Royal College of Art, London, TU Delft, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, University of Hong Kong, Tongji University, Shanghai.

The Play and Design cluster has collaboration with MIT.

Furthermore the School researchers draw upon the members of the Advisory Board. The Advisory Boards counts nine members – all recognised and highly acknowledged international researchers within design research. For a list of members, see the appendix.

**Doctoral School**
Aarhus School of Architecture and Design School Kolding have had a close collaboration around building the new field of design research. Design School Kolding was research accredited in 2010. The two institutions are currently working to continue and to formalise the collaboration. We are aiming at a PhD education at the highest level. The subject areas and methods of research within design and architecture hold many similarities and our goal is that the two institutions together will contribute to PhD education in these fields. We have already developed one pilot course within design research together with great success. Design School Kolding’s own funding for PhD projects will be directed towards strengthening the research clusters. From 2016 the joint PhD-School is formalised and all activities will be coordinated between the two institutions.
Milestones

Milestones 2016

Fundraising
- Re-vitalising the jewelry collection at Koldinghus Museum. Partners: Koldinghus Museum, University of Southern Denmark. Velux Museum Funding. (Admitted February 2016)
- Sustainable business models for the Danish fashion and Textile industry. Innovation Fund Denmark. (Deadline May 2016)
- Application within welfare and well-being (planned)
- PhD-applications for the Danish Council for Independent Research (April 2016)

Seminars and conferences
- PhD-seminar with Aarhus School of Architecture (June 2016)
- PhD-symposium - VIVA with Aarhus School of Architecture (November 2016)
- Two internal research seminars. Subject: Research in collaboration with external partners (June/July 2016 and December 2016)
- Planning of Cumulus 2017 in Kolding
- Planning of next meeting in the Advisory Board (2017)

Staff
- Appointment of an Associate Professor within Design Methods (March 2016)
- Appointment of an Associate Professor within Communication Design (August 2016)
- Appointment of an Assistant Professor within Materials (May 2016)
- Initiation of an Industrial PhD in collaboration with Capital of Children (in process)

Publications
- Research publication 2015/16. Theme: The Nexus between research and teaching. (March 2016)
- Planning of next Research publication. Theme: Research in collaboration with external partners (to be printed in 2017)

Doctoral School
- Finalising common rules for the joint PhD-school
- Consolidating the collaboration

Dissemination
- Keeping a high degree of dissemination and communication activities in journals, at international research conferences, and as communication in diverse medias.

Long Term milestones – towards 2019
- Design School Kolding has built a research environment with distinct references to the school’s three prioritised strategic focus areas that will include both scientific research and artistic based design development. This is reflected in the appointment of a Professor WSR
within at least two focus areas. Play & Design has been established as an active research environment.

- Design School Kolding continues to have a high publication frequency in international peer reviewed journals and at conferences corresponding to the standard values for the humanities at the universities.
- Regular Advisory Board meetings as an integral part of the development of research at Design School Kolding.
- The research-based instruction is constantly developed as an integral part of the researchers’ work, with the aim of making a substantial contribution to the knowledge level of future designers.
- In collaboration with Lillebaelt Hospital, Design School Kolding has established a research unit for welfare design – Health and Well-being.
- Design School Kolding has clearly demarcated research environments within each of the strategic focus areas.
- Design School Kolding has established a joint research school with AAA.
- Design School Kolding is expanding the internationalisation of its research environment through constant recruitment of guest lecturers, and DSKD researchers are increasingly sent on exchange programmes to relevant research environments abroad.
- Design School Kolding has expanded its international research network and has established permanent and active research partnerships related to the school’s strategic focus areas in Welfare & Well-being, Sustainability and Play & Design.
Appendix

Research Projects

Cluster for Welfare and Well-being

Collaborative partner: Lillebælt Hospital
The joint agreement between Lillebælt Hospital, Design School Kolding and the Region of Southern Denmark runs for five years. In 2014, we appointed a professor with special responsibilities as part of the agreement, and he divides his time between Lillebælt Hospital and Design School Kolding. The agreement also includes a range of projects within research, development and teaching. In addition, we build relationships and mutual understanding through workshops, seminars and common fundraising activities. In 2013 we launched the first projects. They all take their point of departure in reality and actual day-to-day needs at the hospital. A central theme and strategic effort at the hospital is the area of “Shared Decision Making,” which focuses on how to involve patients in their own treatment in a sensible and meaningful manner.

Health & IT
The focus of this research area is on the development and use of design coupled with healthcare information technology, which has the potential to contribute towards sustainable health care. The research looks at advanced IT solutions that can support an active and healthy life by enabling early detection, minimisation of risks associated with aging and/or medical conditions, and emotional support. Another major research goal within this area is to design a new type of health care provider that supports patients’ wishes and needs, self-monitoring, adherence to long-term treatments, and personalised follow-up management.

Andrea Corradini, Professor WSA, PhD

Patient Democracy – Shared Decision Making
“Patient Democracy” and “Shared Decision Making” investigate how patients can take on a more active role in the current healthcare system. Patient democracy presupposes equality, respecting patients’ individual values and healthcare professionals’ recommendations. Through research and co-creation processes with patients and clinicians, we explore system-based solutions that enable patients to become involved in their own treatment. In 2015 we mapped out preliminary and international studies into “state of the art”. In addition, we conducted two pre-studies within patient communication and created a generic tool for shared decision making. In 2016 we will carry out further research and development work in order to gain knowledge about how design and design methods contribute to this field and to develop the overall prospective needed for creating the generic tools to help patients, relatives and health professionals in the decision making process about cancer treatment.

Andrea Corradini, Professor WSR, PhD & Kathrina Dankl, Assistant Professor, PhD

Designing Relationships, Accessibility and Inclusive Design
The research aims to discover what differences exist in applicability of user-centred design when the scale, duration and complexity of the project varies in comparison to the area for which it was first developed. Using a development project undertaken by the Development Department at Design School Kolding called ”Designing Relationships” and data gathered in that project, we will implement a study that will analyse how design and design processes have impacted the project and created innovative solutions. This work will serve as raw data for research in the area of
Accessibility and Inclusive Design. The research will include how user participation in design for hospital architecture differs from that in other similarly scaled projects in other areas. The project is ongoing.
Richard Herriott, Assistant Professor, PhD

Cluster for Sustainability

Collaborative partner: Kopenhagen Fur
In 2013, Design School Kolding established a collaborative agreement with Kopenhagen Fur with sustainability as the core concept in relation to fashion, materials and users. The agreement includes research, teaching and development projects. Kopenhagen Fur has established a fur workshop at Design School Kolding where the students have the opportunity to work with the actual material. Kopenhagen Fur is Denmark’s main player within the fur industry and a leader in the international market. The collaboration agreement with Kopenhagen Fur covers a period of three years and includes research, development and training. Kopenhagen Fur collaborates with 20 design schools all over the world.

Fur and Sustainability
This is a research project in collaboration with Kopenhagen Fur, which, from a design research perspective, applies four different angles to fur and sustainability (user, design, memory, and material). The project will include a user-oriented study specifically targeted at the use of fur and towards creating a better understanding of the meaning of fur in the consumer’s wardrobe. The researchers working on the project have recently completed their PhDs at Design School Kolding within the field and thus add fresh knowledge and methods to the project. The goal of the project is to create new knowledge about sustainability in textile and fashion seen from a broader perspective.
Else Skjold, Assistant Professor, PhD (Project coordinator); Karen Marie Hasling, Assistant Professor, PhD; Ulla Ræbild, Assistant Professor, PhD; Sisse Tanderup, Postdoc (2015), PhD

Sustainability and Business Understanding
The research project is part of a design-based artistic development project formulated by “Sustainable Disruptions”, which explores and develops opportunities for companies to grow and develop sustainably. Based on ‘design thinking’, the project ‘Sustainable Disruptions’ has developed approaches for how to help small and medium-sized companies create long-term growth through sustainable development. The objective of the development project is twofold: one is to investigate the methods, tools, and approaches from a research perspective, addressing the overall question of how to achieve sustainable transformation at the level the organisation and disseminating the findings in peer-reviewed publications. We conduct the research in relation to the already developed approaches, interviewing actors from existing cases and, if possible, conducting a case study in the making. Two is to transfer what has been learned into the development of new curriculum at Design School Kolding providing students with new tools and understanding of how to facilitate sustainable transformation in a business context.
Silje Kamille Friis, Associate Professor, PhD

Design Aesthetics
In collaboration with The University of Southern Denmark, the project aims to explore aesthetics in the realm of design. The project develops and expands the concept of aesthetics in terms of design and the specific impact of aesthetics on perception, experience, development and use of design. The project is ongoing.
Vibeke Riisberg, Associate Professor, PhD; Anne Louise Bang, Associate Professor, PhD

**Design for Change**

“Design for Change” was born from our affiliation to Local Wisdom; a large UK-based research project lead by Dr. Kate Fletcher. “Design for Change” examines how clothing and fashion as phenomena can be transformed by considering the use phase during the design process. In addition, focus is on how to involve the user as an active participant in the transition to more sustainable behaviours. Thus, the project subscribes to an expanded notion of sustainability including the users and their interaction with garments. The aim is to study how to incorporate this expanded notion into new business models and production as well as integrate it in the training of future designers. Anne Louise Bang, Associate Professor, PhD; Vibeke Riisberg, Associate Professor, PhD

**Activities 2015**

**Improved integration between research and development**
- Synergy and collaboration between development and research projects at Kopenhagen Fur and projects about Shared Decision Making in the agreement with Lillebaelt Hospital + Kopenhagen Fur

**Doctoral School**
- Formalisation of joint PhD School with AAA is well on its way and several activities, seminars and courses has been taken place in both Kolding and Aarhus.

**New staff**
- 3 PhD students for advertised positions
- 1 PhD student in collaboration with Kolding Municipality
- Initiation of an Industrial PhD in collaboration with Capital of Children (in process)
- Start of pre-doc programme at Lillebaelt Hospital
- Appointment of 1 new associate professor in communication (in process)
- Appointment of 1 new associate professor in methods and interdisciplinary teaching (in process)
- Position opening for 3 new assistant professors
  - Design and materials (in process)
  - Fashion design, methods and sustainability (in place)
  - Design management, user studies and sustainability (in place)

**Research seminars**
- Implementation of an internal research seminar: topic research collaborations with external partners, spring/summer 2015 (completed)
- Implementation of a design research seminar between AAA, KADK and DSKD. Topic: Research based education, educational based research (completed)

**Communication/dissemination**
- New research publication: topic research based education/ educational based research (completed)
- High level of publication which, at a minimum, meets the result contract, including communication with the daily newspapers (2015 goals met)
Fundraising 2015

- Integrated care for the unexpected, Horizon 2020. Health IT consortium, several EU partners, lead Leuven University (May 2015)
- New innovative and sustainable business models for the fashion & textile industry
  Innovation Fund Denmark. Partner University of Southern Denmark (completed, May 2015 and approved for Second Round)
- Individual post-doc funding, The Danish Council for Independent Research (completed May 2015)
- Collective Embroideries, Horizon 2020 (Uppsala University June 2015)
- Application for Trygfonden: Centre for Shared Decision Making – Partner Lillebaelt Hospital, September 2015 (Pending)
- Application for the Danish Cancer Association – Development of decision aid tools
  (Partner Lillebaelt Hospital, deadline June 2015) (granted)
- New innovative and sustainable business models for the fashion & textile industry. Second Round. Innovation Fund Denmark. Partner University of Southern Denmark, September 2015 (Not granted)
- The Collection Coming Alive, Velux Fonden. Partners The Museum at Koldinghus and University of Southern Denmark (Pending)
The Research Team

Our research team consists of researchers with a design background as well as researchers with different professional backgrounds. This ensures a broad knowledge base and a continuous development of the design research field.

Andrea Corradini

Professor WSR PhD, MSc in Mathematics

Andrea Corradini’s area of research is Welfare Design centred on “Health IT.” With a background in the technical sciences and a PhD in Human Computer Interaction, Andrea Corradini focuses on the relationship between IT systems and users: How is it possible to bridge the gap and create better IT solutions, which make sense for the stakeholders involved. His research involves the development of new solutions within the focus area “Shared Decision Making,” which will help patients and doctors make the right decisions in cancer treatment. As Professor WSR (with special responsibilities) in Welfare Design, he divides his time between Design School Kolding and Lillebaelt Hospital. Instruction: IT, web design, theoretical guidance, PhD guidance.

Vibeke Riisberg

Associate Professor PhD, Textile Artist & Designer

With a background as a textile designer Vibeke Riisberg has made a significant contribution to the shift from the analogue to the digital platform in textile design, both through design research and in practice, where she introduced digital tools as early as 1988. Vibeke Riisberg has been a key player in the development of design research at Design School Kolding, where she started her PhD in 2002. Her main interest is the study of how aesthetic effects such as ornaments, colours and materials can interact with function and sustainability. She has developed teaching materials for textile and fashion students, which enable them to incorporate sustainability into their design thinking and into the entire value chain. Vibeke Riisberg participates in several projects and research groups – for example, the VIGGA project about sustainable children’s clothes and a research project with SDU about design aesthetics. Instruction: Textile design, sustainability, cross-disciplinary instruction, theoretical guidance, PhD guidance.

Anne Louise Bang

Associate Professor PhD, Textile Designer

In her industrial PhD dissertation, Emotional Values of Applied Textiles: Dialogue-oriented and participatory approaches to textile design, Anne Louise Bang developed dialogue tools, which could be used to include users in the development of new products. Her tools enabled a communication about the sensual qualities of textiles of which she possesses wide knowledge due to her background as a textile designer. In her research Anne Louise Bang is focusing on developing these tools, e.g. she has used the Repertory Grid method to examine the experience of...
textile qualities among high school students. Anne Louise Bang also works with “Dynamic Sketching” in which she develops theory through visualisations and sketching methods. She uses this system both in her own research and when teaching design students. Anne Louise Bang participates in the research project Design2Network in collaboration with SDU as well as a research partnership about design aesthetics, also with SDU. Anne Louise Bang was a co-developer of the PhD course “Research Through Design,” which specifically targets the training of design researchers in collaboration with the Aarhus School of Architecture. Instruction: Textile design, sustainability, cross-disciplinary instruction, theoretical guidance, PhD guidance.

Silje Kamille Friis,
Associate Professor, PhD, MSc in Architecture
Silje Kamille Friis (SKF) is deeply engaged in the questions of how to create change and transformation individually and together with others and her research is largely conducted within the cross-disciplinary fields of design thinking, creativity and innovation. Throughout her work life, SKF has engaged closely with professional practice, firstly as a designer at the toy company LEGO, later as a consultant to private and public organisations. SKF holds that ‘consciousness’ is a central aspect of the education of designers. Starting with her PhD thesis ‘Conscious Design Practice as a Strategic Tool’ (2007) and continuing in subsequent articles and publications, SKF has continued her endeavour to add to the shared consciousness and language of people engaged in creative work processes. At present SKF is engaged in the practice based research project ‘Sustainability and Business Understanding’ and the investigation of ‘creative agency’ in individuals, teams, and communities. In addition, she continues to explore the role of the designer as the communicator, facilitator, and leader of creative work processes. Instruction: Design methods, cross-disciplinary instruction, theoretical guidance, PhD guidance.

Kathrina Dankl
Assistant Professor PhD, Dipl.ing.Msc, Industrial Designer
Kathrina Dankl has a background as an industrial designer and a PhD in design anthropology, with the project "Very Experienced People: An Ethnography of Design, Ageing and Style”, from the University of Applied Arts Vienna. At Design School Kolding Kathrina Dankl is assembling a research project in the area of “Shared Decision Making” in collaboration with Lillebaelt Hospital, Vejle Hospital. In her research, she has worked with welfare design, age, inclusive design, design methods and social innovation. Kathrina Dankl divides her time between Kolding and Vienna, where she has her own design studio. Instruction: Industrial design, cross-disciplinary instruction, theoretical guidance.

Richard Herriott
Assistant Professor PhD, MSc in Design, Automotive Styling
In his PhD project Richard Herriott worked with the concept ”Inclusive Design,” a method that originated in product design. His PhD project explored this concept in relation to public transport where methods and intentions from Inclusive Design can be applied although under different design conditions. The PhD project was concluded in 2014 at Aarhus School of Architecture. At Design School Kolding Richard Herriott teaches and conducts research within the area of welfare design. His research is closely linked to the development project “Designing Relationships” – a project that involves creating social relationships for a group of severely disabled citizens. He has focused on how design processes and methods have impacted and created solutions in the project. Instruction: Industrial design, cross-disciplinary instruction, theoretical guidance

Else Skjold
Assistant Professor, MSc in Modern Culture
In her post-doc project about fur and sustainability Else Skjold collaborates with Kopenhagen Fur in a study of users and fur. Else Skjold elaborates on the “wardrobe method” which was a central
concept in her PhD project. It is a new and innovative method in fashion research, which combines ethnological user surveys with overarching cultural theoretical questions. This method draws on both the traditions of market surveys from the Copenhagen Business School (CBS) and Design School Kolding’s knowledge of materials and construction of garments. In her PhD project “The Daily Selection: What we know about what we wear”, a collaborative project between CBS and Design School Kolding, she analysed the clothes consumption among men between the ages of 25 and 45. Instruction: Design Management, theoretical guidance.

Karen Marie Hasling,
Assistant Professor, MSc Design & Innovation, BSc Textile Technology
Karen Marie Hasling has recently finished the PhD project: “New materials and the Establishment of an Optimal Framework for Dissemination.” The project focused on studying and developing the design students’ consciousness of materials in order to create a knowledge platform for new designers which will give them better opportunities to make the right choice of materials, for example sustainable product development. Karen Marie Hasling is continuing that line of study in a Postdoc project about sustainability and fur in collaboration with Kopenhagen Fur. Instruction: Cross-disciplinary instruction, materials.

Ulla Ræbild
Assistant Professor, MD (MA in Design), Fashion Designer
The PhD-project “Uncovering Fashion Design Method Practice – the influence of body, time and collection” was funded between Design School Kolding, danish Centre for Design Research and Teko – Via university College. The project explores how fashion designers work in their professional practice. The focus is on the methods fashion designers apply, as they merge artistic input with craft and commerce. Furthermore, the study is interested in how the method practice is influenced by the designers working with seasons, collections and the body. These questions are investigated through an empirical qualitative case study of five fashion designers working in five different types of companies. Outcome centres i.a. on embodied practices, variations over ‘newness’ in design development and a specific method framework for collection building. The study applies making of method cards as part of the cross case analysis. Ulla Ræbild continued these methods in her Postdoc project about sustainable potentials in design processes involving fur with a focus on design approaches that can enhance product longevity.

Pia Pedersen
PhD Candidate, Communication Design
PhD project: “Transforming Statistics into Infographics.” The project examines the role of the designer in data visualisation and the impact of the designer’s transformation process on the design of the data visualisation offering designers new strategies and methods they can use when working with data visualisation.

Sidse Bordal
PhD Candidate, MSc in Design, Fashion Design
In the PhD project “Unfuzzing Design – Revisiting Epistemology of Design Processes”, Sidse Bordal questions how to strengthen the epistemic foundations of design processes and bridge methodological disputes by critically revisiting prevalent design process understandings. From a critical realist perspective, and through both empirical, theoretical, and philosophical studies, the project explores and seeks to explicate underlying mechanisms of ill-defined design processes.

Anne Corlin
PhD Candidate, MSc in Architecture
The project “Place Making/Makers” aims at designing socially sustainable neighbourhoods focusing on urban spaces and interaction by asking how spatial configuration and creation can support network and interaction. The project researches pivotal design parameters in the creation of
well-functioning city and housing areas, seeing the physical and the social spaces as mutually dependent. The PhD project is part of the partnership agreement with Kolding Municipality.

**Trine Højbak Møller Gøttsche**  
*PhD Candidate, MSc Design Management, MSc Health and Well-Being, PB Industrial Design*  
The PhD project “Intimacy, Accessories and Wearables – Identifying Accessory Thinking as a Way to Inform the Design of Future Wearable Health Technology that Empathizes Personal Experience” investigates the relationship between citizens with special needs and wearables. Hypothesizing that explorations of the social, cultural, and emotional values embedded in accessory design such as jewellery, functional helping aids i.e. glasses, hearing aids, etc. and clothing accessories will influence the design of future wearables, the goal of the project is solution-oriented towards a social welfare design context.

**Louise Ravnløkke**  
*PhD Candidate, MSc in Design, Textile Design*  
One of the main environmental problems of the fashion industry is the short life span and disposal of clothing. Resources become scarcer while our consumption increases. This requires a change in the fashion system, production and the use of clothes. The PhD project “Sustainable and Aesthetic Attributes in Clothing” explores how the textile designer in a clothing company can contribute to change towards more sustainable textiles and clothes. The assumption is, that increasing the awareness towards aesthetic attributes like material qualities, textile technologies, and aesthetics experiences, may prolong the lifetime of clothes and thereby contribute to sustainable clothing. The thesis will be completed in 2018.

**Karen Feder**  
*Predoc, MSc in Design, Interaction Design*  
The pre-doc project “Play and Design” will define the framework for an industrial PhD project in collaboration with Capital of Children. The pre-doc project will examine the use of design research and design methods to achieve improved integration between existing knowledge about children and play and the development of toys and play experiences.

**Anna-Mamusu Sesay (Maternity Leave)**  
*PhD Candidate, MSc in Anthropology*  
The project “Sustainable Consumption, Liminal Transition, Aesthetic Considerations” examines sustainability and consumption in relationship to baby clothing during the transition phases in a Danish context. Taking its investigative point of departure within the field of Design Anthropology, this ethnographic exploration seeks to critically reassess predefined ideas and discourses on sustainable consumption by placing everyday practices and lived experiences of citizen-consumers at the centre of its investigation. By doing so, the project seeks to provide a holistic understanding of sustainability in relation to consumption practices, including aesthetically, economically as well as culturally and politically informed considerations taking place on the micro-level where citizen-consumers’ decision-making processes are taking place.

**Nevena Jensen (Maternity Leave)**  
*PhD Candidate, Fashion Designer*  
The focus of this PhD study is to understand the virtual team collaboration as an integral part of design processes, where virtual teams are distributed across heterogeneous cultures and to investigate issues connected with global virtual team management in multicultural environments and their impact on co-located teams in each country and design process in general.
Looking Back
From 2009 to 2014, Design School Kolding’s research strategy has included three focus areas: Accreditation, Consolidation and Internationalisation. The accreditation became a reality in 2010 and an important goal was reached. The consolidation of research is evident e.g. in the solid integration of the research-based instruction, education of PhD students with internal advisors, establishment and development of research themes and clusters, as well as initiation of long-term business collaboration agreements as part of the research. Internationalisation comes in the form of an integrated part of the researchers’ work, and international networks and partnerships have been established. The international Advisory Board has visited the school twice since 2010 and is a key component of the school’s international network. Going forward, internationalisation will remain a focus area of high priority within research, and consolidation will receive equally high priority, especially as far as the PhD programme is concerned.

From 2010 – 2014 Design School Kolding has seen a wide-ranging integration between research, business and design practice, e.g. through several Industrial PhD projects and partnership agreements with public and private institutions which include research. In 2013 and 2014, Design School Kolding appointed several Affiliate Professors who are thoroughly grounded in practice, with the purpose, broadly speaking, of ensuring a high level of knowledge from practitioners in the design profession. Integration of the school’s three knowledge pillars – research, artistic development and practice – is still a focus area.