



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER



## **TEXTILES EXPERT AND LEARNING AND TEACHING INNOVATOR APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE TEXTILE INSTITUTE**

The Textile Institute has named that Professor Jess Power, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching Enhancement and Professor of Learning and Teaching, at the University of Salford will become their next Chairman. The announcement took place at The Textile Institute's 113<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting earlier today (Monday 3 July).

Jess has achieved a long-spanning and successful career in the textiles industry and academia. She started her career working for the British luxury fashion brand Jaeger as a design interpreter shortly after graduating with a BSc (Hons) in Knitwear Design and Production from De Montfort University. She continued her career in academia obtaining a MA in Fashion/Textiles from Nottingham Trent University, a PhD in Technical Textiles from UMIST and an MBA from University of Huddersfield. In 2017 she was conferred to Chair in Learning and Teaching at the University of Huddersfield.

Jess joined the University of Salford in November 2021 with intent to develop the Learning and Teaching Enhancement Centre. She currently leads a team of Academic Developers and Learning Technologists providing the focal point to disseminate and embed best practice, engaging with academic staff from across the institution. The Centre acts as a catalyst, bringing the University of Salford to the forefront as a sector leader for innovative pedagogic practice.

Over her career she has received various prestigious awards and accolades including National Teaching Fellow, Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (Advance HE) and Fellow of The Textile Institute.

Jess has been a member of The Textile Institute since 1993 and has served three terms as an elected Council member and Trustee. She held the role of Honorary Secretary between 2020-2023 and contributed extensively to the Publications, and Professional Qualifications Committees.

Her expertise and specialist knowledge spans both fashion and textiles and crosses into other disciplines like health, engineering, education and business. This is evidenced through her sustained publication portfolio which demonstrates high quality research with impact for the commercial and wider Higher Education sector. Jess is particularly interested in contributing to shaping the future of Higher Education through design challenge-led learning integrating academic disciplines, creating learning networks and knowledge co-creation. Her innovative approach bridges disciplines and has resulted in best-practice models for integrating interdisciplinarity into teaching and learning to develop enterprise and employability skills for higher education students which has led to innovative and valuable social assets.

The announcement also coincides with the 92<sup>nd</sup> Textile Institute World Conference 2023, taking place Monday 3 - Thursday 6 July at the University of Huddersfield, where Jess will be chairing an

industry-led session at the event with the likes of Katie Greenyer, Creative Director at Pentland Brands, and Joachim Sedelmeier, Head of Footwear Design at Paul Smith.

Stephanie Dick, CEO of the Textile Institute, says: “The Textile Institute is delighted to welcome Professor Jess Power as Chairman. Jess has been an active member for many years and is known to many of its members worldwide. She understands the Institute and what is required to future proof the organisation. With her innovative approach to work and knowledge of the textile industry her skills will be instrumental in raising the profile of The Textile Institute, taking the organisation forward and engaging with members and industry worldwide.”

Jess added: “This is an exciting period for the global textile and fashion industry and I am absolutely delighted and honoured to be appointed to the role of Chairman of The Textile Institute. In my role I intend to build on the solid foundations already established and push the boundaries of innovation across fashion, textiles, clothing and footwear through the working closely with our global network, sections and special interest groups.”

The Textile Institute was set up in 1910 to promote professionalism in all areas associated with the textile industries and today has members from across art, design, economics, education, retail, engineering, fashion, marketing, production, science and sustainability.

She takes up the position of Chairman of The Textile Institute from Monday 3 July 2023 and will continue her full-time role at the University of Salford throughout this time.

**-ENDS-**

### **Notes to Editors**

For more information, please contact: Maria Dickinson in the University of Salford press office at [M.J.Dickinson@salford.ac.uk](mailto:M.J.Dickinson@salford.ac.uk)

Additional images are available on request.

An overview of Jess’ career and experience can be found on her [University of Salford profile](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

### **About The University of Salford**

The University of Salford is located in the heart of Greater Manchester. We have almost 30,000 students, 2,000 staff and a global community of over 170,000 alumni.

The results of REF 2021 confirmed that 78% of the research carried out at Salford is rated as world-leading or internationally excellent. The Research Excellence Framework (REF) is the UK’s system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions.

We pioneer exceptional industry partnerships leading the way in real world experiences by preparing students for life.

We work with industry to co-create the curriculum producing job-ready graduates primarily in health & well-being, engineering, digital and the creative sectors.

We are continuing to invest in our campus and facilities with a £300 million masterplan that will make us fit for the future.

For further information: <http://www.salford.ac.uk>

### **About the Textile Institute**

With International Headquarters in Manchester, UK, The Textile Institute is a unique organisation in textiles, clothing and footwear. Founded in 1910 the Institute was incorporated in England by a Royal Charter granted in 1925 and is a registered charity. The Institute has Individual and Corporate Members in up to 60 countries; membership covers all sectors and all disciplines in textiles, clothing and footwear. Individual members can also gain internationally recognised qualifications including, LTI (Licentiates); CText ATI (Associates) and CText FTI (Fellows). The Textile Institute's portfolio of publications includes books, journals, magazines and monographs of worldwide interest.

The Textile Institute has members in all sectors of textile and associated industries worldwide. The Textile Institute is represented by local and national offices around the world. Sections are run by its members who provide a programme of local activities, factory visits, workshops, seminars and social events. Special Interest Groups provide a focus for members in different sectors, and many of them organise conferences, study tours and other events in their subject area.

For further information: <http://www.textileinstitute.org>