

1st Innovative Pattern Cutting Conference 1st IPCC26

Manchester Fashion Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University recently hosted the inaugural Innovative Pattern Cutting Conference (IPCC26), organised by Adrian Thornton under the theme, **“Patterns That Shape Our World: Shaping the Future of Sustainable, Ethical and Technological Fashion Practice and Pedagogy.”**

The two-day conference brought together an international community of educators, researchers, designers, industry professionals and practitioners to critically explore the evolving role of innovative pattern cutting within contemporary fashion. Through presentations, dialogue, practical activity and knowledge exchange, IPCC26 created a space to consider how pattern cutting can move beyond its conventional technical boundaries and contribute to meaningful and transformative change across fashion practice and education.

Central to the conference was a critical exploration of relationships between the body, materials, production and consumption. Participants considered how garments are conceived, constructed and experienced, while exploring emerging technologies, sustainable methodologies, innovative cutting practices and new pedagogical approaches.

The programme was strengthened by keynote contributions from internationally recognised pattern cutting practitioners and researchers, including Dr Holly McQuillan and Julian Roberts. Their thought-provoking presentations, alongside masterclasses, research papers and practical exploration, provided valuable opportunities to connect theoretical enquiry with embodied and applied practice.

Perhaps the most significant outcome was the community that has begun to emerge around a shared interest in the possibilities of pattern cutting. Feedback has demonstrated a strong appetite for continuing the conversation and developing IPCC as an ongoing platform for international dialogue, research, collaboration and knowledge exchange.

A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed, presented, attended and supported IPCC26.