



FIELD REPORT

VISITING SCHOLAR TO UNITED STATES



DR. ADITY SAXENA
DEAN & PROFESSOR
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND DESIGN
WOXSEN UNIVERSITY



FEBRUARY 2023

**Dr. Adity Saxena**

Dean & Professor
School of Arts and Design
Woxsen University

Visited United States as a
Visiting Scholar
February 10th - 19th, 2023

INTRODUCTION

This report is a narrative of my recent visit to the United States. The goal of the weeklong visit to exchange of knowledge, understand the Post-Covid higher Education landscape and experience the diversity of classes in a couple of New York City's best colleges.

My meetings were scheduled with professors from the New School, Fashion Institute of Technology, Parsons School of Design, and the City University of New York during my week-long stay. These informal conversations enable me to not only exchange knowledge and ideas, but also to discuss individual level concerns, the future landscape of the Higher Education sector, and the impact of technology.

In Long Island, I conducted a Design Thinking workshop at Uniondale Free School and Freeport School. Approximately 60 high school students took part and shared their problem statement.

I also attended the CAA 111th conference at the Hilton Midtown and the CAA in-person Board Meeting. It is an honour to be a member of the Board and to participate in board meetings.

I am confident that this kind of tour helped us better comprehend the complexities of the Higher Education industry in the post-Covid age.

DATE OF MEETINGS

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Meeting with

Dan Wong, Professor of Communication Design

FEB 13TH, 2023

PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN | THE NEW SCHOOL

Meeting with

JOHN A. BRUCE, Associate Professor of DESIGN STRATEGIES

Co-Director MFA Transdisciplinary Design

Co-Director CONSORTIUM for TRANSDISCIPLINARITY

FEB 14TH, 2023

UNIONDALE FREE SCHOOL, LONG ISLAND

Meeting with

Dr. Monique Darrisaw-Akil, Superintendent at Uniondale UFSD

FEB 15TH, 2023

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, NEW YORK

Meeting with

Steven Faerm, Associate Professor, Parsons School of Design

Shannon Maher, Interim Dean, Jay and Patty Baker School of
Business and Technology

Soojin Kang, Assistant professor in Fashion Technology at Parsons
School of Design

Margaret Bishop, Adjunct Professor - Strategic Management;
Global Business at Parsons School of Design - The New School

FEB 16TH, 2023

CAA 111TH CONFERENCE, HILTON MIDTOWN

FEB 17-18TH, 2023

CAA BOARD MEETING, HILTON MIDTOWN

FEB 19TH, 2023



On the Left, with Dan Wong, Professor of Communication Design, City University of New York

On The Right, with John Bruce Director, Transdisciplinary Design MFA program at Parsons School of Design - The New School



EXCHANGING IDEAS WITH A DIVERSE GROUP OF ACADEMICIANS AND THOUGHT LEADERS



On the left, with Dr. Monique Darri-saw-Akil Superintendent at Uniondale UFSD, New York, United States

On the Right, With Margaret Bishop, Adjunct Professor - Strategic Management; Global Business at Parsons School of Design - The New School, Shannon Maher, Interim Dean, Jay and Patty Baker School of Business and Technology





EXCHANGING IDEAS WITH A DIVERSE GROUP OF ACADEMICIANS AND THOUGHT LEADERS

On the left, with Steven Faerm, Associate Professor, Parsons School of Design, Soojin Kang, Assistant Professor in Fashion Technology at Parsons School of Design, Susanna Moyer Creative Director; Fashion, Entrepreneur & Educator.



With Meme Omogbai, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer at College Art Association



A DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP

Uniondale Free School and Freeport School

Delivering a Design Thinking workshop to 50 high school students from the Uniondale Union Free School District was an incredible experience. The "Becoming a Design Thinker: Introducing Design Thinking" programme is intended to introduce a group of high school students to an innovative approach to problem-solving by using empathy as a tool.

The students were excited to share their ideas. Thanks to all the incredible teachers to support the workshop. Dr. Monique Darrisaw-Akil also actively supported the students to identify the problem areas.





A DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP WITH COOKIES



**A DESIGN THINKING
WORKSHOP WITH COOKIES
AND A DIVERSE GROUP OF
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**





WORKSHOP IN PROGRESS

I interacted with each group of students during the Design Thinking session. The problem they identified during the initial brainstorming session was primarily the same, but their explanations were unique. The DT session was held in a genuinely creative environment, with salad and cookies were provided for students by the school administration. I enjoyed taking pictures with each group.



STUDENT INTRODUCING THEIR GROUP



STUDENT INTRODUCING THEIR GROUP

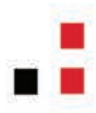


Dr. Adity Saxena,
Workshop Facilitator

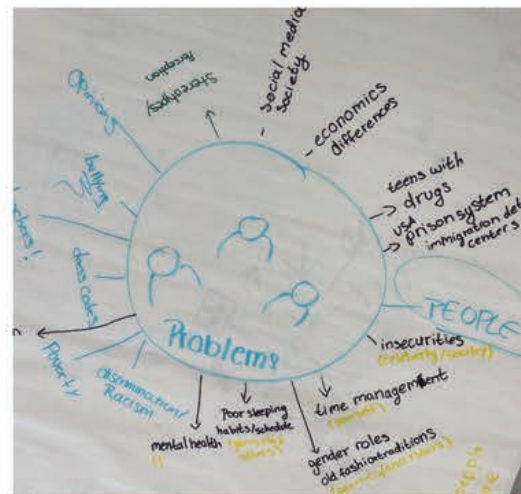
With the group of
students



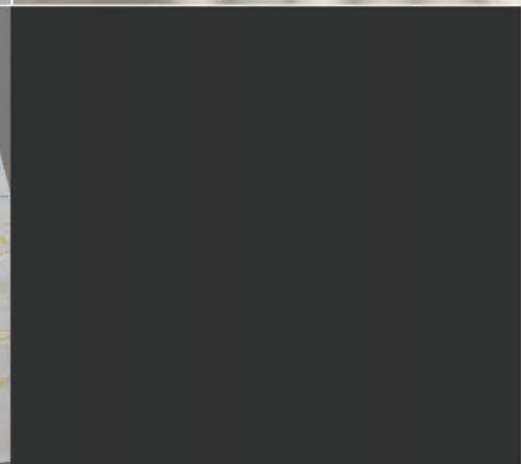
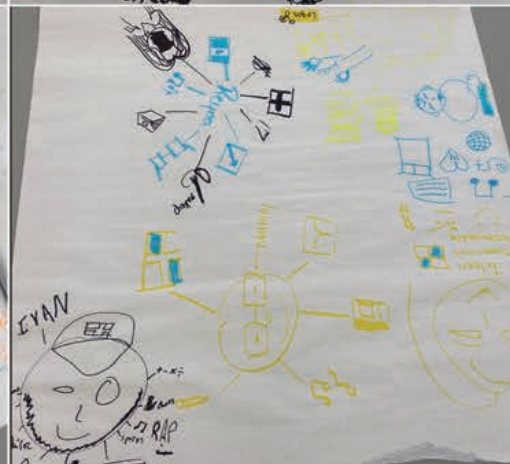
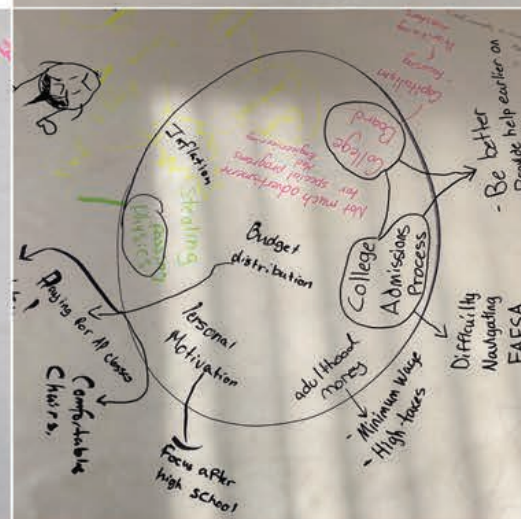
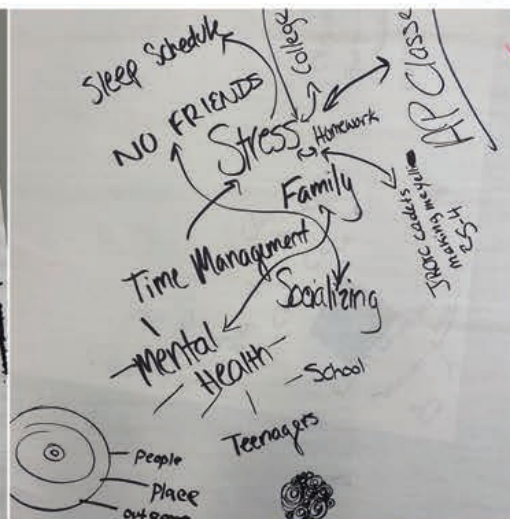
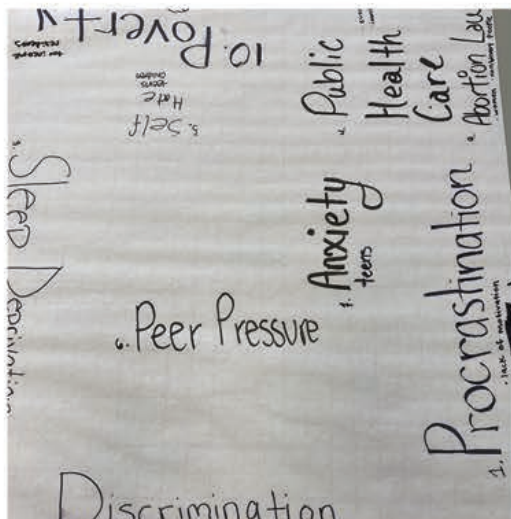
Dr. Adity Saxena,
Workshop Facilitator



Dr. Adity Saxena,
Workshop Facilitator
A Glimpse of their Explorations



- Problems**
- Not having enough Money. ~ Everyone in- living in a city (middle class)
 - The school doesn't find the - wrestling team, administrators wrestling team enough.
 - students ~~work~~ jobs are affecting their education - students parents, teachers
 - Climate Change ^{smitty, CEOs, world leaders, etc}
 - Procrastination - myself, teachers, family
 - not an effectivest correction between communities and those who serve them.



Informal Creative Space for Networking with **the Global Community**

Informal networking allows me to build relationships with my colleagues. These relationships can lead to future collaborations and opportunities for joint projects. Travelling from Rockville Centre to Penn Station with Prof. Susanna Moyer was an opportunity to share personal and professional narratives. Sunday, we attended a Fashion show, Flying Solo NYFW and interacted with a young fashion designer from Peru, recently a student from FIT. Lunch with Margaret Bishop, Shannon Maher, and Susanna Moyer at FIT restaurant was another wonderful experience. We discussed a few of the most critical recent concerns related to fashion, textiles and technological intervention. I met Lynne Allen, Professor of Art at Boston University, Vice President for Committees, CAA. All those informal interactions allowed me to learn from others and gain new insights and perspectives from colleagues in different countries and cultures.





CONTACT ME

DR. Adity Saxena

Tel : +91 997 100 78 604

adityanerjee@gmail.com