

Departmental Reviews and Validations, and the analysis of the annual MA student survey. In 2007/8 the ADO also launched new Learning and Teaching and e-Learning Strategies.

Many of the office's activities are channelled through the Academic Standards and Learning and Teaching Committees, through which over £50,000 of funding has been allocated to 19 learning and teaching projects. This has enabled initiatives as diverse as bio-engineering workshops at Imperial College to the development of a dedicated professional practice section of the Library. In addition, Stuart Croft, Tutor in Time-based Arts/Fine Art, has been awarded a Teaching Fellowship to develop the presence of moving image at the College.

### **FuelRCA**

FuelRCA is the college-wide professional practice service, and complements the discipline-specific advice offered by all departments. With increased student debt and an uncertain economic climate, professional practice or 'enterprise education' is now seen by the majority of students and recent graduates as an essential component of their development, and a crucial link between the College and the outside world. This is demonstrated by a 45% increase in attendance at FuelRCA events and workshops over the past year, the evidence of the annual Fuel survey and national studies by NESTA and others.

The aim for 2007/8 was to embed professional practice into College culture in the most creative and useful way possible. Achievements included: *Make it Yours*, an influential national seminar on engaging students with professional practice held in association with Enterprise Educators UK; the FuelRCA Library Collection of 250 business and careers books plus video and online training resources, created with the support of ILS; the FuelRCA Newsletter launched in the summer term.

Increased support for graduate members of AlumniRCA, including the New Horizon business club and Royal Designer for Industry (RDI) Mentoring.

### **ReachOutRCA**

2007/8 has been eventful and successful for ReachOutRCA. We continued our core programme of workshops alongside interim shows (Architecture, Design Products and Textiles), the *Man Group Drawing Exhibition* led by RCA students and graduates with London state schools, as well as

developing larger projects with partner institutions.

ReachOutRCA's project 'Drawing on Design' received a Big Draw highly commended award. RCA Architecture, IDE and Design Products students worked with pupils from four schools over a series of sessions to explore drawing in the world of design, culminating in an exhibition of their work in the Lower Gulbenkian Gallery in October 2007.

We strengthened our collaboration with the V&A during the 'Creative Quarter' event. RCA students and graduates from Textiles, GSM&J, CA&D, Design Products and Vehicle Design led workshop sessions with 13- to 19-year-olds interested in pursuing a career in the creative industries.

In the spring term we teamed up with the Crafts Council and Specialist Schools and Academies Trust to run 'Revival', an extended programme of workshops in London academies, focusing on the applied arts. ReachOutRCA presented the pilot project and pupils' work was showcased at the SSAT National Academies conference in June. We hope that the successful pilot will lead to further collaboration.

Deutsche Bank again generously sponsored a programme alongside the graduate summer Show, funding with Aston Martin a dedicated education space at the RCA for the duration of the Show. The space was fantastic, allowing us to work with schools and weekend visitors; 14 schools attended workshops during Show One and Two, and for the first year we held workshops at the Howie Street site and established new links with local Wandsworth schools. Graduating students Tanya Kaprilian (CA&D), Jonathan Pugh (Architecture) and Celia Pym (Textiles), who had worked with us closely throughout their final-year projects, used the education space for events engaging schools and the public.

During the summer break we collaborated with Latymer Upper School to provide a week of Fashion and Architecture workshops for Year 8 and 9 state-school pupils from local boroughs. The intensive week allowed us to work with a group in a focused way with ambitious outcomes. Family and friends attended the week's finale fashion show and parade.