

NC State College of Textiles
Executive-in-Residence Program: Textile and Apparel Management
Sid Smith
October 25, 2006

Sid Smith is the former President and Chief Executive Officer of one of the country's most prestigious trade associations, The Hosiery Association. Formerly known as the National Association of Hosiery Manufacturers, under Mr. Smith's leadership, this organization was transformed into an international group that is recognized worldwide in their product sector. Mr. Smith worked for the organization for thirty years, two-thirds of those as President and Chief Executive Officer. In this position, he worked with some of the world's leading consumer marketing companies and brands like Sara Lee, Hanes, L'Eggs, No-nonsense and Gold Toe, as well as major industrial companies like DuPont, Bayer, Unifi and others.

In his work, he served as an advisor to the U.S. government on international trade matters and was deeply involved in monitoring and shaping foreign trade agreements in textiles and apparel. He is considered an expert in international trade issues and globalization, having visited more than 35 countries in his career. In fact, following his retirement from The Hosiery Association, Mr. Smith was asked to submit his name for the position of Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, which he declined.

He has served in numerous leadership positions, including the board of directors for many prestigious organizations, such as the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Society of Association Executives. He currently serves as a member of the International Editorial Board for the North Carolina State University, Journal of Textiles and Apparel Technology and Management. He is a former Chairman of the Clothing and Textile Advisory Board at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and served as the first Executive-in-Residence in the Textiles Department.

Prior to joining The Hosiery Association, Mr. Smith served four years active duty as an infantry officer in the United States Marine Corps, attaining the rank of Captain. He is a decorated Vietnam veteran, receiving the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

He graduated from Wofford College, in Spartanburg, South Carolina with degrees in economics and business. He has written numerous articles for magazines, newspapers and other publications, and has traveled all over the world as a lecturer and speaker. He has appeared on World News Tonight with Peter Jennings, CNN, CNN Financial and all the major national networks.

Schedule:

- October 24* Arrive: Dinner with College of Textile faculty (coordinated by N. Cassill)
- October 25th*
- 8:15 a.m. Arrive Textile Visitor Parking Lot (graduate student meet with permit)
- 8:30 – 9:00 “Meet & Greet” with faculty and administration (#3436; coffee)
- 9:00 – 10:00 Textile and Apparel Management faculty (#3436).
Topic discussion, “***Strategic Planning and Mega-Brand Concepts: Applications for the Textile and Apparel Management Program***”
- 10:00 – 10:45 College of Textiles’ undergraduate students (#3436).
A presentation and discussion on: “***Success and Risk Taking: Testing Your Metal.***”
This will cover defining success and setting goals, as well as covering some of the characteristics present in a number of highly successful people.
- 10:45 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 12:15 College of Textiles’ graduate students (#3436).
This will be a: “***Free-Wheeling Dialog***” on globalization, international trade, the future of textiles and apparel, future jobs in the industry, or whatever you want to talk about!
Faculty to join at 11:45 for box lunch/dialogue
- 12:50 – 2:05 Executive-in-Residence Seminar (Convocation Center).
Seminar topic: “***The Shifting Balance of Economic Power and Influence: China and India.***” This will include discussion of where these two countries want to be and what will it take to get there. What are the ramifications for the United States and the European Union (including their textile complex)?
- 2:05 – 4:00 Reception following seminar (Hallway: Convocation Center).
“Dialog” with faculty, staff, students, industry visitors (subjects of choice; can move to #3436). Tour of facility, including Textile Management Science Laboratory (4th floor).
- 4:00 Depart NC State College of Textiles’ campus for Charlotte