The research and teaching interests of professor Dr. Dragan Jocić rely on several decades of his own academic research experience, multidisciplinary research background established as a result of collaboration with other institutions and personal interest in developing innovative technology which is in accordance with the requirements of the future textile industry. During his career at the University of Belgrade (Serbia) and a number of stays at European teaching/research institutions (several grants awarded, Spain and the Netherlands), he covered various teaching courses which were always related to the textile chemical technology (Textile Colouration, Textile Auxiliaries, Colorimetry, Textile Finishing, Multifunctional Textile Materials etc). His current research interests are smart textiles – obtaining stimuli-responsive (smart, intelligent properties) of textile and polymeric materials, advanced functionality of textiles by biopolymer surface modification (biopolymer chitosan, microparticulate hydrogels based on synthetic and natural stimuli-responsive polymers – preparation, characterisation, application), surface modification of textile fibres and polymeric materials for obtaining multifunctional properties (low temperature plasma treatments, chemical modification, characterisation methods – XPS).

Jan Broda is employed as a professor at the Faculty of Materials, Civil and Environment Engineering, University of Bielsko-Biala (Poland). He is the Vice Director of the Institute of Textile Engineering and Polymer Materials, University of Bielsko-Biala. In 1982, he completed his master’s degree in textile engineering. He holds a doctoral degree in textile engineering from the Technical University of Lodz (1991). His research interests include structure and properties of natural and man-made fibres, formation and modification of polypropylene fibres and functionalisation of textiles. Dr. Broda combines research and teaching on technical textiles, fibre science and high performance fibres.

Cetin Aka graduated from the Textile Engineering Department of the Ege University in 2010. He works as a research assistant at the Dokuz Eylul University. He is a postgraduate student of Textile Science at the Ege University and at the Nanoscience and Nanoengineering Department at the Dokuz Eylul University. In Textile Science, he has studied medical textiles, artificial organs, ligaments with different textile weaving structures and yarns (e.g. braiding, leno and multiaxial weave). In Nanoscience, he has studied coaxial nanofiber via electrospinning technique, drug delivery systems, nanocomposites and bio nanotechnology.
The associate professor Dr. Simona Jevšnik received her master's degree in 1999 and her doctoral degree in 2003 at the University of Maribor, Slovenia. At the moment, she is a part-time employee at the University of Maribor and a full-time employee in the company Inlas d. o. o. for intellectual property. From November 2013 to 2014, she was working as an invited professor at the Istanbul Technical University, Faculty of Textile Technology and Design in Turkey. Her research interests include clothing and textile technology, 3D modelling and computer simulation of fabric and clothing, and ergonomic approaches for solving problems in the textile area. Dr. Simona Jevšnik has been involved as a leader and member of many national and international projects; she is the author and co-author of many scientific papers in international journals and scientific conferences, of book chapters and books. She also supervises her DSc, MSc and BSc students. Furthermore, she is the inventor of 4 patents and a member of editorial boards in international journals, and an executive editor of the Slovenian Journal Tekstilec.

Duygu Erdem was born in 1988. She received her master's degree in textile engineering from the Süleyman Demirel University in 2011. She is currently working towards her doctoral degree in textile engineering at the Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey. Her research interests include electronic textiles, electrical stimulation and clothing technology. She has been a research assistant at the Dokuz Eylül University since 2013.

René Stolz studied Mechanical Engineering (Dipl.-Ing. degree) at the RWTH Aachen, with the scientific specialisation in textile technology. Since November 2012, he has been a researcher at the Institute of Textile Technology with the aim of finishing his doctoral studies. He has been active in the field of synthetic fibre technology at the department of melt spinning processes and material development. During his research activities, he was responsible for the research projects on bio-based fibre materials and melt spinning research facilities at the Institute of Textile Technology. Recently, he has been focusing on managing the BMBF-project “HighReF”, which deals with the development of Nylon 6 composites for nonwovens with high abrasion resistance.
Brigita Tomšič is an assistant professor at the Department of Textiles, Graphic Arts and Design, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, University of Ljubljana. She obtained her doctoral degree under the mentorship of professor Dr. Barbara Simončič in 2009. In 2010, she took part as a postdoctoral researcher within her 4-month stay at the Engineering of Fibrous Smart Materials group at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology of the University of Twente, the Netherlands, at the international project Advanbiotex, which was led by professor Dr. Dragan Jocić. Her main research activities include the functionalisation of textiles by sol-gel technology, creation of smart textiles by stimuli responsive polymers and studies of the influence of finishes on the biodegradation of textiles. She is a co-author of 2 scientific books and 1 scientific book chapter, as well as of 37 scientific papers (26 in Journals with Impact Factor). Her pedagogical work includes laboratory exercises, seminars and courses in chemical textile technology for under- and postgraduate students. She is the mentor to the doctoral student and young researcher Danaja Štular.

Barbara Simončič is a professor of Textile Chemistry at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Department of Textiles, Graphic Arts and Design, working within the area of theory and technology of textile finishing. Her research expertise is in the chemical modification of textile substrates to tailor their multifunctionality with the emphasis on water and oil repellency, self-cleaning, antimicrobial properties and flame retardancy. She is the author or co-author of 87 scientific papers, among them 51 in SCI Journals, 2 scientific books and 2 chapters in scientific books. Her papers have been cited 792 times, including 637 citations without self-citations (source WoS). She leads a Research Programme P2-0213 Textiles and Ecology, which comprises 16 researchers and is financed by the Slovenian Research Agency. In 2015, she was awarded the title “Mentor of the Year 2015” by the Society of Young Researchers of Slovenia.

Dr. Noureddine Abidi is an associate professor at the Department of Plant and Soil Science and the Associate Director of the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute at the Texas Tech University. He holds a “Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches” from the University of Haute Alsace in France and a doctoral degree from the University of Montpellier II in France. Dr. Abidi has generated more than 58 refereed publications, 1 book, 10 book chapters, more than 123 conference papers, 1 patent, 1 provisional patent and 6 invention disclosures. Dr. Abidi has served as PI or co-PI on funded research grants totalling more than $14,034,505 (amount credited to Dr. Abidi: $5,351,885). The research focus of Dr. Abidi spans from the characterisation of biopolymers using advanced techniques to the development of bioproducts from biopolymers. Dr. Abidi has developed and has been teaching two graduate courses, i.e. Structure and Functionalisation of Cotton Fibers, and Biopolymers and Bioproducts. He participates in team-teaching of the U.S. & Global Cotton Fiber-Textiles Industries.
Ida Nuramdhani obtained her bachelor’s degree in Textile Chemistry from the School of Textile Technology in Indonesia. She was appointed a lecturer and researcher in her alma mater just after her graduation. She got her master’s degree in Chemistry from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand and started her doctoral studies at the Department of Textile, Ghent University, Belgium in 2015, under the research group of Prof. Lieva Van Langenhove. She has been active in teaching Chemistry of Dyes, Technology of Dyeing, Organic Chemistry and Colour Technology. Her research interests are in the area of development of natural and synthetic dyes, inorganic nanomaterials and their application in textile materials, and the field related to her current doctoral project, i.e. development of smart and advanced materials, especially textile-based energy storage devices.

Alenka Šalej Lah received her bachelor’s degree in wearable technologies in Textile and Fashion Design. She currently works on her doctoral project at the Department of Materials and Metallurgy, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering, University of Ljubljana. She is finishing her Materials Science and Engineering doctoral study supervised by professor Peter Fajfar, where she is investigating the application of shape memory nickel titanium alloy into textiles. Her research interests include the characterisation of NiTi alloys, preparing the NiTi alloys for smart knitting and their application in textile materials.

Matthias Hübner studied Mechanical Engineering at the Technical University Dresden (Germany). Since 2010, he has been working as a research associate in the research group Structure- and Process Simulation at the Institute of Textile Machinery and High Performance Material Technology. His current activities focus on fundamental researches regarding the multi-scale modelling and simulation, and the material characterisation of textile reinforcement structures for composites. Furthermore, he has been developing methods for a simulation-based prediction and detection of fibre orientation and drape defects while forming the processes of technical textiles.

Achim Schröter is a mechanical engineer with the specialisation in simulation science. He studied at RWTH Aachen University, Germany. Since 2011, he has been working as a doctoral student at the Institute of Textile Technology at the RWTH Aachen University. His dissertation focuses on energy efficiency of air-jet weaving looms. He has been heading the research group “Weaving” at the Institute since 2014. The research group focuses on process improvements of weaving and textile product development. Furthermore, Mr Schröter has coordinated the European FP7-project EcoMeTex – Ecodesign Methodology for Recyclable Textile Coverings Used in the European Construction and Transport Industry.