

Dear Colleague

Design Research Society 2008 Conference 16-19 July 2008 in Sheffield, UK.

We invite you to present your research at this internationally refereed conference.

The conference website can be found at <http://drs2008.designinquiry.wikispaces.net/>

This conference is open to research that deals with any aspect or discipline of designing. This is an opportunity for our international interdisciplinary research community to learn about and discuss the latest research, and a social space to share ideas and plans for the future.

To give the event an extra dimension we have a conference theme which will inform the keynote speakers:

Undisciplined!

Rigour in Emerging Design Disciplines and Professions

Contributors are invited to reflect on the theme and, if appropriate, weave it into their research narrative. You can find the full rationale for the theme at <http://drs2008.designinquiry.wikispaces.net/Conference+Theme>

The timetable for the event is:

1 September 2007	Call for Papers
1 November 2007	Abstract submission begins
1 December 2007	Deadline for Abstracts
Dec 2007 - Feb 2008	Abstracts accepted
1 April 2008	Deadline for Full Papers
April/May 2008	Papers Accepted/Revised
16 July 2008	Conference Opens

The process for review is in two stages: extended abstracts, and full papers.

Abstracts

Proposals are welcome in the form of a written abstract. This will be independently reviewed and, where appropriate, commented upon. Successful authors will be requested to submit a full paper.

Abstracts should be proposals in the form of: a maximum of two A4 pages; plus references; plus, where appropriate, not more than one A4 page of images*. The abstract should at minimum indicate: the context of the research including any research questions or hypotheses; how the research has been developed including the

interrogative methods used; and the main findings or conclusions that you will present to the conference.

Abstracts must be supplied in PDF format. The typeface should be a minimum of 11 point. Detailed instructions on how to submit your abstract and a link to the electronic submission system will be available on the Conference website before 1 November.

Abstracts will be accepted from 1 November 2007.

Papers

Full papers are limited to 5,000 words. Two appropriate reviewers in a double blind process will review all papers. Every attempt will be made to use the original reviewers to read and comment on the resulting full paper draft. An invitation to submit a full paper will be accompanied by reviewers' comments and suggestions. These comments will be sent to the author to help refine the paper for final submission and publication.

This is a general design research conference, and it is expected that a wide variety of work in progress or with final results will be reported. Irrespective of range and stage of research, the organisers expect the highest standards of scholarship in setting the work in context, explicating the methods of inquiry, and reporting results which may be of help to other researchers or practitioners.

The conference proceedings will be published digitally. Please see the conference website for further and more detailed guidance for authors before submitting a full paper.

Review group

The proceedings editors and the international review group will be listed on the conference website.

Submissions

We will use an electronic submission system. From 1 November details will be found at <http://drs2008.designinquiry.wikispaces.net/Submitting+a+Paper>

If you intend to submit a paper please join our conference email list at <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/DRS-CONFERENCE-CONTRIBUTORS.html> to ensure that you receive up to date information about the submission and refereeing process and arrangements for the event itself.

*As the proceedings will be published in electronic form authors will have the opportunity to include good quality colour images in the PDF document, or other media files that help to explain the research or its context. However it is important that, whatever media are used, a coherent narrative is developed. If you intend to submit other media types with your paper please explain that in the narrative.