

## Accommodation



### Bed and Breakfast or Bed, Dinner and Breakfast

Available at discounted rates for delegates - for further information refer to the conference website

### Rooms

300 non-smoking double and 30 single (en-suite available)  
All bedrooms have remote control TV, hairdryer, hospitality tray, direct dial telephone and study area  
Dry cleaning service and laundry facilities  
Free parking

### Restaurant, Café and Bar

Modern restaurant facility  
Café serving light snacks and refreshments  
Licensed bar; Large screen TV with Sky Sports; Pool table; Cybercafé

### Leisure facilities

Fully equipped gymnasium  
Indoor sports hall available (badminton, volleyball, five-a-side football)  
Classes held for step aerobics, circuit training  
Two squash courts  
Large swimming pool; Whirlpool  
Sauna, steam room and solarium  
Health and beauty treatments  
Qualified sports fitness instructors

### Location

Accenture, Kents Hill Park (opposite the OU)  
Timbold Drive, Milton Keynes, MK7 6TT  
[www.accenturehotelandconferencing.com](http://www.accenturehotelandconferencing.com)

### Booking enquiries

Bookings can be made via the reservations department  
Tel: 01908 358055; E-mail: [juna.l.davis@accenture.com](mailto:juna.l.davis@accenture.com)  
Please quote reference: "Autism Conference"

## How to find us



The Open University

**The Open University**  
Berrill Lecture Theatre  
The Berrill Building  
Walton Hall  
Milton Keynes  
MK7 6AA

Main switchboard: 01908 274066  
Visitor's reception: 01908 653000

The Open University central campus is located at Walton Hall in Milton Keynes, midway between London and Birmingham, and Oxford and Cambridge. The OU is sited on the South East side of Milton Keynes, close to junctions 13 and 14 of the M1.

### By Car

**From M1, Junction 14:** Follow signs for Milton Keynes, taking A509 to first roundabout (Northfield roundabout). Take first left A5130 signposted to Woburn Sands for two miles. At next roundabout (Kingston roundabout) with BP garage on left, take third exit signposted A5/Aylesbury/Dunstable/Walnut Tree/Universities. Go straight over the next roundabout (Walnut Tree). At the following roundabout (Walton), turn right, then first left for the East entrance to the campus. The main reception is located in the Berrill Building.

**From M1, Junction 13:** Follow signs for Milton Keynes, taking A421 for 3 1/2 miles to the Kingston roundabout. Take second exit onto Groveway (H9), signposted A5/Aylesbury/Dunstable/Walnut Tree/Universities. Go straight over the next roundabout (Walnut Tree). At the following roundabout (Walton), turn right, then first left for the East entrance to the campus. The main reception is located in the Berrill Building.

### By Train

The University is about four miles from Milton Keynes Central station, on the London (Euston) to Birmingham line. MK Central is an Intercity stop. Trains are frequent and the journey from Euston varies between 35-60 minutes.



# Autism Research UK

*from diagnosis to intervention*



Autism © Rebecca Evanson, 1999

## National Conference

11-12 May 2007

The Open University, Milton Keynes

## Welcome

You are cordially invited to this national conference on Autism Research, to be held at the Open University in May 2007. The conference will bring together key researchers from across the UK, who are currently working on the Autism Spectrum Disorders, and will showcase the range of research perspectives from diagnosis and assessment, aetiology and genetics, to biological and psychological perspectives as well as educational and therapeutic interventions.

Following the progress and direction taken by research into autism since the MRC 2001 review and the Mapping Autism Research report of 2004, this conference will provide a forum for communication, exchange of ideas and debate, centred upon key findings from Autism Research Centres and individual researchers around the UK that have shaped our understanding of Autism over recent years.

Representation has been secured from the Medical Research Council (MRC), the Wellcome Trust, The Economic and Social Research Council, National Autistic Society, and Autism Speaks to outline their respective views on the direction and challenges faced in autism research. We are also delighted that Dame Stephanie Shirley will be giving an address on "Challenges to Autism Research" at the conference dinner.

We are privileged to host this conference at the Open University, and are grateful to the MRC, the Wellcome Trust, Autism Speaks, the British Neuropathological Society, the British Psychological Society and Autism Unravelled for sponsoring the event.

We would greatly value your participation at this meeting, and are very much looking forward to seeing you in May.

with warm regards,

**Ilona Roth** DPhil.

**Payam Rezaie** PhD

## Session Themes

- **Diagnosis and assessment**  
Chaired by Anne O'Hare
- **Aetiology, epidemiology and genetics**  
Chaired by Anthony Monaco
- **Metabonomic, biochemical and physiological perspectives**  
Chaired by Anthony Bailey
- **Neurology, imaging and brain pathology**  
Chaired by Steve Swithenby
- **Psychological perspectives, language and communication (2 sessions)**  
Chaired by Peter Mitchell and Ilona Roth
- **Education, management and early intervention**  
Chaired by Colwyn Trevarthen

## Keynote Speakers

**Ann le Couteur** - University of Newcastle  
**Tony Charman** - Institute of Child Health  
**Jean Golding** - Bristol University  
**Anthony Bailey** - Oxford University  
**Patrick Bolton** - Institute of Psychiatry  
**Sabine Bahn** - Cambridge University  
**Gordon Bell** - University of Stirling  
**Declan Murphy** - Institute of Psychiatry  
**Martin Bax** - Imperial College London  
**Elizabeta Mukaetova-Ladinska** - Newcastle  
**Christoph Schmitz** - Maastricht University  
**Kate Plaisted** - Cambridge University  
**Emma Weisblatt** - Cambridge University  
**José Alcántara** - Cambridge University  
**Peter Hobson** - Institute of Child Health  
**Jill Boucher** - University of Warwick  
**Dermot Bowler** - City University, London  
**Ayla Humphrey** - Cambridge University  
**Jonathan Green** - Manchester University  
**Rita Jordan** - Birmingham University  
**Patricia Howlin** - Institute of Psychiatry

## Final Call for Papers

We welcome submission of abstracts for poster presentations at the meeting. Please indicate the session theme most closely related to your submission. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Authors wishing to submit a contribution should complete an abstract submission form and send this together with the registration form and payment to the conference administrator. We will also require an electronic version of your abstract.

Further details on how to submit an abstract, and relevant information is available on the conference website [www.open.ac.uk/ARUK2007](http://www.open.ac.uk/ARUK2007)

**CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 30 MARCH 2007**

## Registration

Registration for this event is open until 30 April 2007

Delegate rate	£200
Research student / unwaged	£150
Conference Dinner	£50

Registration fees include attendance at the conference on both days, delegate portfolios, programme/abstract booklet, buffet lunches and refreshments, and the evening drinks reception on 11 May. The conference dinner will be held at Bletchley Park, with an optional tour of the 'Colossus' beforehand. Registration forms and further details are available on the conference website, given below. Do contact us also if you are interested in exhibiting at this conference.

**Registration forms and conference particulars**  
[www.open.ac.uk/ARUK2007](http://www.open.ac.uk/ARUK2007)

**E-mail enquiries**  
[ARUK2007@open.ac.uk](mailto:ARUK2007@open.ac.uk)

**Conference administrators**  
Janet Vroone, Helen Copperwheat