Accommodation

Bed and Breakfast or Bed, Dinner and Breakfast
Available at discounted rates for delegates.
For further information refer to the conference website.

How to find us

The Open University
Bednall Lecture Theatre
The Benhill Building
Walton Hall
Milton Keynes
MK7 6AA

Main switchboard: 01908 274066
Visitor’s reception: 01908 553000

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 listed 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 A509, signposted to Whiston. Continue 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 Benhill 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 intermediate stop. Trains are frequent and the journey from Euston varies between 35-50 minutes.

Autism Research UK
from diagnosis to intervention

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 Swinney

- **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

- Anne 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
- 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

Conference administrators Janet Vroone, Helen Copperwheat