The 7th eSTEeM Annual Conference: STEM Futures – Delivering Excellence Through Scholarship

Conference dates: 25-26 April 2018

Call for abstracts guidelines

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The 7th eSTEeM Annual Conference invites the submission of abstracts for the following session types:

- Poster presentations
- Short oral presentations
- Workshops/demonstrations
- Structured discussions/briefings

Submissions relating to the following themes are invited:

- Employability
- Innovations in assessment
- International curriculum delivery
- Online/onscreen STEM practice
- STEM engagement
- Supporting students
- Technologies for STEM learning
- Other (please specify)

Presentations will be scheduled for day one of the conference programme with day two focusing on the theme of Digital by Design and will feature a panel of international speakers.

We will also be launching the inaugural annual STEM Scholarship Awards which will celebrate excellence in eSTEeM projects, including an award for outstanding individual contribution to scholarship in 2017/2018. Further details about the application process will be circulated in the New Year.
Key dates for your diary

Submission of abstracts

18 December 2017  Call for abstracts opens
9 February 2018  Submission deadline for abstracts
23 February 2018  Authors notified of outcome of abstract submissions

Registration for conference

5 March 2018  Registration opens
6 April 2018  Registration closes

Submissions of posters and presentations

13 April 2018  Deadline for submission of final copy of posters which we will arrange to have printed, alternatively you can use an existing poster.
20 April 2018  Deadline for submission of PowerPoint presentations, demo software, etc. if you wish to have it pre-loaded onto the room PC/laptop.

Guidance on each session type

Poster presentations (Abstract 150 - 300 words)
Posters can be submitted for presentation as part of an hour session where conference delegates will be invited to vote for the best poster. For those in the early stages of their projects, posters should include a brief description of your project, what you’re intending to do, how you are going to do it and what you’re expecting to find/achieve/develop at the end of it. Alternatively, your poster can be an update on your progress so far or the outcomes of your project.

Posters will continue to be displayed throughout the conference and can be accompanied by handouts.

Short oral presentations (Abstract 250 - 500 words)
Short oral presentations are part of a chaired session which includes a number of short presentations (15 - 20 minutes). Presentations should analyse innovative work in progress and must be clearly linked to the themes of eSTEeM. Time should also be left for discussion and questions.

You may wish to submit a poster for display that supplements your presentation, poster guidelines are available above.

Workshops/demonstrations (Abstract 250 - 500 words)
Workshop/demonstration sessions are up to 1 hour. Demonstrations must provide participants with a simulated student/tutor experience, e.g. using new e-learning tools or devices, immersive environments,
etc. You might want to allow time for debriefing with participants in order to discuss their experience of the simulated activity.

Abstracts should provide a brief description of the activity/session. You may also wish to submit a poster for display that supplements your simulation session, poster guidelines are available above.

**Structured discussions/briefings (Abstract 250 - 500 words)**
Structured discussions/briefings are interactive, audience participation sessions and up to 1 hour. They can be used for idea harvesting to advance your project research or to explore strategic priorities.

**Guidelines for abstract submissions**

Please use the online abstract submission form which can be found at [http://www3.open.ac.uk/forms/esteemconf2018abstractsubmission](http://www3.open.ac.uk/forms/esteemconf2018abstractsubmission). Please submit separate submissions for each session being proposed.

Each abstract submitted should be an accurate summary of the planned session. All accepted abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings.

The deadline for submissions is **Friday 9 February 2018**.

**Further information**

**Equipment**
Posters will be displayed on poster boards and printed to A1 size.

Short oral presentations will be in groups of 3/4. PC and projection facilities will be available.

Workshops/demonstrations: author(s) of abstracts will be contacted to discuss their requirements.

Structured discussions/briefings: author(s) of abstracts will be contacted to discuss their requirements.

**Printing posters**
We will provide you with the eSTeEM poster template and arrange for the printing of your poster; alternatively you can use an existing poster.

**Queries**
If you have any queries please contact the conference team at [esteem@open.ac.uk](mailto:esteem@open.ac.uk).