Research and Innovation Conference 2017

Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 May

Making an Impact

Submissions welcome from students and staff



Research and Innovation: Making an Impact Conference Contribution Formats

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How can I contribute to the conference?

You can contribute in many different ways.

We want to hear about your work, your ideas and how what you do can make an impact, or is already making an impact.

There are lots of ways you can take part, from doing a presentation to running a workshop.

You can get involved as an individual or as a group. Groups can take part in any format except the 2 and 3 minute competitions.

Or you could come along as a delegate to hear from presenters to find out more about how the work done in universities by students and academics is bringing about change in our communities, to join the debates and discussions about the opportunities for change, and to be inspired by the work that is being done.

If you want to present at the conference you can chose from a variety of formats:

- 1. 2-minute dissertation
- 2. 3-minute thesis®
- 3. 3 minute pitch to the Solent Dragons
- 4. Active Demonstration
- 5. Conference Poster Presentation
- 6. Oral Presentation
- 7. Pecha Kucha Presentation
- 8. Workshop

For further information, please contact research.innovation@solent.ac.uk

All of the formats *except* the Active Demonstrations and Workshops are eligible for competiton prizes.

Student competition prizes are available in the 2-minute dissertation, 3-minute thesis, conference poster, oral presentation and pecha kucha formats.

All participants (academics and students) are eligible to compete for prizes in the Solent Dragons Den.

About the formats

1. 2-minute dissertation (2MD)

The two minute dissertation has been inspired by the international three minute thesis (3MT)® competition. It is a fun and challenging format for students.

It is open to all undergraduate and masters students as a showcase for the variety and inventiveness of their dissertations and final major projects.

- Can you sum up what you've done, why and how in just two minutes?
- Can you explain this in a way that interests your audience in your conclusions and possible next steps for your ideas?

This can be a really useful exercise to hone your communication skills and help you focus on the key conclusions of your dissertation / project.

You can use this as an opportunity to practice for interviews and other presentation and networking opportunities as you look to build your career profile.

2. 3-minute thesis (3MT)®

This international competition was created by the University of Queensland and celebrates the amazing work that PhD students do.

It's an exercise in brevity designed to give you a chance to enhance your presentation and research communication skills as you build your academic networking and career profile.

Participants are asked to explain their research to a non-specialist audience in three minutes.

The competition will be run in line with the rules and judging criteria of the University of Queensland and PhD students at any stage of their research are eligible to take part.

Find out more:

http://threeminutethesis.org/

3. 3 minute pitch to the Solent Dragons' Den

The University is giving academics and students the opportunity to design and present a pitch for a proposed research or innovation project mirroring the format of the well-known TV programme.

If you have a project idea you'd like to get feedback on or a concept you want to test out, why not pitch it to the Solent Dragons? You will present to the dragons and the conference audience to get constructive feedback on how well your proposal works?

- Your pitch should be no longer than 3 minutes and should include:
 - A summary of your proposed project
 - o Your project's objectives and likely outcome
 - What you propose to do, and how you propose to do it
 - What costs might be involved
 - Who will benefit from your proposed project and how they will benefit.
- Your pitch should get your message across to non-specialists and 'sell' the project to a potential investor or funder.
- You can support your pitch with props, sample products, visual or audio aids (any presentation aids must require no more than 1-2 minutes 'setting up' time)
- You should be prepared to respond to in-depth questioning by the Dragons for up to 10 minutes following your presentation

There are prizes available for any pitches that manage to impress the Solent Dragons, and all participants will gain:

- valuable experience in presenting their ideas in front of an audience
- employability feedback on what potential clients, funders or business partners are looking for
- constructive feedback on their proposed projects.

4. Active Demonstration

Come and show conference delegates your research and innovation in action.

Do you have a cool piece of kit you use in your research that can be brought in for demonstration to conference delegates?

Have you developed an innovative test or product you'd like to showcase to delegates?

This is an opportunity to raise the profile of your work and showcase some of the testing or experimentation that underpins your research and innovation.

You can book space for delegates to get hands on and for you to actively demonstrate the tools and / or techniques you use in your day to day work as an academic or student.

5. Conference Poster Presentation

Conference posters can be a great alternative to speaking about your work in front of an audience.

For further information, please contact research.innovation@solent.ac.uk

You can use the poster format to summarize your research or project information in an attractive and accessible visual form.

Posters have the benefit of publicizing your research widely and stimulating considered responses to your ideas. Delegates are be able to view them throughout the whole conference and to revisit those that they find compelling.

A conference poster will normally have text with images (graphs, pictures, tables, etc.). Text should be limited to around 300 to 600 words (depending on the size of the poster specified by the conference organisers) and use a font and pitch that is easily legible from a distance of 1.5m.

At the conference, the presenter will also stand by their poster during an allotted session time to respond to delegates' questions or comments and this is a great way to generate further interest in your work, and gain experience of answering questions about yourself and your ideas.

A prize will be awarded for the most successful student poster.

Find out more:

http://guides.nyu.edu/posters

http://www.personal.psu.edu/drs18/postershow/

6. Oral Presentation

This can be a great format if you want to explore your ideas and conclusions in more depth, it's a good opportunity to develop your presentation skills, including time-keeping, pacing and using presentation techniques such as audio/visual or other aids.

In this conference the presentation should take a maximum of 10 minutes and presenters should be ready to answer questions from the audience for a further 5 minutes.

This can be a really useful exercise to hone your skills in communicating about your area of expertise, to get feedback on your presentation and reach an audience where you might identify new collaborative partners or other networking opportunities.

Find out more about preparing a conference paper here

7. PechaKucha Presentation

PechaKucha is a simple presentation format where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds. The images advance automatically and you talk along to the images. Pronounced 'pet-cha-coo-cha-, this simple presentation format originated in Japan.

An enjoyable format for both presenter and audience.

• Challenge yourself to communicate your key conclusions and explore the impact of your work through this visually stimulating and exiting approach.

For further information, please contact research.innovation@solent.ac.uk

- Can you pace yourself to match your slides?
- Can you design slides that convey key messages in 20 seconds and help you deliver a well structured presentation about your work?

Find out more:

http://www.pechakucha.org/

8. Workshop

Do you have an idea for an interactive workshop on the theme of 'making an impact' or on a related topic that will help delegates at the conference to explore ideas and concepts related to the theme?

Do you have an organisation or individual in mind that you think we should ask to come to the conference to deliver a workshop?

We are very interested to hear from individuals or groups who want to develop the theme of the conference through interactive group work.