

UK Systems Society

Conference 2010

Tuesday 31st August to Wednesday 2nd
September 2010

Call for Contributions

Paper submission is open from now until 31 May 2010

Registration opens 20 March 2010

**'Perceptions of Systems: the
Nature of Management,
Communication & Creativity**

Key contributors:

Prof. Linda Macauley

Prof. Michael C. Jackson

John Seddon

Dr Joanne Tippett



The Conference Committee invite contributions from Systems thinkers, whether academic or practitioner. Topics of interest will include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Distinctive research into Systems thinking, taking forward the Systems agenda
- Examples of Systems practice that inspire further research and development
- Highlighting systemic issues for Systems thinkers from the perspective of communication and creativity in research and practice
- New systemic methodological approaches in research and practice focussing in areas of communication, creativity and innovation

This conference will follow the recent years' patterns of maximising opportunities for discussion and interaction of the conference theme and submitted works. There will be a number of interactive workshops and plenary sessions organised around the stated themes, and papers and posters are invited relating to the areas outlined above. All submissions will be peer reviewed (in respect of academic works) or editorial review (in respect of accounts of Systems practice). Full papers will be available in electronic format during the conference, and a small group of high-quality papers will be selected for an edition of the Systemist, to be published following the conference. Eligibility for publication in this special issue will depend upon at least one of the authors registering for and attending the Conference. All contributing authors will be invited to present a poster setting out their ideas in a special session of the Conference devoted to informal discussion of these posters, providing opportunities for networking.



*Dealing with real
world complexities*

Conference 2010

31 August -2 September 2010

**St Anne's College, University of
Oxford**

Call for Contributions

UK Systems Society

Conference 2010

Tuesday 31st August

to

Thursday 2nd September 2010

St Anne's College, University of
Oxford

The theme of this year's meeting: Perceptions of systems: the nature of management, communication and creativity, has been chosen mindful of the ongoing issues facing those involved in systemic thinking and practice, and the ongoing debates about our own and shared perceptions of the systems we interact with and intervene in. Systemic research and practice strives to appreciate complex situations employing systemic models and methodologies as insightfully as possible, however there are issues that arise in the choice, implementation and (hopefully) evaluation of these models and methodologies. This meeting aims to explore these perceptual issues from the perspectives of management, creativity and communication; a trio of systems concepts that, could be argued, drive and underpin why we continue to use Systems approaches since their early formations over 70 years ago.

In previous UKSS meetings, we have explored various aspects of systemic thinking and practice, and the vi-

ability of the approach itself. This year, building on these reflections, contributions are invited which explore not only existing models and methodologies such as OR, System Dynamics, soft systems methodologies e.g. SSM, SAST, Interactive Planning, and interventions or explorations of Critical Systems Practice, but also those that expand the perceptions of systemic thinking in new areas of interdisciplinary research and practice, and in new arenas of intervention. Our invited speakers have been asked to highlight aspects of management, communication and creativity in the modern world, from a Systems perspective, and this process will also feed through to the workshops planned for the second day of the meeting.

So yes, we invite you to tell us what you have been working on in this past year, but we also challenge you to expand your own perceptions of systems. Last year we explored "...the need for renewed vigour in exploration of systemic methods of inquiry to address the kinds of situation and challenge posed by large, complex, global and/or virtual organizations of business and government". This year we ask you to bring your renewed vigour in systemic thinking to the meeting in Oxford, share your work, and help to take the Systems perspective forward into new arenas of research and practice!

Key Dates:

Deadline for paper submission	31 May 2010
Feedback to authors	30 June 2010
Registration opens	20 March 2010
Early bird period ends	30 June 2010
Publication of Special Issue	November 2010

Fees:	Early bird	Standard
Member	£395	£440 (en-suite)
Non-member	£440	£495 (en-suite)
Students/unwaged	£275	£295 (shared facilities)

Registration includes two night's bed & breakfast at St Anne's College, lunches and Conference dinner.

Day rates and non-residential fee information is available by emailing conference2010@ukss.org.uk

Venue

St Anne's College is situated in the heart of the University town of Oxford, conveniently place for rail and coach links and within walking distance of the City Centre. It is situated in 5 acres of pleasant grounds. Accommodation is in modern, en-suite rooms with tea and coffee making facilities. All conference sessions are in rooms adjacent to the accommodation.

For more information about the conference or about registration, to submit a paper or to book a place, please contact:

Conference Secretariat
conference2010@ukss.org.uk

