Call for Papers

39th Annual Conference and General Meeting

University of Leeds, Leeds
4th - 6th September 2023

General Theme

Constructing for the Future

Important Dates

Submission of abstracts:
23:59hrs GMT, Friday 13th January 2023

Notification of decision about abstracts:
Monday 13th February 2023

Submission of full papers for initial review:
23:59hrs GMT, Friday 7th April 2023

Notification of decision on full papers (after initial review):
Monday 22nd May 2023

Submission of final papers:
23:59hrs GMT Friday 16th June 2023

ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCHERS IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
For the 39th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting, we are returning to the city of Leeds in the County of West Yorkshire in England. For the first time, we will be hosted by the city's Russell Group university, The University of Leeds. The university was founded in 1904 but traces its origins to 1831. Today, it is a vibrant international research-led university that has contributed to creating the built environment over many years in many countries, most notably, through its School of Civil Engineering and Institute for Transport Studies.

The past, particularly recent past, has shown us that we need to continuously question what may be considered to be established 'matter of fact' things, systems or ideas. In last year's Call for Papers, we encouraged you not to be completely satisfied with what you know/see but, instead, to seek to question and demand regular validation and modification (or even deviation, if necessary). In continuation on this trajectory, we give you the theme of 'Constructing for the Future' for the 39th Annual Conference.

'Constructing for the Future' encourages us to understand the various futures including what, where, how, when and even whether we construct as well as we operate and dispose of the products whilst taking into account political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal, etc. perspectives. In a word, 'Constructing for the Future' is about sustainability. 'Constructing for the Future' also encourages us to consider that the beholder can construct the future defined by them and/or as they find it defined by other stakeholders. Regardless of who defines the future, we need to face it with wisdom and commitment to innovation. This paradigm needs to start now and become part of our business as usual in our research and practice!

In line with ARCOM tradition, the 39th Annual ARCOM Conference will be an inclusive conference. We invite paper submissions that not only address our traditional topics but also new and emerging topics. Furthermore, we invite authors to reflect on what needs to be done, within respective topics, to enable humanity to embrace 'Constructing for the Future'. We welcome (and hope to receive) papers that cover topics such as:

- Building information modelling
- Infrastructure development
- Contract management
- Law
- Design and technology
- Offsite construction
- Disaster management and resilience
- Pedagogic research
- Equality and diversity
- Performance
- Project Finance
- Procurement
- Health, safety and wellbeing
- Sustainability
- Human resources management
- Other relevant topics

**Submission Process**

**SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS**
Please submit an abstract of around 180 words and include up to 5 keywords online via the MyARCOM portal. Abstracts will be sent to two referees for peer-review. From this peer-review process, an abstract will be either accepted or rejected. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 13 January 2023.

**SUBMISSION OF PAPERS FOR INITIAL REVIEW**
Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit full papers. Full papers must not exceed 10 sides of A4 (including all references, tables, graphics and illustrations) and must be submitted on the ARCOM paper template, which is available for download at www.arcom.ac.uk. Each paper will be sent to two members of the Scientific Committee for peer-review. From this peer-review process, a paper will be accepted, accepted with minor alterations, accepted with major alterations or rejected. The deadline for the submission of full papers for initial review is 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 7 April 2023.

**SUBMISSION OF PAPERS FOR FINAL REVIEW**
After initial review, authors of papers accepted with minor alterations or accepted with major alterations will be invited to revise the papers and resubmit for final review. The final review will lead to papers being either accepted or rejected. The deadline for the submission of full papers for final review is 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 16 June 2023.

**PRESENTATION AND PUBLICATION OF ACCEPTED PAPERS**
If a paper is accepted, its authors will be invited to present the paper in person at the conference. At least one of the authors must register for the conference and be able attend conference and present the paper. Authors of accepted papers will have a choice of making their paper available as an ARCOM working paper or publishing their paper as an indexed paper within our annual conference proceedings.
We encourage you to explore many and varied ideas about incorporating 'Constructing for the Future' in your papers. Please find, in the next few paragraphs, some examples - in no particular order - which, we hope, provide some guidance on how built environment research and practice can contribute towards addressing the global issue of sustainability.

The built environment, in which we are primarily concerned, is constituted by Places and Infrastructure. Built environment researchers and practitioners should be interested in products, processes and services required to create, operate and dispose of the Places and Infrastructure. In addition, they should be interested in people who use, are affected by or have any other interest in, the Places and Infrastructure. Furthermore, built environment researchers and practitioners' should be interested in how the Places and Infrastructure affect the world's flora and fauna and the general health of planet Earth. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Places and Infrastructure, can be explored by considering their nature and location. Researchers and practitioners are required to consider the social, economic and environmental impacts of nature and location of the Places and Infrastructure created.

Constructing Places and Infrastructure requires deployment of Plant/Equipment which, in turn, require energy over their lifetimes. Energy is derived from different sources and each source has associated impacts. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Plant/Equipment, can be explored by considering sources of energy for the Plant/Equipment. In so doing, researchers and practitioners may reflect on technological, organisational and business innovations that may be required and how they might diffuse in industry and practice and deliver desired impacts.

Constructing Places and Infrastructure requires utilisation of Materials produced and delivered with the utilisation of energy (and associated impact). Use of Materials also involves generation of waste at different stages of the product’s life. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Materials, can be explored by considering minimisation of the negative impact of energy used to produce Materials and wastage via, for example, managing material choices and material flows. Researchers and practitioners may reflect on technological, logistical and business innovations that may be required and how they might be adopted in different socio-economic settings.

Constructing Places and Infrastructure requires utilisation of Labour provided by people. In order to be productive, people need to be healthy and safe, they have to travel to work and they need to be competent and motivated. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Labour, can be explored by considering the broad issue of rights and obligations of workers, communities and society in general. Researchers and practitioners may reflect on education and training; social value of projects; equality and diversity; recruitment and employment practices; and acculturation and how these promote wellbeing of the individual.

Constructing Places and Infrastructure requires Funding provided by private and public sector actors. Sources of equity and debt to fund projects are restricted by project appraisal procedures and policies as well as emergent issues such as geopolitics, economic and financial crises. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Funding, can be explored by considering types of finance and financial instruments and how they affect availability and stability of funding streams to maintain project pipelines. Researchers and practitioners may reflect on innovations pertaining to durations over which project capital may be provided as well as affordability and equitability of capital.

Constructing Places and Infrastructure requires the Organisation of enterprises of all types as well as teams and individuals to enable them to interact and deliver responsibilities necessary for project success. 'Constructing for the Future', with respect to Organising, can be explored by considering effective and innovative ways of allocating resources, designing work, demarcating authority and distributing responsibilities. These endeavours need to take into account technological and social developments, standards and expectations and seek to deliver smooth and uninterrupted work flows to consistently meet stakeholder expectations.

**Organising Committee**

Dr Apollo Tutesigensi, University of Leeds  
Professor Craig Thomson, Glasgow Caledonian University  
Professor Lloyd Scott, Griffith College, Dublin  
Dr Vivien Chow, Loughborough University  
Professor Libby Schweber, University of Reading  
Dr John Spillane, University of Limerick  
Dr Robby Soetanto, Loughborough University  
Professor Chika Udeaja, London South Bank University

…together with the other 13 members of the ARCOM Committee who will be confirmed at the ARCOM Annual General Meeting scheduled for 6th September 2022.
Venue Information

Leeds is a vibrant city that is easily accessible and the University of Leeds is about 20 minutes’ walk from the city centre, train station, and bus station. For international delegates, the city centre and University are less than 30 minutes by taxi from Leeds Bradford International Airport. Our chosen venues for ARCOM 2023 reflect this city’s education and sports heritage. We will be based in the University’s stunning Business School. We will have our traditional Monday social evening in the University’s unique Refectory and for our Tuesday Annual Conference Dinner, we will be in the Howard Suite at the world-famous Headingley Stadium. We will have a drinks reception before the Annual Dinner at the stadium concourse overlooking both Headingley Cricket Ground and Headingley Rugby stadium. The faithful of the sports of Cricket and/or Rugby League may even have chance to kiss the turf!

Conference Fee

The conference fee for ARCOM 2023 will be decided in the spring of 2023. An early-bird discount will apply for all registrations received by 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 30 June 2023. The usual discounts for ARCOM members and students from ARCOM institutional members will also apply.

Please note that accommodation is not included in the conference fee. Information about preferential rates provided by local hotels will be advertised on the conference website by Friday 19 May 2023.

Best Paper Prizes

CIOB Award for International Issue(s)
David Langford Commemorative Award for Social Impact
Emerald Award for Sustainability
ICE Award for Management of Civil Engineering and/or Infrastructure
Paul Townsend Commemorative Award for Research in Practice
Rod Howes Commemorative Award for Constructing for the Future
Taylor and Francis Award for Theoretical Rigour

Contact and Further Information

There will be regular conference updates so please visit the ARCOM website for ARCOM 2023 updates at http://www.arcom.ac.uk

Conference Chair: Dr Apollo Tutesigensi, University of Leeds
Conference Secretary: Dr Christopher Neilson, The University of Manchester / University College London

Email queries should be directed to conference@arcom.ac.uk in the first instance