



ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCHERS IN **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

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Welcome to the 39th Annual ARCOM Conference “Construction for the Future”



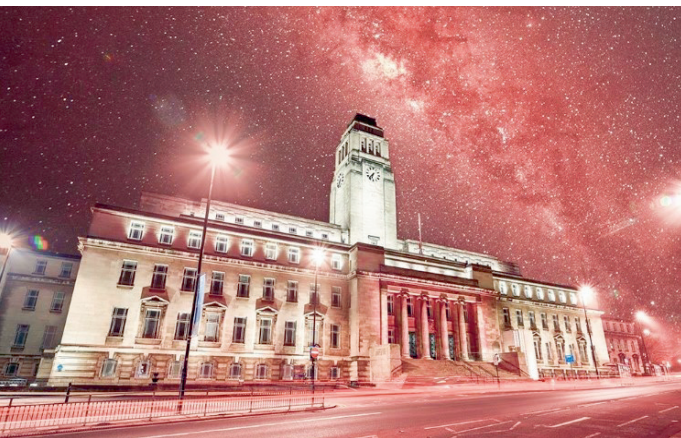
We are back in Leeds, in ‘God’s Own County’, for the 39th Annual ARCOM Conference! ARCOM has been in Leeds with two previous conferences, including for the 35th Annual ARCOM Conference in 2019. However, this is the first time we are hosted by The University of Leeds. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 39th Annual ARCOM Conference, my alma mater, Leeds and Yorkshire.

As in the previous thirty-eight conferences, we gather to share, discuss and reflect on what we have been doing and what we need to do in future to promote the wellbeing of people, places and planet, but with a special focus on processes of designing, constructing and managing the built environment. This conference’s theme, ‘Constructing for the Future’, calls us to promote deployment of knowledge and experience in careful, discerning and foresighted manner. Amidst the global challenges we face today, understanding how our generation and future generations can thrive sustainably should be high on our individual and collective research agendas. I hope that you will find time to engage with as many conference delegates as you can over the next few days and beyond as you seek to continue contributing to efforts to create knowledge that will enable development of healthy people, places and planet.

Apart from the paper presentations and discussions, we will have two thought-provoking keynote lectures from Professor Fred Sherratt from University of Colorado at Boulder and Professor Andy Dainty from Manchester Metropolitan University. Professor Sherratt (ARCOM Secretary 2014 - 2020) is known to many in the ARCOM community and will, on Monday 4 September 2023, challenge us to think about alternative futures. Professor Dainty (ARCOM Chair 2008 - 2010) is also known to many in the ARCOM community. Drawing on his recent experiences as Joint Editor-in-chief of Construction Management and Economics, Andy will, on Tuesday 5 September 2023, challenge us on research methodology issues for the 21st century.

Furthermore, we have the Langford lecture scheduled for Wednesday 6 September 2023 to be presented by Ms Anna Piña from the University of Reading. Anna is a PhD student and her lecture will focus on equality, diversity and inclusion matters – just the kind of topics the late Dave Langford would be

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Parkinson Building



Great Hall and Parkinson Tower

Continued – Welcome...

engaged with today. We will end the conference, on Wednesday 6 September 2023, with an event that has become one of the highlights of our conferences over the last few years, the ARCOM conference debate. The debate will be hosted by Professor Paul Chan and involve exciting panellists including Professor Saheed Ajayi, Professor Mike Kagioglou, Professor Libby Schweber, Dr Léon olde Scholtenhuis and Professor Fred Sherratt. Drawing on their varied experiences, these wonderful people will be shining light on some of the key issues we need to be thinking about in the short, medium and long term as researchers and practitioners.

As in previous years, our conference has attracted varied papers and participants from all over the world this year. I have been amazed at the strong desire from so many people to come together as researchers in construction management. In response to the Call for Papers, we received 307 abstracts in January 2023 and 184 papers in April 2023. Following our rigorous process of multi-stage double blind peer review, we finally accepted 130 papers in July 2023. Due to one reason or another, a few papers were withdrawn between June and August 2023 to leave us what promises to be an exciting 39th Annual ARCOM Conference programme of 120 papers. I had the privilege of dealing with the papers at different stages and was particularly impressed with the continuing breadth of research authors continue to want to share at our annual ARCOM conference. I was also impressed by the fact that we continue to attract researchers with a wide range of experiences.

One of ARCOM's key objectives is to support

researchers. We will, hopefully, do this at the conference through the questions we ask and conversations we have throughout the conference and after it. In collaboration with partners, we will also be encouraging selected authors to develop their papers into journal articles.

I am delighted that we have a number of people attending their first ARCOM conference this year and I warmly welcome each delegate in this category. I welcome, too, delegates for whom this is not their first ARCOM conference. I encourage you all to engage in the varied activities on offer over the duration of our conference. Please speak to me and/or any member of the Organising Committee at your earliest convenience and provide us feedback on your experiences of the conference – this will enable us to explore ways of improving delegates' experiences during the Conference and/or in future conferences.

Thank you for joining us and contributing to our joint-enterprise of creating and disseminating new knowledge in the field of construction management this year.

Please do not forget to follow us on Twitter #ARCOM2023!

I wish you an enjoyable 39th Annual ARCOM Conference and a happy stay in Leeds.

*Dr Apollo Tutesigensi
Chair
39th Annual Conference*

Editor letter....

Welcome to this conference issue of ARCOM Newsletter!

This issue features a welcome and introduction to the ARCOM 2023 conference by Dr Apollo Tutesigensi, followed by his reflection of ARCOM 2022 conference. Professor Libby Schweber provides a summary of ARCOM paper prizes. Dr Léon olde Scholtenhuis (on behalf of his team) provides a summary of ARCOM Seminar Series: *Construction Cladding Crisis?*, which were held at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the University of Twente. This issue includes a piece on CIOB role in academic and research by Ms Hassana Ahmed; PhD summary by Dr Hazel Ponton; as well as the planned ARCOM roadshow on Net Zero and Circularity in the Built Environment. Dr John Spillane provides an introduction to ARCOM membership and update. This issue concludes with a call for participation in ARCOM 2024. I wish to thank all contributors to this issue.

I would welcome any comments, and wish to invite your contributions to the newsletter. Please get in touch, by sending e-mail to R.Soetanto@lboro.ac.uk.

*Dr Robby Soetanto
Loughborough University*

A Reflection on the 38th Annual ARCOM Conference 'Building Back Wiser'

After two years of virtual conferences, we resumed our face-to-face interaction at the 38th Annual ARCOM Conference in Glasgow from 5 to 7 September 2022. Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and the Lord Provost of Glasgow were marvellous hosts. It is fair to say that a good time was had by many of the delegates in the buildings at GCU where we had all our plenary and parallel sessions; Glasgow City Chambers where we were treated to a Civic Reception by the Lord Provost of Glasgow - and an excellent talk about the social and architectural history of Glasgow by Professor Craig Thomson - on 5 September 2022 (Monday) evening; and Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum where we had our conference dinner on 6 September 2022 (Tuesday) evening.

We had a full programme of one hundred papers which were presented in parallel sessions on Monday and Tuesday covering a wide range of topics and themes - many of these papers were indexed papers and are available from: <https://arcom.ac.uk/-docs/archive/2022-Indexed-Papers.pdf>

Monday and Tuesday started with a keynote lecture each. Dr Simon Smith (ARCOM Chair 2012 – 2014) from the University of Edinburgh presented the Monday keynote lecture. In his lecture, Simon encouraged us to develop habits of learning from failures in infrastructure projects. Professor Phil Purnell from the University of Leeds presented the Tuesday keynote lecture. In his lecture, Phil highlighted the need for a systems view of all matters to do with built environment research and practice. It was excellent to see the interest and conversations that these two keynote lectures generated throughout the conference. I am sure that I heard

delegates exchanging contacts and planning to take conversations relating to these keynote lectures beyond the conference. This is the kind of thing we would like to see more of in our conferences. Phil and Simon, thank you.

We had a new arrangement of the last day of the conference. We included the Langford event scheduled for the morning of 7 September 2022 (Wednesday) which was followed with the ARCOM debate.

The Langford event was a bit of innovation compared to previous years, and included the usual Langford lecture and a presentation about the work of a non-governmental organisation called *HomeLeone* which works to change lives and communities through infrastructure projects in Sierra Leone. The Langford lecture was presented by two PhD students from TU Delft: Ms Sarah Kamphuis and Mr Pedram Soltani and was based on their paper 'Learning for value creation in a project alliance' which was co-authored with Dr Leonie Koops and Professor Marleen Hermans. The work of *HomeLeone* was brought to us by its founder and chair, Mr Nigel Hyde, MBE. Dr Laura Alvarez (Senior Principal Urban Design and Conservation Officer, Nottingham City Council) was our discussant in the Langford event. Dr Ani Raiden (Nottingham Business School, Nottingham Trent University; ARCOM Chair 2014 – 2016) and Dr Andrew King (School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment, Nottingham Trent University) designed the Langford event and Dr Ani Raiden chaired it. The Langford event challenged delegates to think about the need to design social value into infrastructure projects.

The ARCOM debate, hosted by Professor Paul Chan

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Lord Provost of Glasgow giving speech



Conference Chair opens the conference

Continued – Reflection...

ARCOM debate

(ARCOM Chair, 2016 – 2018), was the last session of our conference. It was designed to help delegates reflect on buzz phrases like ‘building back wiser’ and ‘transforming construction’ and consider whether they represented or led to change and not just smoke screens as society sought to simply bounce back to the old ways of working. Dr Laura Alvarez, Dr Ani Raidén, Mr Mat Colmer (Senior Innovation Lead for the Transforming Construction Challenge at the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)) and Professor Milan Radosavljevic (Vice-Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Engagement at the University of the West of Scotland) - as our panellists - provided delegates with thought-provoking, and sometimes, interesting takes on the relevant issues. It was a good platform to debate the issues but, as you might expect, no consensus was realised. However, I think those that thought that some changes were happening, albeit not to the scale called for, edged it. One takeaway point was that we must persist with innovation.

The conference activities were held in a lovely environment. Delegates’ faces showed how happy they



Conference dinner at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum

were to run, cogitate, take a bus, eat and be together, as the ARCOM community in Glasgow over those nice, bright and sunny days in Glasgow.

The lovely environment was created by many individuals over many months. As usual, Dr Chris Neilson and Ms Cath O’Connell were excellent. The ARCOM Committee 2021-2022 worked hard, but Dr Vivien Chow, Professor Libby Schweber, Dr Nicola Callaghan, Professor Paul Chan and Professor Craig Thomson went far beyond the call of duty. The Scientific Committee delivered constructive reviews in a timely manner. GCU staff responded to our needs in a timely fashion with patience. I have this to say to all the aforementioned: thank you for a wonderful experience of the 38th Annual ARCOM Conference.

As we settle into the ARCOM routine of face-to-face conferences starting on the first Monday of September each year, I hope you will enjoy the 39th Annual ARCOM Conference at Leeds and future ARCOM conferences.

*Dr Apollo Tutesigensi
Chair, 38th Annual ARCOM Conference*



ARCOM Conference delegates

ARCOM Prizes 2022



The chair of prize committee, Professor Libby Schweber from Reading University, announced the winners of best paper awards during conference dinner in Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, Glasgow. We had 8 prizes to award, as follows:

Paul Townsend Commemorative Award for Research in Practice

The prize is in honour of Paul Townsend who was the first ARCOM committee member from industry. The prize is awarded to research that makes a difference for practice, including but not limited to, professional, workplace, policy and societal practices.

The winner was awarded to Lasse Fredslund, Peter Højrup Søder, Ernst Jan de Place Hansen and Christian Koch for research paper:

"An Institutional Analysis of How the Construction Industry's Complexity Affects Waste: An Alternative Response to Future Market Demands for Sustainability"

The paper uses institutional theory to address the problem of waste in construction. Its analysis of the overlay of corporate, market, professional and community logics at multiple levels points to a misalignment between how waste is perceived and produced at multiple levels. In doing so, the paper challenges conventional understandings and leads to insights on policies and practices in policy, industry, firms and projects. *(The award was presented by Pippa Boyd)*



Rod Howes Commemorative Award for the Conference Theme

The prize is awarded to a paper that explores the conference theme, 'Build Back Wiser.' This category includes research that reflects on current and past experience, challenges current understandings, identifies new areas of inquiry and uses the research to propose ways to 'build back wiser.'.

The award went to Mattias Jacobsson and Henrik Linderöth, for their paper:

"Why Strategic Innovation Programs Struggle with Dissemination of Results: The Case of 'Smart Built Environment'"

The dissemination of innovations is an essential component of the aspiration to build back wiser. The paper explores the transfer of results from a Strategic Innovation Programme to better understand the conditions that facilitate the dissemination of innovation. Key findings underline the importance of ambition, capacity and target group clarity and alignment. In doing so, the paper offers practitioners and policy makers valuable insights on how to ensure that valuable innovations are captured and scaled-up. *(The award was presented by Paul Sayer, from the publisher, John Wiley and Sons).*



David Langford Commemorative Award for Social Impact

The prize is awarded to papers that explore the relationship between the built environment and society and that advance understanding of social impact. This category includes research into explicit engagement with issues of social impact, critical analysis of failures and successes and/or papers that advance current understandings of social impact.

The award went to Ani Raidén and Andrew King for the research paper:

"Considering, Creating and Delivering Social Value: Problematic Polarisation"

This paper analyses different approaches to thinking about and using the concept. More specifically it distinguishes between those who do social value and those who focus on measuring it. In doing so the paper highlights the danger which the latter universalist approach raises; in its place they call for an approach privileging co-creation and local social impact. *(The award was presented by Alex Copping).*



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Continued—ARCOM Prizes...

CIOB Award for an International Paper

The prize, sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), is designed to expand the research interests, contribution and impact of the ARCOM community by rewarding research that extends beyond the UK and promotes cross national debate and understanding.

The award went to Sarah Kamphuis, Pedram Soltani, Leonie Koops and Marleen Hermans for the research paper:

"Learning for Value Creation in a Project-Alliance"

This paper exemplifies the contribution which international scholars and scholarship make to ARCOM by offering a novel approach to the study of value and organizational learning. By linking the two concepts, the paper offers a subjective, long term understanding of the value of collaboration and more specifically, of alliance contracting. In doing so, it contributes to our knowledge of the Dutch case, expands current understanding of the concept of value and offers interesting suggestions for the study of collaboration, knowledge transfer and learning. *(The award was presented by Lynne Meckay from the CIOB).*



Taylor and Francis Award for a Theoretically Informed Paper

The prize is designed to recognize papers which contribute to the use of theory.

The award went to Nicolaj Frederiksen, Stefan Christoffer Gottlieb, Andreas de Gier, Peder Johansen and Anders Strange Sørensen for the research paper:

"Understanding the Marketing Department's Role in the Social and Environmental Ventures of Construction Companies"

The paper offers a judicious use of neo-institutional theory and more specifically of the concept of institutional work to explore the way in which project level practice contributes to the ongoing modification of institutional rules. More specifically the paper shows how initiatives by a marketing division contributed to a firm's ongoing involvement in waste management and social employment, while at the same time contributing to the modification of national level sustainability criteria and firm level procedures. In doing so, the paper illustrates how theory can be used to explore empirical and practical problems in construction research. *(The award was presented by Vivien Chow).*



Emerald Award for a Paper on Sustainability

The prize is designed to recognize research in the area of sustainability. This category includes research into the formulation, promotion and application of sustainable principles to the built environment.

The prize went to Lars Hulsbeek and Marc van den Berg for the research paper:

"Evaluating Reuse Conditions During a Circular Demolition Project: An Ethnographic Study"

Circularity is increasingly recognised as essential to the delivery of a sustainable built environment. This paper explores the work of demolition contractors in the recovery of elements for reuse. More specifically, it asks about the conditions which predict whether an element will be discarded or reused. Key conditions include the identification of economic demand, of dis-assembly routines and of storage conditions for future use. The paper also points to the importance of timing and regulatory compliance. In doing so, the paper contributes to our understanding of how to facilitate circularity in particular and sustainability more generally. *(The award was presented by Laura Etchells from Emerald Publishing).*



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Continued—ARCOM Prizes...

CME award for a Paper on Transformative Impact in relation to a Grand Societal Challenge

The prize marks the 40th year of Construction Management and Economics in circulation and is designed to recognise research that addresses transformative impact in relation to a grand societal challenge.

The award went to Andreas de Gier, Stefan Christoffer Gottlieb, Christian Koch and Nicolaj Frederiksen for the research paper:

“EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities: A Source of Decoupling or a Pathway for Greening the Construction Industry”

While it is often accepted wisdom that the industry will only change their behaviour towards more sustainable actions through regulations, the paper shows that there are different organisational responses to regulations. The paper’s evaluation of institutional response to EU taxonomy regulations at different organisational levels provides an interesting and logically sound basis for future research agendas. From a policy angle, it also connects well with current and ongoing debates on the efficacy of regulations. (The award was presented by Paul Chan, editor in chief of CME).



ICE award for paper on Civil Engineering and/or Infrastructure

This prize is designed to recognise research that advances the delivery of civil engineering infrastructure.

The award went to Maedeh Molaei, Leonie Koops and Marleen Hermans for the research paper:

“Evaluating the Procurement Documents of Dutch Water Boards Portfolio: A Step Towards More Reliable Public Clients”

The paper explores an often neglected aspect of infrastructure, namely the repetitive activities required for ongoing maintenance by small and medium firms working for a national water board. In a study of water quality, quantity and safety related activities, the paper offers a typology of activities and the procurement volume of these tasks, which can be used to improve public client investment in and procurement of maintenance activities. (The award was presented by Simon Smith, editor in chief of ICE journal Management, Procurement and Law).



ARCOM award for Conference Run

This prize is designed to recognize speed, competence and flair in the completion of a 5 and 3 km conference run. The category takes into account a range of criteria, including time, overcoming adversity and social contribution. Forms of assistance to ensure completion will be allowed in agreement with judges. As David Boyd reminds us: “This is a social event and competitive within the ‘spirit of ARCOM’.

We have four prizes in this category.

The prize for competitiveness went to Mark Collett

The prize for determination went to Mazlina Mohammad

The prize for most stylish went to Robby Soetanto

The prize for cohesiveness went to the team of Martin Löwstedt, Henrik Linderöth, Daniel Pässe



Professor Craig Thomson presented the certificates

Congratulations to all the prize winners!

All indexed papers are now available via the ARCOM abstracts service on the ARCOM website: <https://www.arcom.ac.uk/abstracts-browse.php>

Professor Libby Schweber, Reading University

ARCOM Seminar Series: Construction Cladding Crisis?

The high-profile Grenfell tower disaster resulted from cascading systemic failings. While flammable cladding was an immediate cause of the disaster, there were other contributing causes relating to industry policy and practice. The ARCOM Seminar Series: “Construction Cladding Crisis?” considered these deeper-rooted elements to instigate further discussion, debate and research that can push the academic community to prevent, inform and warn of future potential crisis and disaster in the built environment.

The seminars took place at two locations. The first at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (Australia; 3 November 2022), and the other at the University of Twente (the Netherlands; 27 June 2023).

The seminar hosted in Melbourne attracted local, interstate, and international academics: Prof. Steve Rowlinson (Hong Kong University/Bond University), Prof. Jan Hayes (RMIT University), Assoc. Prof. Rebecca Leshinsky (RMIT University), Dr. Laura Crommelin (UNSW), Dr. Kate Nguyen (RMIT University), Dr. Nicole Cook (University of Wollongong), Dr. Liz Taylor (Monash University), and co-hosts, Dr. Trivess Moore and Dr. David Oswald (both RMIT University).

The Melbourne seminar discussed extensively the indirect financial, health, and wellbeing consequences of building defects on the building occupants and questioned how and why the responsibility for rectification of defects – such as flammable cladding repairs – is pushed to consumers rather than the industry that caused the problem. Zooming out from the level of individual occupant to the construction industry, other questions explored how material waste from defect repair campaigns (such as flammable cladding replacement) can be recycled responsibly. The second part of the session focussed on how, what information, guidance and protection should be given to building owners when it comes to quality control, in which consumers currently have limited protection. Parallels from safety culture and systems were drawn to conclude that implementation of these in construction is a real challenge as the sector is influenced by many different values, financial drivers, responsibilities, and pressures.



Closure discussion of the Twente seminar with Dr. Simon Smith (online), Prof. Paul Chan, Prof. André Dorée, Dr. Margreet Spoelstra, Klaas Winters, Dr. Léon olde Scholtenhuis and Prof. Em. Joop Halman

The Twente seminar included professionals in building and pipeline safety (Dr. Margreet Spoelstra from the Netherlands Institute of Public Safety and Mr. Klaas Winters from the Dutch Pipeline Owners' Association VELIN), and the researchers Prof. Luke Bisby and Dr. Simon Smith (University of Edinburgh), Prof. Paul Chan (Delft University of Technology), Prof. André Dorée, Prof. Em. Joop Halman and the host Dr. Léon olde Scholtenhuis (University of Twente).

The Twente seminar explored systems-level issues and future concerns for the built environment. The seminar started looking backward at cases such as Ronan Point and those defects arising from large scale industrialized housing projects. It addressed how production pressures, technical uncertainties, innovation and (de)regulation fulfilled an urgent post-war demand for housing, but also that defects and crises could have been avoided should competent and ethical supervisors have been better supported as they observe and deliver improved building quality. The seminar further advanced the discussion by relating failures to market dynamics such as contractors' over-promising, and the influences that product and price competition have on opportunism, cutting corners, and unsafe behaviour. In the future, the sector needs to be mindful of such systemic vulnerabilities of the sector. Already new types of safety risks are emerging as rapid upscaling of new technologies takes place: industrialized renovation (and insulation), (flammable) PV panels; and electric vehicle parking garages (facing fire and explosion risks due thermal runaway of batteries and hydrogen) are examples of these.

The seminars embraced the view that a systemic perspective should be further developed, defined and applied in research methodologies for studies of defects, dangers, and incidents. Single points of failure of incidents seldom exist, and while regulations and codes for engineers are needed, they also direct over-simplifications and normalization, which may lead to the assumptions that 'good' technical regulations alone avoid incidents.

Safety is diverse and not easily controllable. Individual risk perceptions, the site workers' improvisation under work pressures, and the roles that clients need to take in supporting building quality and safety are key. Future research may centre on the key question how the various layers and interfaces that lead up to public failure of built assets can be studied from a methodological viewpoint; how a qualitative approach may enrich the field; and, how research on projects change their focus away from solely productivity and consider systemic intertwinedness of the dimensions of safety, quality, time and well-being. These experiences should also come from 'within the system'. To make impact, ARCOMmers hence need to be exposing themselves more to daily issues and concerns in the field and at offices.

Besides the excellent discussions, and future research questions, one main take away from both seminars is that the systemic elements should be brought more to the fore in CM studies as this influences the safety of decisions made during design, safe behaviour onsite, and undesirable practices such as phoenixing and risk-shifting. Practitioners argued that CM researchers and policy makers needed to deliberate what new types of risks are emerging, which of them are acceptable, and how they can be included more systematically in design.

Written by Dr Léon olde Scholtenhuis (on behalf of his team)
University of Twente

Empowering the Academic Community for Professional Excellence



In the vibrant field of construction and built environment, it is vital for professionals to stay ahead of the curve by enhancing their knowledge and skills. The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) has been instrumental and influential in promoting excellence and setting high standards in this industry. As an

academic community, understanding the significance of professional bodies like the CIOB and actively engaging with them can offer numerous benefits and opportunities. In this blog post, I will explore who and what CIOB is, highlight the advantages of being a part of this professional body, and focus on how individuals in the academic community can get involved.

Who is the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)?

Established in 1834, the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) is the leading international professional body for construction management and leadership. With a global membership of over 48,000 professionals, CIOB is committed to promoting the highest standards of excellence, competence, and ethical behavior within the construction industry.

The Benefits of Being a Member of a Professional Body

Professional Recognition: Joining CIOB grants you the prestigious title of a Chartered Construction Manager, which enhances your professional profile and demonstrates your commitment to maintaining high standards in your field as educator, researcher, and professional services personnel in an academic setting.

Continuous Professional Development (CPD): CIOB provides a wealth of CPD resources, including training programs, workshops, conferences, and webinars. These opportunities enable you to stay up to date with the latest industry trends, enhance your skills, and expand your professional network.

Access to Resources: CIOB provides members with access to a vast array of industry-specific resources, such as research publications, technical guidance, and best practice guidelines. These resources empower academic professionals to incorporate the latest industry insights into their teaching and research. Furthermore, we encourage our academic and research community members to help develop niche subject matter resources.

Collaboration and Networking: CIOB membership opens doors to a vibrant community of construction professionals, academics, and industry leaders. Engaging in networking events, seminars, and conferences

organized by CIOB allows you to establish valuable connections and collaborate with like-minded individuals in academia and industry.

Getting Involved with CIOB

Membership: Academics can become members of CIOB by joining as a Chartered Member or Fellow. These membership categories offer different benefits and cater to various levels of experience and qualifications. Details to becoming a CIOB Chartered or Fellow member are available here: <https://www.ciob.org/membership/become-a-member>

Volunteering and Mentorship: CIOB encourages members to get involved in volunteering opportunities, such as mentoring aspiring construction professionals, contributing to committees, or participating in research initiatives. These activities not only contribute to the industry's development but also enhance your professional reputation.

Engaging with Local Hubs: CIOB has regional hubs across the globe that organize regular events and meetings. Academics can participate in these local activities to meet professionals from their area, exchange knowledge, and foster collaborations building opportunities for their learners to seek real-life experiences and or discover research partnerships with industry representatives. Your local Hub details are here: <https://www.ciob.org/about/where-we-are>

Sharing Knowledge: Academics can contribute to CIOB's knowledge base by sharing their research findings, insights, and best practices through publications, seminars, or webinars. This collaboration helps bridge the gap between academia and industry, promoting the application of cutting-edge research in real-world scenarios.

The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) plays an essential role in fostering excellence and professionalism within the construction and built environment industry. By becoming a part of this esteemed professional body, academics and researchers can unlock numerous benefits, including professional recognition, access to resources, continuous professional development, and networking opportunities. Engaging with CIOB allows academic and research professionals to contribute to the industry's growth, collaborate with industry leaders, and stay abreast of the latest trends and research. Joining CIOB not only enhances individual professional profiles but also strengthens the academic community's impact on the construction industry as a whole.

Hassana Ahmed, FHEA, CMgr (MCMI)
 Senior Qualifications Liaison Manager, UK
 The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)

PhD Abstract: "Social interactions in construction design team meetings" by Hazel Ponton, University of Northumbria



The design process for construction projects is widely recognised as being challenging to manage. This is partly due to the fragmented nature of the design and construction. How designers and constructors interact at this interface merits investigation. This study examines how the designers and constructors interact with one another during design team meetings and how these social interactions affect group decision-making. An ethnographic, non-participatory observer approach was adopted to gather qualitative data from seventeen consecutive design team meetings across three live case study projects. The primary data is 360° panoramic audio and visual video-camera footage. The nature of the data allowed for observation and analysis of all the meeting participants' simultaneous verbal and non-verbal actions and reactions. An ethnographic account of the social interactions during the design meetings is presented as a thick description to present a detailed narrative of the group behaviour. The social cohesion and intragroup conflict events, which are identified as the dominant forms of interactions, were collated into packets of rich data. These packets were organised and structured using NVivo computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software. Conversation extracts are presented to provide a deep level of analysis of typical social events. The results of the analysis show that instances of social cohesion and intragroup conflict perform distinct functions that impact the design coordination and decision-making process.

The results also indicate that social cohesion is created and fostered through humour, familiar behaviour patterns and demonstrations of solidarity, praise and support. The presence of social cohesion allows potentially dysfunctional task and process-related conflict to be mitigated successfully. The study contributes to knowledge and practice through a greater understanding of theories of organisational behaviour when applied to interdisciplinary project teams and group decision-making. It also makes a methodological contribution in terms of the novel (in this context) use of a 360° panoramic camera to gather verbal and non-verbal audio and visual, simultaneous data from a "central" position.

The supervisors were Prof. David Greenwood and Neill Thompson. The external examiners were Prof. Chris Gorse and Prof. David Boyd.

Net Zero and Circularity in the Built Environment

ARCOM will be celebrating its 40th anniversary next year, providing an opportunity to celebrate our achievements over the years of running doctoral workshops/seminars or industry engagements. This roadshow will be a series of doctoral/seminars or industry engagements across the UK and in the Netherlands. The roadshow's theme will focus on "Net Zero and Circularity in the Built Environment." We have chosen this theme to reflect the theme of the ARCOM conference at the 40th anniversary. The roadshow will provide forums for doctoral students, early career researchers, researchers, and industry an opportunity to facilitate discussions around the Net Zero and circularity agenda in the built environment field, to generate new knowledge and understanding, as well as forge and expanding new international, intercultural, and interdisciplinary research network and partnerships. The organisers do not doubt that the roadshow will offer a remarkable opportunity for sharing research and best practice and meeting people and ideas.

The roadshow aims to provide an opportunity to understand the implications of net zero and circularity in the built environment and to draw up a sustainable and resilient plan for the future of the built environment field.

The Objectives of the Roadshow are to:

- Problematising the built environment's challenges in delivering the net zero agenda and strategies.
- Explore various research needs, discourse, and impact of net zero and circularity in the built environment.
- Explore the ramifications of net zero targets and circularity on traditional methods and topics in the built environment (i.e., productivity, project performance and overall quality of projects).
- Establish theoretical and methodological research that research communities can build on to ensure a sustainable and resilient future for the built environment.

Possible topics include the 4th industrial revolution and digital technologies, Net zero carbon building design and construction, Circular economy for construction, Waste management in construction, Advanced technologies for net zero carbon, Social value & community engagement, Construction economics and productivity, Procurement, contract practices, requirements for new regulations & reforms for net zero & circularity, Net zero education and training in the built environment

Local organisers of individual workshops or seminars can propose topics relevant to the audience or participants.

Venues & Dates & Times (TBC)

London South Bank University

Birmingham City University

Northumbria University

University of Twente/Delft University of Technology

Watch this Space!!

Written by:
Professor Chika Udejaja
London South Bank University

An Introduction to ARCOM Membership

The Association of Researchers in Construction Management (ARCOM) brings together all those interested in construction management research. Its aim is to further the advancement of knowledge in all aspects of management in construction by supporting education, dissemination, and research. Our lively newsletter keeps members in touch with the latest ARCOM news. The highly acclaimed annual conference brings together researchers from all over the world.

Various research workshops provide a means to develop specific subject themes as well as general research methodology. Our publications form a very useful resource for all researchers in this field. These activities help to encourage excellence in the research of our members. Our members include research students, lecturers, professors, consultants, other practitioners and institutions. Although we are primarily a UK association, we welcome members from all over the world. It provides opportunities for contact between researchers in similar fields and between researchers and practitioners.

We have two types of membership available: Individual Membership and Institutional Membership.

Individual Membership: Benefits and Fees

Individuals taking out an ARCOM membership will enjoy a membership discount at ARCOM conferences, which is currently £25. (Please note only paid-up members are eligible for the discount).

Individual membership is open to any interested person, regardless of discipline and background. Individual members pay an annual membership fee (from 1st May to 30th April). There are two types of individual memberships and their associated costs are as follows:

- Full membership: £20
- Student membership: £15

To join ARCOM as an individual member, if you have not already done so, please first create a "MyARCOM" online account, or use the "Forgot Password" if you have done so previously but cannot remember your login details. Once complete, then register yourself as a member, using the link in the middle of the webpage, where I will then process your application. If you are a registered PhD student, please ensure that your profile reflects this and that you have ticked the option for "student", to enable you to apply for student membership.

Institutional Membership: Benefits and Fees

Postgraduate Researchers at university departments taking out institutional membership will enjoy the membership discounts at ARCOM conferences which is currently £25 (though note that staff members will not receive a discount unless they are individual members).

University departments taking out institutional memberships will also have their names included on the ARCOM website in public recognition of their commitment to this research community.

Institutional membership relates only to registered Postgraduate Researchers of the respective University. This enables a University Department to pay a single fee for all of its Postgraduate Researchers. The fee for institutional membership is determined by the number of Postgraduate Researchers registered in the department concerned. The annual subscription (from 1st May to 30th April) for institutional membership payable by university departments, is based on a flat band fee, as follows.

- University departments with 1-10 postgraduate researchers - £150
- University departments with 11-20 postgraduate researchers - £300
- University departments with over 20 postgraduate researchers - £500

An invoice can be raised for payment purposes, where we can also note a Reference and/or Purchase Order number, if required. ARCOM also accepts a Standing Order arrangement as well as a cheque made payable to "ARCOM."

For further inquiries about ARCOM membership contact:

Dr John P. Spillane
Membership Secretary, ARCOM
7 Bell Yard, London, WC2A 2JR,
United Kingdom
Membership@ARCOM.ac.uk, or ask at Conference Reception

ARCOM Membership 2023



Membership Secretary Dr John Spillane provides an update:

ARCOM has 99 Individual Members and 20 Institutional Members

Currently there are 99 individual paid members; of which 12 are entitled to a reduced student fee. The number of individual paid members remains steady, with circa 80-110 members, paying their membership fee each year. At this time of year, the paid membership figure is in line with these projections and is anticipated to grow, as we move towards the end of the membership cycle (30th April). Currently, our individual paid members originate from the United Kingdom (64 members), Australia (7), South Africa, Netherlands (4 each), Sweden (3), Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, United Arab Emirates, and the United States (2 each). The remainder of our membership covers individuals from Finland, Ghana, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina (1 each).

The number of institutional members remains healthy and continues to grow. Figure 1 shows that the number of institutional members has increased from 14 in 2011, to 20 this year.



Figure 1 Number of institutional members between 2011 and 2023

ARCOM currently has 20 Institutional Members:

- 16 Institutions from the UK - Birmingham City University, Glasgow Caledonian University, Queen's University Belfast, Leeds Beckett University, Liverpool John Moores University, Loughborough University, Northumbria University, Robert Gordon University, University of Brighton, University College London, University of Manchester, University of Reading, University of Salford, London South Bank University, University College of Estate Management, and Ulster University.
- 2 Institutions from Sweden - Chalmers University and Luleå University of Technology.
- 2 Institutions from Ireland - Technological University Dublin and University of Limerick.

For any ARCOM Membership inquiries, be they Individual or Institutional Membership, please feel free to email the Membership Secretary, Dr John Spillane on membership@arcom.ac.uk, where I would be more than happy to help.

ARCOM 2024: Looking Back to Move Forward

2nd – 4th September 2024, London South Bank University

ARCOM was formed in 1984 to nurture and develop research and researchers in the emerging field of construction management and held its first annual conference at Southbank Polytechnic in London. To celebrate ARCOM's 40th anniversary we are returning to the now London South Bank University (LSBU) for our 40th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting. The last four decades have seen ARCOM establish itself and evolve beyond its UK focused origins to an organisation with a global reach reflected through our international membership and representation of delegates at the annual conference.

The 40th anniversary provides an opportunity to celebrate our achievements, but also to reflect on the evolution of construction management research in terms of its thematic coverage, its engagement with other disciplines and a growing broadening of our scope to reflect management issues related to the delivery and maintenance of the wider built environment. Recent ARCOM conferences have reflected a growing focus on research which seeks to respond to paradigm shifting challenges associated with climate change, delivering sustainable development, progressing social justice and responding to the rapid progress in the digital world and the opportunities and difficulties it presents. The general themes of our conferences in the last decade have responded to this with focus on sustainability, rebuilding and recovery, productivity, and the wider contribution to the common good.

The conference programme will provide our community the opportunity to look back at our achievements over the last 40 years and revisit traditional research questions with a contemporary focus. However, as we move forward, there is a need to consider how we can continue to evolve and ensure that our research contributes to the paradigm shifting agendas of the future. We welcome you to join us and contribute to this conversation by submitting papers aligned with our Conference Theme 'Looking Back to Move Forward'.

BACKGROUND FOR CALL FOR PAPERS

Looking back to move forward

The conference provides an opportunity to reflect and celebrate the progress made over the last 40 years in construction management research in the themes explored, the framing and nature of the research questions posed but also in the evolving methodological approaches deployed. As a community we are increasingly collaborating with other disciplines, and challenging ourselves by asking more progressive research questions. The 40th conference asks us to not forget to look back and revisit some of the more traditional research questions through a contemporary theoretical lens or methodology as the potential exists for new insight. However, as we move forward it is important to ensure that the applied nature of our research is not lost and that we learn lessons from past research and continue to develop more effective ways to involve policy makers, practitioners and stakeholders in our research.

Recognising that CM research is evolving

The themes presented at ARCOM conferences over the last 40 years have reflected an evolution towards a more holistic view of management issues within the built environment and needing to reflect wider societal challenges. This has seen construction management research and scholarship moving beyond its traditional focus and increasingly collaborating with other academic disciplines. We are seeing evidence of a community which is showing signs of challenging itself by asking more progressive research questions with a view to facilitating a better understanding for those managing within the construction industry and wider built environment.

Readiness of CM research to address paradigm shifting agendas

The 39th ARCOM conference focuses on the Future for Construction, but it is apparent that our research will require greater engagement with agendas requiring a fundamental rethink around how the built environment is

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The Hub, LSBU



The Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn

Continued – ARCOM 2024....

procured, planned, designed, constructed and ultimately disposed of and reused. The 40th ARCOM conference allows us to ask how ready are we as a community to contribute to these paradigm shifting agendas and the associated research questions requiring to be asked and explored. Looking back at recent ARCOM conferences, a growing number of paper submissions are associated with two dominant threads reflective of this need for a paradigm shift: 1) Net Zero and Circularity, and 2) Digital Construction and Artificial Intelligence.

1) Net Zero and Circularity

Net Zero and Circularity in Construction are going to drive change and innovation in the years to come and will require to be embedded across all aspects of the delivery and maintenance of the built environment requiring a holistic view of how it fits with the wider economic, social and environmental systems. This is a challenge not for the faint hearted, and the 40th anniversary of ARCOM provides an opportunity for us to look back but also forward to ask how we can make a meaningful contribution to their realisation.

2) Digital Construction and Artificial Intelligence

The advancement of the digital world provides the potential to fundamentally change the way the built environment is delivered and maintained, but also how society engages and uses it. A need exists through our research to not only respond to the related needs of today but to consider the future possibilities and challenges associated with the potential represented for the future. This will require a fundamental rethink, but represents both opportunity and challenges.

This conference provides the opportunity to reflect on the readiness of our community's research to respond to the ambition of these future challenges and facilitate a better understanding of the theoretical and practice implications.

In line with ARCOM tradition, the 40th 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 how construction management research needs to progress within respective topics, but importantly how we can continue to evolve and meaningfully contribute towards realising paradigm shifting agendas associated with Net Zero and Circularity in Construction; and Digital Construction and Artificial Intelligence.

We welcome (and hope to receive) papers that cover topics such as: Contract management; Design and technology; Digitalisation; Disaster management and resilience; Equality, diversity and inclusion; Project finance; Health, safety and wellbeing; Human resources management; Infrastructure development; Offsite construction; Pedagogic research; Performance; Procurement; Sustainability; Other relevant topics.



Dining in the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn

ARCOM Committee 2022-2023

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ARCOM 2024: Looking Back to Move Forward

Key dates

Submission of abstracts: 2359hrs GMT, Friday 12 January 2024

Notification of decision about abstracts: Monday 12 February 2024

Submission of full papers for initial review: 2359hrs GMT, Friday 5 April 2024

Notification of decision on full papers (after initial review): Monday 20 May 2024

Submission of full paper for final review: 2359hrs GMT, Friday 14 June 2024

Notification of decision about full paper (after final review): Monday 15 July 2024

Submission of Abstracts and Keywords

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 submission of abstracts is 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 12 January 2024.

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 5 April 2024.

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 14 June 2024.

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.

Venue Information

London South Bank University was established in 1892 as Borough Polytechnic with an original aim 'to promote the industrial skill, general knowledge, health and well-being of young men and women' and this remains central to its mission today. The focus is on a practical and vocational approach ensures our students will leave equipped with the skills to meet the challenges of today's workplace. An institution which is rooted in its community in South London with three campuses. The conference is being held in the LSBU HUB which opened in the summer of 2022 and is the largest building in the Southwark Campus. The building has been awarded Architect Journals Higher Education and Campus Retrofit Award for 2023 and the Award for Transformative Sustainable Design through Minimal Intervention at the Structural Awards 2023. Our 40th anniversary conference dinner and awards evening will be held on the Tuesday and hosted at The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn within their historic estate which dates back to 1422.

Conference updates

There will be regular conference updates so please visit the ARCOM website for conference 2024 updates at www.arcom.ac.uk

Contact and Further Information

Conference Chair: Professor Craig Thomson, Glasgow Caledonian University

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.