



## **STANDING CONFERENCE ON UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND RESEARCH IN THE EDUCATION OF ADULTS**

### **Conference 2015 – CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

#### ***It's All Adult Education***

University of Leeds, UK

Tuesday 7 to Thursday 9 July 2015

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is  
**5pm (GMT) on 16 January 2015.**

All proposals should be submitted as a Word document and emailed  
to [scutrea@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:scutrea@leeds.ac.uk)

We are pleased to invite papers for presentation at the SCUTREA Conference to be held from 7-9 July 2015. The event brings together the SCUTREA Annual Conference delivered in collaboration with the Lifelong Learning Centre, University of Leeds to provide a forum for those engaged in adult education and lifelong learning to debate and discuss the theme '*It's All Adult Education*'. The conference will take place at Weetwood Hall Conference Centre and Hotel, Leeds, UK.

#### **Conference Theme and Call for Abstracts**

The SCUTREA Conference provides a platform for researchers and professionals who engage with the education of adults and lifelong learning to address key areas of national and international concern. This year the conference theme – '*It's All Adult Education*' – is also seeking to reach out to those researchers and practitioners whose work may not be primarily focused on adults and lifelong learning but who have developed a keen interest in this area.

Adult education is in a constant state of flux and, all too often, is the 'Cinderella' of education and skills budgets. From higher education to work-related learning through to community education, the education/training needs of younger age groups are often prioritised to alleviate high rates of youth unemployment, a key priority for many governments.

However, even within this context there remains a very strong interest in the education of adults. There are academics and practitioners from a wide range of disciplines and sectors working in formal and informal settings who may not primarily perceive themselves as adult educators but who have a keen interest in related research, theory, policy and/or practice. These may include:

- Higher education
- Work-related and professional learning
- Vocational learning
- Family and intergenerational learning
- Digital and technology-enhanced learning (TEL)
- Community development
- Pedagogy
- Informal learning
- Public pedagogies

Papers, roundtables and poster sessions at this conference are invited to explore the education of adults within the contemporary context of austerity, neoliberal economic policies, increasing inequalities and also in an era of declining trust in political elites and policy-making. We are seeking to be attentive to the wide range of contexts and spaces where the research and practice of adult education and lifelong learning is located. Areas of interest include:

- Innovative pedagogies which are focused on or encompass adult learning;
- Impact of national and international policies on the facilitation of formal / informal adult and lifelong learning;
- Methodological approaches to researching the education of adults in both formal and informal settings;
- How class, gender, ethnicity and disability impact or inform the research and / or practice of educators working with adult learners;
- Conceptual, theoretical, inter-disciplinary approaches which encompass the education of adults in a contemporary context;
- Importance of attitudinal factors such as resilience;
- Structural factors such as finance;
- The role of the geographical and historical context of places – in relation to place-based and place-responsive research and practice;
- Creative pedagogy in professional development and work-based settings;
- Role of reflective practice for adult educators and their learners.

***N.B. Papers should locate the research they discuss within the adult education literature and explain its significance for adult education.***

## Author submissions

Proposals are now invited for papers, symposia, posters and roundtable presentations on questions related to the conference theme and one of its strands. These should in the first instance take the form of an **abstract** for a presentation in one of the following formats:

1. **Individual papers:** abstracts of between 500 and 600 words
2. **Symposium:** Overview (200 words) and abstracts for each paper (maximum of 500 words each)
3. **Roundtable:** Overview (200 words) and abstracts for each participant (maximum of 500 words each)
4. **Poster:** Abstract of 500 words

## Submitting an abstract for a paper, symposium, roundtable or poster

Selection of papers for inclusion in the conference programme will be based on quality of abstracts assessed through a process of peer review. Abstracts should adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Abstracts must identify whether it is a paper, symposium, roundtable or poster
2. Abstracts should include a title (author/s and institutional affiliation/s on a separate sheet)
3. Each abstract should include a summary of the topic, a clear link to one of the key themes, should be well-grounded in the literature and should identify whether it is a conceptual or empirical piece. Full references need not be included in the abstracts.

**Papers:** Papers should be **3,500 words maximum**. This word limit includes references etc. The editors reserve the right to edit any paper which exceeds this limit and if it significantly exceeds this limit to return the paper to the author within a strict timescale. The time allowed for presentation of individual papers at the conference will be 45 minutes. Presenters are expected *to allow at least 20 minutes* for discussion.

**Symposia:** Papers should be **7,000 words maximum**. This includes any references etc. The editors reserve the right to edit any paper which exceeds this limit and if it significantly exceeds this limit to return the paper to the author(s) within a strict timescale. Symposia should be linked to one of the key themes or conceptualise the links between themes and this should be clearly identified in the proposal. A chair and discussant should be identified. The time allowed for presentation of symposia is 90 minutes. Presenters are expected to *allow at least 30 minutes* for discussion.

**Roundtables:** The roundtable is a more informal context for the discussion of research or theoretical issues. It is useful for roundtable presenters to indicate the questions the

author(s) would like to discuss. An outline paper of approximately 1,000 words is required for the conference proceedings. The time allowed for roundtables is one hour.

**Posters:** An outline abstract of 500 words is required for the conference proceedings.

All proof reading is the contributing author's responsibility and must be done prior to submission. The editors reserve the right not to include any paper which, in their opinion, will reduce the quality of the conference or the proceedings.

**N.B. Papers and other contributions accepted for publication in the conference proceedings will be made available to delegates in digital format and on the conference website.**

### **Submission timetable**

- The deadline for submission of abstracts is **5pm (GMT) on 16 January 2015**. Proposers will be notified of the outcome of their proposal in mid-February 2015.
- Papers to be included in the conference proceedings should be submitted by **5pm (GMT) on 1 May 2015**.
- *It is a SCUTREA Conference practice for abstracts and not papers to be peer reviewed. However, occasionally we agree to papers being peer review on request. Deadline for submission of these is **5pm (GMT) on 13 April 2015**.*
- **Please note:** SCUTREA has a tradition of including in the conference proceedings only those papers that are presented at the conference.
- All abstracts should be submitted as a Word document and emailed to [scutrea@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:scutrea@leeds.ac.uk).