

UPDATE: Online Conference: The Most Significant Change (MSC) technique in 2024

IMPORTANT DATES

- The conference is now rescheduled for late June 2024.
 - Two events will be held, to cater for presenters and participants locations in different time zones.
 - **Wednesday 19th and Wednesday 26th June.** These may be collapsed into only one of these two days, depending on locations and numbers of conference.
- Short and simple proposals for presentations, posters, pre-recorded videos, or panel discussions should be sent to us(rick.davies@gmail.com) by **3rd May**
 - We will then contact you on a one-to-one basis
 - Complete proposals including PP, or other media, should be sent to us by **24th May**
- Registration to attend (free) [will be open via Eventbrite](#) from **4th May** onwards.

The original “call for papers” follows and is still applicable.

Call for papers for an online conference:

We are seeking proposals for presentations, posters, pre-recorded videos, or panel discussions, on these potential topics below. After receiving proposals we will consolidate and select those most suitable for a session.

Theme A. Different approaches people have taken to the following:

- Deciding why to use MSC - what is the intended purpose?
- The types of people whose MSC stories are to be collected.
- Ways of collecting MSC stories.
 - Translation issues (in particular the phrase ‘most significant change’);
 - Ways to increase the likelihood of collecting negative stories and not just positive stories.
- Ways of structuring and using MSC story selection processes.

- Methods of doing content analyses of complete sets of MSC stories (including secondary analysis).
- Elaborating and verifying the contents of MSC stories.
- Feeding back and communicating MSC stories and their selection.
- Making use of MSC stories (and their analyses) to change the way programs are being implemented:
 - Changing activities,
 - Changing theory,
 - Changing strategy.
- Ways of combining MSC with other methods of inquiry, including outcome mapping, outcome harvesting, realist evaluation, and any other possibilities.

Theme B. Institutionalising MSC as an ongoing monitoring and learning process.

Theme C. Introducing and training people in the use of MSC.

Theme D. Visions of the future: Thoughts, ideas, proposals for how MSC could be used creatively and constructively in the future. This includes ways of integrating technology and AI in MSC evaluations.

We are interested in both previously published work and work that has never yet been published in any form.

Your contribution can be about your own work, or it can be about the work of others which you have reviewed or evaluated, on a commissioned or independent basis. You can be a student, employed (part-time or full-time) or retired, young or old.

When thinking about your possible contribution please look at and make use of the [Zotero online bibliography on MSC](#) which lists a large number of papers, theses, presentations, videos, et cetera, which have been produced on the topic of MSC. Contact rick.davies@gmail.com for membership access to the bibliography (which contains full texts of many of the listed papers).

Your proposal should be sent to rick.davies@gmail.com. They should include the following:

- Type of contribution you wish to make: paper, poster, video recording, panel discussion,
- Title of presentation or panel discussion and theme (please label according to the themes above under A/B/C/D),

- A summary of the intended content, around 300 words. Bear in mind that in order to have time for post presentation discussion, presentations should not be longer than around 15 mins.
- Information describing yourself, in terms of your interests and responsibilities, as they are relevant to your proposal.

We will acknowledge your proposal as soon as possible and be happy to provide advice and suggestions on its development, where we can and if it is requested.

Closing date for proposals: See Update above

Best wishes, rick.davies@gmail.com

on behalf of the MSC Working Group

PS: Please feel free to circulate this Call for Papers on any email lists and social media that you think are relevant.