



## ALT Annual Conference 2017 Call for Proposals

### Beyond islands of innovation – how Learning Technology became the new norm(al)

The ALT Annual Conference 2017: Beyond islands of innovation – how Learning Technology became the new norm(al), will be held at the University of Liverpool, 5 – 7 September 2017.

Visit <https://altc.alt.ac.uk/2017/>.

The 2017 conference will be chaired by Peter Alston and Professor Helen O’Sullivan, both at the University of Liverpool. The conference provides an international platform for Learning Technology research, practice and policy work from across sectors.

#### Conference themes:

- Empowerment in Learning Technology: supporting students through staff/student partnerships, students as influencers, developing skills and supporting staff at all levels
- Learning Spaces: impact of Learning Technology on the physical and the virtual, strategies for enabling innovation, effectively managing change
- Moving from the practical to the ‘publishable’: reporting from the forefront of innovation and research, policy and strategy fit (or not) for what’s ahead, sharing practice and scaling up Learning Technology through large scale institutional projects
- At the forefront of innovation: ethical implications of ‘data’ for learning and teaching, making use of data in assessment, the hype around AI, machine learning and learning analytics and what’s beyond;
- Wildcard: you are free to contribute any aspect of your research, practice or policy work.

#### Key dates

- ◇ Call for Proposals announced in early February 2017
- ◇ Submission system opens in late February 2017
- ◇ Webinars for potential authors: recording available at <https://sas.illuminate.com/p.jnlp?psid=2017-03-10.0637.M.7FD3B4E6E54416AA59FF23F9A17AAA.vcr&sid=7565>
- ◇ **Deadline for submissions is extended to Midnight GMT, Monday 27 March 2017.**
- ◇ Notification of acceptance: May 2017
- ◇ Register to attend: May 2017

◇ Webinar for accepted authors: August 2017

## Proposals for different session formats:

You can submit proposals for one of the following:

- Posters (displayed in print and online)
- 5 minutes: Lightning talk, usually a presentation
- 20 minutes: presentation with time for questions or a brief discussion
- 40 minutes: research presentation, technical demonstration or discussion, all with an interactive element for participants
- 1 hour: workshop or panel discussion, fully interactive format.

All session formats need to incorporate time for questions/audience participation.

In addition to the written proposal we will also encourage all authors of accepted 40 min and 1 hour sessions to produce a short video intro to their session.

## The submission, selection, and acceptance process

All submitted proposals are double-blind peer reviewed by members of the Programme Committee. Contributions should not have appeared elsewhere, in whole or in part. To ensure a suitably diverse programme, no individual will be allowed to submit more than one proposal as the main author. There is no limit on the number of times someone can be named as a subsidiary author.

After review and one cycle of revision and resubmission, the conference Programme Committee select proposals for potential inclusion in the conference.

## Formatting your submission:

Your 500-word proposal needs to show clearly how your session is going to address the relevant theme, and should, where possible, include recent research, case studies, practice or learner perspectives from any learning context including schools, colleges, universities and industry.

The most common reason why proposals are rejected is that authors do not include all the information required in their 500 word proposal. Most commonly is the error not to include any references.

Below is a sample abstract which should help you with your submission:

- Intro paragraph - introduce the main question/topic that your session will address and the context. Clearly state how your session relates to the conference theme.
- Main paragraph - the proposal you submit for review will, if accepted, also be used for inclusion in the conference programme and is the primary way for participants to choose which session to attend. Include a clear outline of the session, what participants will gain from it and what you will present.
- References - 2 min - 6 max, Harvard System (parenthetical referencing – see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parenthetical\\_referencing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parenthetical_referencing)).

### Checklist:

- Word limit (incl references): 500 words (250 words for poster & lightening talk proposals)
- Have you anonymised the proposal, i.e. removed all author names, institutions and references to the author's work
- During the submission process you will need to: select a conference theme, select a session type, provide the names and contact details of the authors, provide the session title and the 500 word proposal (abstract).

## Authors from the commercial sector

We encourage participation from the commercial sector, but we do not accept proposals with a primary focus on demonstrating services or products offered by a commercial provider and which do not explicitly address the conference theme(s) in a learning context. If you are unsure, please contact us.

## Proposals will be refereed according to:

- ◇ Relevance to the conference title 'Beyond islands of innovation – how Learning Technology became the new norm(al)' and to one or more of the conference themes
  - ◇ Usefulness to conference participants, including those from outside the UK
  - ◇ Contribution to the provision of reliable evidence for scholarship and research into the integration of learning technologies into education
  - ◇ Appropriate reflection and evaluation
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- ◇ Clarity, coherence and conformity to guidelines.

Here education is considered broadly and includes formal and informal learning settings in schools, colleges, universities, the workplace, homes and communities, at any stage in learners' lives.

## Acceptance and conference registration

When a proposal has been accepted, at least one presenter must book to attend the conference by a deadline date that will be given at the time of provisional acceptance. Only when this booking has been made will the proposal be fully accepted for the conference.

## Publishing in *Research in Learning Technology*

Research in Learning Technology is the open access international peer-reviewed journal of ALT. We provide a specific route to publication for authors who are looking to disseminate their research more widely. If you are interested in this publication route and your proposal is accepted for the conference, you will receive information about how to submit your paper to *Research in Learning Technology* for publication.

**Deadline for submissions is extended to Midnight GMT, Monday 27 March 2017.**

## Document History

Date	By	Summary
31/1/17	all	Final draft
16/3/17	MD	Extended deadline

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