

Call for Papers

36th Conference and Annual General Meeting

Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow
In partnership with Technological University Dublin

7th - 9th September 2020

General Theme

Building A Common Good in Construction

Important Dates

Submission of abstracts:	23:59hrs GMT, Friday 10 th January 2020
Notification of acceptance of abstracts:	Monday 17 th February 2020
Submission of full papers:	23:59hrs GMT, Friday 10 th April 2020
Editorial decision on full papers:	Friday 15 th May 2020
Submission of final papers:	23:59hrs GMT Friday 19 th June 2020



ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCHERS IN
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

“Building A Common Good in Construction”

In 2020, ARCOM returns to Glasgow, Scotland after some twenty years absence, drawing on the hospitality of Glasgow Caledonian University and in partnership with the Technological University Dublin.

It is right and fitting that we should focus on the chosen theme for the conference in 2020 and it is also fitting that Glasgow host us for this tremendous opportunity! Our research communities are coming together to achieve more than political rhetoric.

At a time when the modern world grapples with the challenges of divided nations, the need for greater collaboration to build communities of practice for common good, resilience and sustainability seems paramount. In the AEC sector, is it appropriate to say we have championed ‘building a common good’ and can we be recognised as a leader in this area? We have an opportunity to create an environment where this agenda can be researched, discussed and shared.

We invite paper submissions that address the central theme, “Building A Common Good in Construction”. The ARCOM community has been building the “Common Good” throughout its thirty- five year history, that is what makes it such a strong network today. The bringing together of like-minded individuals conspiring to make the world in which we live a better place has been an underpinning goal of the organisation since its inception.

There is a need to deepen our understanding of the common good and to understand whether it is not only problematic, but also a productive force for societal good. It is no coincidence that that this need to understand ‘the common good’ is deeply embedded in the mission of our host institution, Glasgow Caledonian University. Questions are raised around whether the inclusion of explicit values around common good are necessarily a bad thing, and whether their integration is always possible. Should we be striving for the full inclusion of the common good principles in what we do in the AEC sector? What would this balance appear like, and what implications will its integration have on policy, practice and research in construction?

We are calling for abstracts that addresses the topics listed, that continue to bind the ARCOM community together as well as those that address the central theme “Building a Common Good” and the track proposals listed overleaf. The ARCOM Conference is an inclusive conference that covers a wide range of topics pertinent to construction work, including but not limited to:

Building information modelling	Sustainability in the built environment
Equality and diversity	Construction design & technology
Human resources management	Disaster management and resilience
Information management	Health, safety and well-being
Infrastructure development	Law and contracts
Offsite construction	Other related themes considered
Planning, productivity and quality	
Research and education	

Submission of Abstracts and Keywords

Please submit your abstract of around 300 words and include up to 5 keywords on-line via the MyARCOM portal where you can also select your preferred thematic track (see overleaf). Abstracts will be sent to two referees. Only the authors of abstracts that pass this peer-review process will be invited to submit full papers. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 23:59hrs GMT on Friday 10 January 2020. Full papers must not exceed 10 sides of A4 and should adhere to the ARCOM paper template, which is available for download at www.arcom.ac.uk. Each paper will be reviewed by two members of the scientific committee. If the paper is accepted its authors will be invited to present the paper at the conference. At least one of the authors must be able attend the conference. Authors of accepted papers will have a choice to publish their paper as a working paper or an indexed paper.

In 2016, the ARCOM Committee introduced thematic tracks in order to better steer conversations around the general theme of the conference. To build a productive relationship within and between academia and industry, and in finding a balance between fragmentation and integration, we invite authors to particularly consider and respond to the following themes and tracks when developing the full papers. Creating a forum for discourse and debate among researchers in construction on 'building our common good' will create a significant event where in time those in AEC education and research will celebrate our contributions! Creating a forum for discourse and debate among researchers in construction on 'building our common good' will create a significant event where in time those in AEC education and research will celebrate our contributions. We, therefore, have assembled track themes that address the changing nature of society through the built environment, in the construction industry. These include, but are not restricted to...

Track 1: The Tyranny Of Metrics

Metrics are all around us. To a large extent they dictate the issues which are seen to be important, and they dictate the parameters within which the debate is conducted. They prevail across scales, from measuring the contribution of the construction sector to national economies right through to the performance management of individuals. To express doubts concerning the efficacy of such metrics serves only to marginalise dissenters from the mainstream. Impact factors and citation counts are in danger of becoming ends in themselves as indicative proxies of research quality. Environmental assessment methods are similarly dominated by metrics setting out the rules of the game.

Track 2: Social Value

Social value is concerned with how we contribute positively to the communities in which we work. By this we mean looking at social value from the perspective of different professionals and organisations involved with the entire life-cycle of construction from planning through design, construction, operations and facilities management. There are many untapped opportunities to grasp and challenges to overcome in creating social value and we recognise that we are at the beginning of an ongoing and interesting journey which will draw knowledge from many disciplines and fields of knowledge. Setting a discourse around the shifts in the AEC sector in the field of social value can offer a huge contribution to the community.

Track 3: Building For The Common Good: Exposing The Potential And Challenges For Delivering A Construction Industry For The Common Good?

The Common Good agenda has emerged as a framework to help readdress the balance away from the pure interests of capital profit and towards the long term benefits of society. It is advocated to promote fairness, equity and social justice. Its roots are in many of the principle theorists in political and economic thinking such as Smith, Marx, Rawls, Keynes, Mills, Madison, Rousseau, Locke, Machiavelli, Aquinas. This raises many research questions which can provide a platform for debate about the future role of the construction industry within our national economy and importantly society. This requires theoretical exploration relating to the role of governance, comparisons between our dominant economic models and those emerging such as the Common Good framework. From an empirical perspective opportunity to explore examples where the built environment and corporations are successfully delivering these principles; whilst exposing the failings of the many. Different national contexts also provide an opportunity to learn and contrast the approach to governance, economic model and also the role which construction industry plays within that society.

Track 4: The Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0) And The Future Of Construction: Promises, Premises, Practices And Problems

Practices in the construction industry have recently been transformed with the use of more digital technologies. This is arguably pursued at the relative neglect (and expense) of the analogue world. The Fourth Industrial Revolution, or Industry 4.0, a high-tech strategy to describe a new wave of technological advancements and applications that follows previous industrial revolutions of mechanisation, electrification and computerisation. Such a strategy promises efficiency gains, by integrating the value chain, through a combination of technologies and techniques, ranging from automation and robotics, additive manufacturing, sensing, cloud computing, machine learning, big data analytics, Internet of Things (IoT), augmented and virtual reality, and so forth. Despite the aspiration of these advancements, adoption of these technologies is slow and less than promising.

Track 5: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A Framework For Building A Common Good For The Built Environment

The SDGs are important in the context of the world in which we live today and that the academic community have a pivotal role in achieving these goals. This however requires connecting research and education with policy, industry, technology and civil society. The SDGs provide business organisation with a new lens through which to translate global needs and desires into business solutions. The construction industry as a sector has the opportunity to influence the realisation of the SDGs by formulating policies and regulatory frameworks that drive the adoption of sustainable construction practices in delivering a more sustainable built environment.

Track 6: Community Engagement: The Case For Service To The Community

Issues of community engagement is becoming increasingly popular in higher education programmes across the world, and there is also calls for engaged scholarship that bridges the divide between theory and practice. In some universities, this drive towards more community engagement is framed in terms of social responsibility, and this is in itself not unproblematic. There is a need to invite broader conversations that not only showcases the successes of such initiatives, but also critically reflect on the challenges and future prospects of doing more of what is framed as a 'good' thing for students, educators and societal stakeholders. This theme solicits papers that question the ways we evaluate educational effectiveness more generally and in service learning scenarios more particularly, and to also question the institutional enablers and inhibitors that make the ideals of service learning a reality.

Track 7: Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Construction

The entrepreneurial perspective is often missing in presenting a business case for sustainable development in construction. Sustainability entrepreneurs are defined as actors gaining competitive advantage through understanding and utilising sustainability issues. An objective of this track is to discuss sustainability management through the lens of sustainable entrepreneurship (including strategies, business models and management practices) in organisations operating in the built environment. This track offers a forum to discuss recent developments, results as well as ongoing interdisciplinary research activities in the intersection between construction management, sustainability management, and sustainable entrepreneurship.

Venue Information

Glasgow is a city that has survived only by creating and recreating economic, social and cultural bridges between individuals and communities. Our venues this year reflect this city's famous ability to find a common good. We are based in Glasgow Caledonian University's stunning conference centre, we visit Glasgow's City Chambers for our traditional Monday evening social evening and the recently restored Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum for our Annual Conference Dinner.

Conference Fee

The conference fee for ARCOM 2020 is £465. **Accommodation is not included within the fee.** Information on preferential rates provided by local hotels will be advertised on the conference website. An early-bird discount will apply for all registrations received before 30 June 2020. The usual discounts for ARCOM members will also apply.



Left to Right: Glasgow's City Chambers, the main conference venue at Glasgow Caledonian University and the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum

Best Paper Prizes

Rod Howes Commemorative Award for the Best Paper on 'Innovation in Construction'

Paul Townsend Commemorative Award for the Best Paper on 'Project Management'

David Langford Commemorative Award for the Best Paper on 'Social Issues and Respect for People'

CIOB Award for the 'Best International Paper'

CIOB Award for the Best Paper on 'Innovation and Sustainability'

Taylor and Francis Award for the Most Theoretically-informed Contribution

Emerald Research Methodology Award

Organising Committee

Professor. Christopher Gorse, Leeds Beckett University

Professor. Lloyd Scott, Technological University Dublin

Professor. Paul W Chan, Delft University of Technology

Dr. Apollo Tutesigensi, University of Leeds

Dr. Fred Sherratt, Anglia Ruskin University

Dr. Shu-Ling Lu, University of Reading

Dr. Robby Soetanto, Loughborough University

Dr. Chika Udejaja, University of Salford

Dr. Emmanuel Aboagye-Nimo, Nottingham Trent University

Professor. David Boyd, Birmingham City University

Dr. Vivien Chow, Loughborough University

Dr. Alex Copping, University of Bath

Dr. Patrick Manu, The University of Manchester

Dr. Michael McCarney, Retired Academic/Practitioner

Dr. Alex Opoku, University College London

Dr. Ani Raidén, Nottingham Trent University

Dr. Libby Schweber, University of Reading

Dr. Simon Smith, University of Edinburgh

Dr. John Spillane, University of Limerick

Dr. Craig Thomson, Glasgow Caledonian University

Dr. Niraj Thurairajah, Northumbria University

Contact and Further Information

Conference Organiser: Professor Lloyd Scott, Technological University Dublin E: Lloyd.scott@TUDublin.ie

Conference Secretary: Dr Christopher Neilson, The University of Manchester

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