

# **Annual Conference: Fire Related Research and Developments (RE11)**

**To be held at the Fire Service College, Moreton-in-Marsh**

Thursday 17 November 2011

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The Institution of Fire Engineers and The Fire Service College are pleased to announce details of its annual conference and to invite papers for inclusion in plenary, parallel or poster sessions. Are you or your colleagues engaged in an innovative project, research and/or development in a fire-related field? We wish to hear from individuals, Fire and Rescue Authorities and other organisations looking to showcase best practice, initiative and cutting edge research. Our conference attracts a wide audience from across the Emergency Services, the Fire Industry, Research Communities and other private or public sectors interested in the latest fire-related issues, developments and concerns. We welcome a broad range of backgrounds and professional approaches including technical, engineering, legal, social, psychological, economic, operational, national and international perspectives. This gives our conference its distinctive multi-disciplinary and multi-agency flavour.

Benefits of attending this event include the opportunity to:-

- be informed about the latest developments in research and best practice and learn from a range of approaches and perspectives on key topical issues
- profile and discuss your work by giving a presentation - in person or by poster
- apply, as a presenter, for the annual *FIRE/Gore* Research Excellence Awards – presented to the most captivating research projects and including cash prizes (£1000 for best research project and £250 for best poster.)
- informally discuss project-related issues and problems with others actively engaged in research and development work
- meet and network with a range of professionals from across fire-related communities
- receive an award of CPD hours by the IFE
- discuss opportunities for further professional development with representatives from the professional bodies such as the IFE.

**We are now inviting anyone interested in presenting at the conference to submit a short summary of their work (complete or in progress) using the attached proforma by Friday April 29th 2011.** Presentations may focus on any field of interest to the Fire and Emergency Response and Management community. This might include (but is not restricted to) projects focussing on: technical and fire engineering research; audit analysis, leadership issues, effective evaluation methods; multi-agency initiatives, partnership working, governance, employment relations, fire research statistics; integrated risk management planning; the application of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order; civil protection & disaster management; professional training and development.....etc.

In considering submissions, we will take account of the following:-

- Applications can only be considered if submitted using the attached proforma and must include the details requested and in the format stated

- This will be a mixed audience of Fire Service professionals together with people from other sectors, emergency services and industrial and academic research. Presenters should take account of this and make allowances for differences in background knowledge.
- It is our experience that papers achieve the most impact if they focus on a well defined problem and discuss issues such as methodology, results &/or the evaluation of a particular project or innovation. We look for presentations that are relevant, authentic and original.
- We particularly encourage students and those in the initial stages of projects to present their work in progress, even if results are not yet available. In this way they may benefit from valuable and supportive feedback from more experienced researchers and practitioners at the conference. A number of our presenters return to present results at subsequent conferences.
- While the conference provides an environment of support (particularly for new researchers and those with work-in-progress), research methodologies, ideas and findings will be subject to challenge/constructive peer review as befits academic meetings of this kind. Presenters must be prepared to justify their research -methods, evidence, analysis and conclusions - to an expert audience. There may be challenge and criticism and while we expect all participants to be restrained and courteous, we wish to create a forum for lively discourse.

As many submissions as possible will be included. Speakers will be invited to present short papers (typically 20 minutes with 5 minutes for questions though longer slots may be offered) in plenary or parallel sessions. Poster presentations are also welcome. If there is considerable interest in submitting papers, it may be necessary to make a selection of speakers and to offer space in the poster session to anyone not offered a speaking slot.

### **Submitting Your Proposal**

Please use the attached proforma to submit a short summary about your research and your presentation (*please use this format only; do not send whole papers or theses*). The completed form should be sent by email to the Programme Co-ordinator Dr Anne Eyre. We are happy to discuss possible topics informally prior to submission. Please feel free to contact the Programme Co-ordinator for advice or further information. Dr Anne Eyre. Email: [anne.eyre@traumatraining.com](mailto:anne.eyre@traumatraining.com). Tel: +44(0)2476-505262.

### **Registration Costs and Booking Process**

Presenters will be offered a reduced fee for attending the event. The presenter registration fee is £70 + VAT (speaking slots) and £110 + VAT (poster presenters). Prospective presenters will be notified of their selection after the April deadline when a draft programme will be issued. *At this stage presenters will be required to complete their booking online and pay the registration fee in advance in order to confirm their place on the programme.* Unconfirmed slots will be offered to standby presenters. Information for delegates, including details of the conference programme and registration procedure, will be made available during the summer.

## **Annual Conference (RE11): Presentation Proposal**

Please complete *both parts* of this application form on pages 3-4 in order to help us prepare the programme and theme the sessions. The information you send will help us understand the background and focus of your research as well as the content of your proposed conference presentation. The presentation summaries and email addresses for presenters will be reproduced in the delegate pack. Please confine your answers to the lengths specified below.

### **Part 1: About Your Research**

**1) What is/was the broad aim of your research?** (2-3 sentences only)

**2) How did/will you conduct the research?** (briefly outline your research methods; up to 5 sentences)

**3) What did you find/have you found so far?** (up to 5 bulletpoints of preliminary or final results)

**4) What should/will happen next?** (briefly review recommendations and/or further actions. You should highlight the explicit relevance of your research for policy and practice)

### **Part 2: About Your Presentation**

(Please highlight & overtype): **Title of Your Presentation**

(Please highlight & overtype): **Name(s) of Presenter(s) who will attend to present:-**

**Summary of your Proposed Presentation** (200 words ONLY)

(You may use the information provided above to draft your presentation summary)

