Living Knowledge 7 Conference Dublin 2016 – Overall Theme and Strands

Living Knowledge Conference 7 – Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Dublin, Ireland

22-24 June 2016, DIT Kevin Street and Aungier Street campuses

Conference theme

Inspire - Integrating community based partnership into learning and teaching for responsible research and innovation (RRI).

Would you like to exchange and develop knowledge and practices on how best to bring local communities, civil society organisations, students, researchers and educators together to collaboratively undertake responsible research and innovation? We would strongly encourage you to attend Living Knowledge 7 in Dublin, where we will build excitement, partnerships and policy by exploring these and other questions by means of interactive, collaborative, and engaging sessions;

- How can academics and community partners inspire students to become engaged researchers and social innovators?
- How can we contribute to making high quality research more responsive and more participatory?
- How can we encourage more people to explore and use the results of publicly funded research?
- How can we make innovation more inclusive and more universal?
- How can we inspire each other to try new approaches, change our thinking, and embed good practices?

What is RRI and why is it important?

The 7th Living Knowledge Conference is part of the EnRRICH project¹, which aims to enhance Responsible Research and Innovation through the curriculum in Higher Education. The grand societal challenges that lie before us will have a far better chance of being tackled if all societal actors are fully engaged in the co-construction of innovative solutions, strategies, products and services². Responsible Research and Innovation is a dynamic, iterative process whereby all stakeholders involved in the Research and Innovation practice become mutually responsive and share responsibility regarding both the outcomes and process requirements³.

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¹ http://www.livingknowledge.org/livingknowledge/enrrich. This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 665759.


Conference Thematic Strands

As with all Living Knowledge conferences, there will be a focus on science shops, community-based research, and other knowledge exchange and creation collaborations between local communities, civil society organisations, researchers and educators. We have encouraged those developing proposals to think about how they support students’ development of skills and capacities for collaborative research and RRI - proposals about research partnerships without a curriculum-based element, such as those related to lifelong learning outcomes, were prompted to consider potential links to learning and teaching in Higher Education.

Enhancing learning and teaching

The RRI Tools project has identified four main processes essential to RRI – diversity and inclusion; anticipation and reflection; openness and transparency; responsiveness and adaptive change. As curricula and teaching methods change, collaborative research with communities can enhance students’ learning as well as building their capacity for RRI. This capacity can equip them to become research-engaged citizens, or for careers as researchers or social/scientific innovators. Presentations will consider how learning and teaching can develop and use collaborative research community partnership methods to support the enhancement of students’ competences.

Forming effective collaborations

Building solid, effective and responsive research and innovative partnerships with stakeholders including community organisations, civil society organisations, NGOs, museums, libraries and galleries involves engaging stakeholders appropriately in different aspects of the research or innovation process. Speakers will share insight and experiences into promising ways and effective timelines to engage stakeholders so that collaborative partnership appeals to a wide range of groups and is seen as an inclusive, reflective and open process.

Ethics, diversity and inclusion

Collaborating to manage ethical, diverse and inclusive research and innovation with a focus on gender, age, ethnicity, or ability can increase quality and relevance. Presentations on this theme will consider how best to manage ethical research and innovation in a teaching and learning environment, and how to balance and share power and resources among participants.

Increasing research impact, access, and capacity-building opportunities

For collaborative research community partnerships to learn from each other to build upon and enhance previous work, the impact needs to be maximised and the outcomes made publically available. Presentations will explore how we can increase the impact of our research processes and outcomes. How can we encourage societal groups and researchers to use and build on openly available research and data; how can we ensure feedback loops to include all research partners; how can we promote effective evaluation processes, and encourage funders to support this work through policy?
Conference presentation formats

1. Workshop - 45-90 minutes length.
2. Discussion panel - 45-90 minutes length.
3. Collaborative presentation - 15-25 minutes length, including interaction.
4. Round table - 45-90 minutes length.
5. Problem-solving session - 45-90 minutes length. An exploration of a specific challenge/need with the participant group.
6. Poster discussion session - 2-5 minutes’ presentation, followed by interaction.
7. Ultra-short presentation followed by interaction (see details below) -
   Pecha Kucha (7 minutes) /Gasta (5 minutes) /Practice exchange (3 minutes) /Oral byte (5 minutes) /Flipped session (5 minutes)
8. Interactive creative format - maximum 90 minutes. This is an open format, with the outline of the format specified by the person making the submission.

Ultra-short presentation formats:

**Pecha Kucha** 20x20 is a simple presentation format where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds. The images advance automatically and you talk along to the images. This can be followed by an interactive question and answer session.

**Gasta** (the Gaelic word for fast, clever, quick, smart, snappy) is a short concise presentation with slides for practitioners to present on a collaborative activity or research idea that they are implementing. The presentation can come in a variety of forms that may involve role-play, interactivity and lecture styles. We invite you to be creative. The format is a 5 minute presentation, with timed slides on a loop, followed by Q & A at the end of the session.

**Practice exchange** is a forum for practitioners to give a short, succinct pitch on an idea or technique they have implemented in collaborative research, and the learning and/or challenges that emerged from the experience. The format is a 3-minute presentation, without slides, followed by Q & A panel session.

**Oral byte** - 5 minutes, 3 slides, no questions – short development result or idea for collaboration

**Flipped session** - Material is made available to participants in advance (e.g. via online video) thus releasing session time for discussion/application of topic.