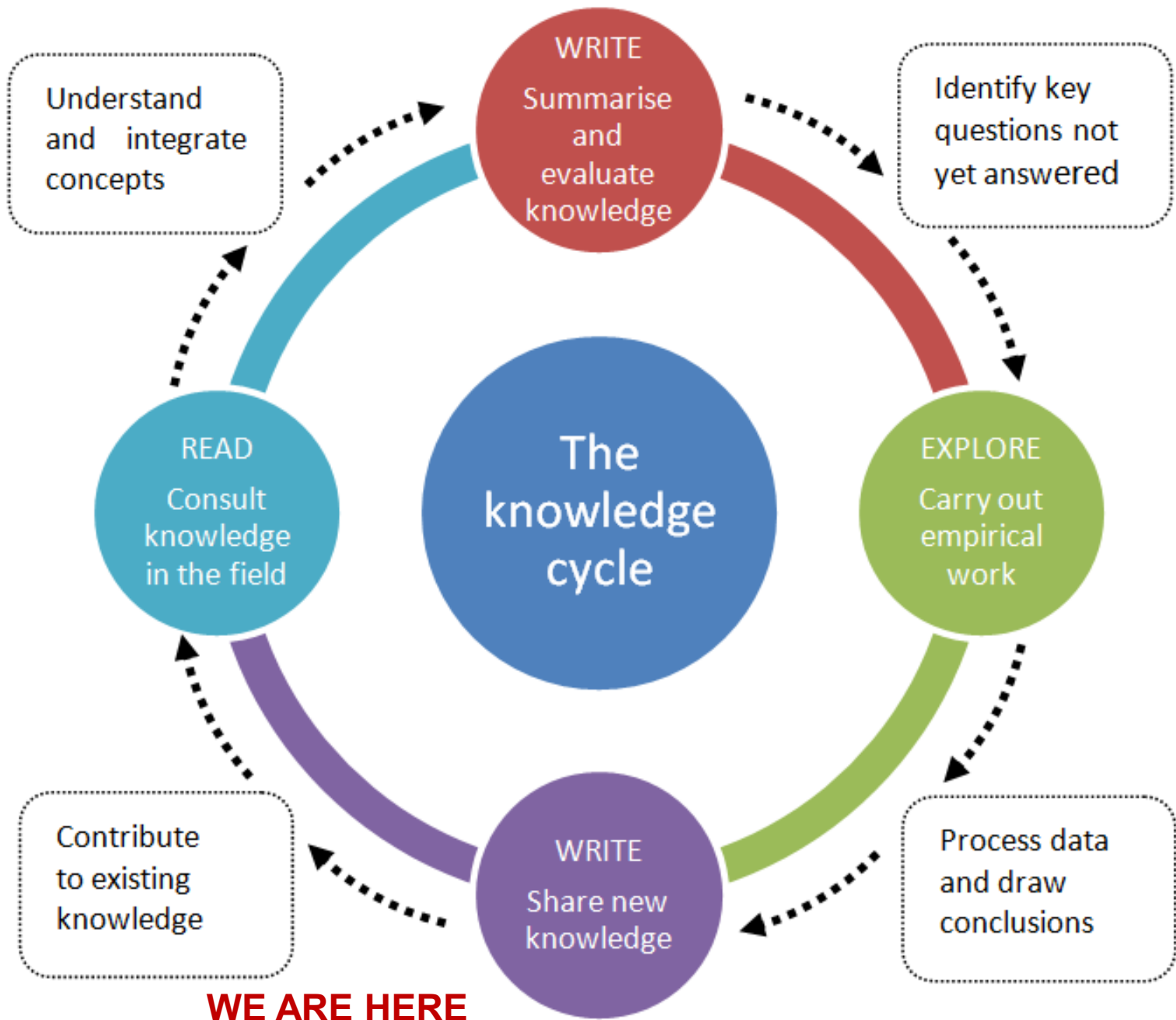




Research Capacity Building Workshop 24: Writing and submitting conference papers





Online Forum

An online forum has been set up at the following web address:

<http://dutmoodle.dut.ac.za/moodle/>

Click on category *RPS Research Capacity Building*, and click on course *Research Matters*.

Materials are posted there online after workshops, including useful articles and books.

To log in:

User ID: staff or student number

Password: research

Writing and submitting conference papers

This workshop will look at targeting various conferences, and drafting, structuring and polishing a conference paper. It will also look at how a thesis can provide the content for more than one conference paper.

Conference papers are published more quickly than articles, and provide peer feedback on one's research. However, conference papers are not considered as authoritative as peer-reviewed journal articles, and do not generate much funding.

Sometimes excellent conference papers are written but do not gain acceptance. This workshop will also look at some of the causes and how to circumvent these.

Your research as a source

Your research is a **source** for other writers/researchers:

- Citing your research demonstrates that they read recent work in the field/area.
- They can use not just your research, but other researchers' work *you* cited.
- They can use your points as evidence to support their argument or methods.

Why write conference papers?

Why bother? Can't they just read your thesis?

Reasons for writing conference papers.

- People don't want to wade through the whole thesis just to find the main points.
- Theses don't have the same authority as articles in peer-reviewed conference proceedings or journals.
- You are rated on your publication output (a thesis is *not* a publication).
- Pre-published papers help with thesis acceptance.
- The DHET grants ad hoc funding for publications.

What should a thesis generate?

Masters: at least two papers (can be co-written with the supervisor)

Doctorate: at least five papers (can be co-written with the supervisor)

Targeting conferences

Take examples from articles in proceedings of conferences on topics related to your research area:

- Content can be assessed by looking at other articles.
- Style can be assessed by looking at other articles.
- Guidelines to authors usually give the number of words/pages, font type/size and line spacing, heading conventions, general layout and bibliography style. Sometimes structures and headings are specified.
- Themes usually include “Education” or “Practice” (i.e. application of your research).

Targeting conferences contd.

Applying in the virtual category (paper only, no attendance required) means that you can publish three or four papers a year without the expense (and inconvenience) of actually *going* there (means you can target conferences which don't fall within the vac).

If you're not sure of acceptance:

- Target several virtual conferences.
- Write two or three papers based on the same research but with very different angles (or develop a theory in two or three papers).
- Chose conferences with staggered submission dates so that you don't have to write the papers all at once.
- Try beginner-friendly conferences such as the *International Conference on Learning*, which offers both a virtual category and journal publication (but which is *not* DHET approved, however).

Drafting a conference paper

Look at the following overall aspects of your master's or doctoral thesis:

- What was/is the topic of your thesis?
- What is the field/area involved?
- What are the main points of your thesis?
- Were there any new or interesting results in your research?
- To whom might this be of interest?

Drafting contd.

Whether you have completed a thesis or not:

- Have you ever had a conference paper published?
- Which conferences are most attended by academics in your field?

In view of the conference *theme/s*, what would provide the most useful content for readers?

Structuring

Introduction: What does the paper cover? Mention other research/ers in the field.

Body:

Theoretical approach

Methodology

Main findings and conclusions

Conclusion: Value of research, anything original or unusual (i.e. compared to other current research).

JOURNALS OFTEN PRESCRIBE HEADINGS.

Polishing a conference paper

To ensure acceptance:

- Proof-read for language, style and grammar.
- Proof-read for research conventions (these may be *Journal-specific*).
- Ensure author guidelines are followed precisely.
- *Never* send a rough draft or unformatted draft: The final draft must be correct and polished per author guidelines so as to be immediately publishable.
- Submit the final draft well in advance, particularly for prestigious conferences (e.g. AACE has a 17% acceptance rate).

List papers in thesis Preface

PRIOR PUBLICATIONS ARISING FROM THIS STUDY

Pratt, D.D. (2005) Social mechanism and software design: the use of a stochastic social-process algorithm in the design of a writing tutor program. Proceedings of the *3rd International Conference on Computer Science and its Applications (ICCSA-2005)*. San Diego, California, USA, June 27-30 2005.

Pratt, D.D. (2005) Modelling writing as the basis for a writing tutor computer program. Proceedings of the *Ed-Media World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications*. Montreal, Canada, 27 June-2 July 2005.

Pratt, D.D. (2006) Modelling social algorithms as design templates for educational software. Proceedings of the *IADIS Virtual Multi Conference on Computer Science and Systems (MCCIS 2006)*, 15-19 May 2006.

Pratt, D.D. (2006) Social transformation and software design: a critical realist approach to the teaching of written composition. Proceedings of the *13th International Conference on Learning*. Montego Bay, Jamaica, 22-25 June 2006. (Available as an article in the *International Journal of Learning*, Vol 13 (<http://ijl.cgpublisher.com/product/pub.30/prod.475>))

Pratt, D.D. (2006) From social algorithm to pedagogical application: some implications for educational software. Proceedings of the *9th IASTED International Conference on Computers and Advanced Technology in Education (CATE 2006)*. Lima, 4-6 October 2006.

List publications contd.

The following papers dealt with further applications of the theoretical model as (1) an educational design principle and (2) as the basis for further empirical models (e.g. a model of blended learning delivery):

Pratt, D.D. (2005) An analysis of the design features of three mixed-mode courses in a master's degree programme. Proceedings of the *IASTED International Conference on Education and Technology (ICET 2005)*. Alberta, Canada, July 4-6 2005.

Pratt, D.D. (2005) Comm. Skills Online three years down the line: reflecting on design principles in blended learning. Proceedings of the *7th Annual Conference on World Wide Web Applications*. Cape Technikon, Cape town, 29-31 August 2005.

Pratt, D.D. (2006) No middle ground, but many mansions: how a consideration of the functional architecture of communication can assist the design of effective mixed mode courses. Proceedings of the *NADEOSA 10th Anniversary Conference*. Pretoria, 23-24 August 2006 [Accepted for publication in the *South African Journal for Higher Education* in 2007].

Pratt, D.D. & Gutteridge, R. (2006) The role of the social mechanism in social transformation: a critical realist approach to blended learning. Proceedings of the *8th Annual Conference on World Wide Web Applications*. Bloemfontein, 6-8 September 2006.

Pratt, D.D. (2007) Introducing newt@dut: a mixed mode writing clinic at a multicultural University of Technology. Paper presented at the *14th International Conference on Learning*, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26-29 June 2007.

Message



Reply



Reply to All



Forward

Respond



Delete



Move to Folder



Create Rule



Other Actions

Actions



Block Sender



Not Junk

Junk E-mail



Categorize



Follow Up



Mark as Unread

Options



Find

Related

Select

Find



Send to OneNote

OneNote

OneNote

From: Louise Remenyi [louise@academic-publishing.org]

Sent: Wed 2012/08/15 02:44 AM

To: Deirdre Denise Pratt

Cc:

Subject: Publish your dissertation with Academic Publishing

Would you like to have your dissertation published?

Academic Conferences and Publishing offer a new service where by your dissertation will be converted to book format and electronically published on our website. Before a dissertation is accepted for publishing our review panel will consider whether it is of sufficient relevance and interest to our community. We will consider dissertations which have been examined and passed post 1st January 2010.

I of course realise that many of you will have completed your dissertation many years ago, and in which case I hope you would be kind enough to forward this email to new graduates who may be interested.

If you are interested in this service please email Professor Dan Remenyi at dan.remenyi@tcd.ie

Kind Regards

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

**Do *not* have your
thesis/dissertation
published as a book!**

Why not publish thesis as a book?

- Unless it was written as a book (strongly not advised!) it will need major editing and rewriting.
- A thesis published as a book is not considered to be a scholarly publication (no peer review).
- No one will buy it. (Why bother? The thesis is free!)
- Unscrupulous publishers trawl university sites for theses and target inexperienced writers in order to boost their “publication” output (and sales).
- Your thesis content becomes copyrighted so that you cannot publish any of it elsewhere.
- The DHET will not grant ad hoc publications funding for theses published as books.

Why papers are not accepted

- Submitted at the last minute (or past the deadline – but *check* for deadline extensions).
- Submitted as a rough or incomplete draft.
- Not edited and proof-read to remove errors.
- Submitted in incorrect format or page layout (e.g. docx instead of doc or pdf; wrong font, margins or page size).
- Does not follow conventions given in Author Guidelines (e.g. citations and references).
- Does not follow style instructions (e.g. not specialist enough, or *too* specialist for a multidisciplinary audience).
- Does not fit in with any of the conference themes.
- Inadequate command of language.
- Is basically boring, or regurgitated hack work.

Top Reasons Why Proceedings files Are Not Accepted for Publication

Please use this checklist to ensure that guidelines are followed:

1. Paper Size must be Letter size: 8 1/2 x 11
2. Margins must be 1"
3. Font Face must be Times or Times New Roman
4. Font Size must be 10 point (except paper Title is 14 pt)
5. Paper page length must be followed
6. References, graphics, tables all count toward total pages count
7. Must INCLUDE an ABSTRACT
8. Do NOT include PAGE NUMBERS
9. Do NOT include HEADERS or FOOTER

From :

EdMedia Guidelines for Preparation of Conference Proceedings Papers,
at <http://aace.org/conf/edmedia/procguide.htm>

Get on conference mailing lists

Keep updated with conferences in your field:

- If you show interest or have had papers accepted for conferences, the organisers will generally keep you on their mailing list.
- Certain organisations (e.g. SAIDE) will update you with regular lists of conferences in your field.
- Trawl the net for lists of conference updates.

Take a disciplined approach

CONFERENCE	KEY DEADLINES	DATE	
WIMSKI 2013	Proposal	23 JUN	X
	Author notification	27 FEB	X
	Paper due	5 JUN	X
	Registration	9 JUN	X
EDMEDIA 2013	Proposal	16 APR	X
	Author notification	13 MAY	X
	Paper due	24 MAY	X
	Registration	24 MAY	X
LEARNING CONF 2013	Proposal	5 FEB	X
	Author notification	13 FEB	X
	Paper due	(Flexible)	
	Registration	16 MAY	X

Computer > Local Disk (F:) > HOME COMPUTER > 2013 CONFERENCES

Organize Include in library Share with Burn New folder

★ Favorites

- Desktop
- Recent Places
- Downloads
- Dropbox

Libraries

- Documents
- Music
- Pictures
- Videos

Computer

- System (C:)
- Datenträger (D:)
- Local Disk (F:)
- CD Drive (G:) Red Bull Mobile
- DRAFT INTERNAL TELEPHONE DIRECTOR
- My Web Sites on MSN
- Official office hours at DUT on staffportal.

Network

Name	Date modified	Type
20th CONFERENCE ON LEARNING	2013/01/17 06:42 ...	File folder
AACE	2013/02/09 07:43 ...	File folder
AICT 2013	2013/02/03 08:25 ...	File folder
DEMSET	2013/02/05 02:52 ...	File folder
DETA 2013	2013/01/21 05:30 ...	File folder
DUT 82	2013/05/28 08:57 ...	File folder
DUT FUNDING	2013/06/19 06:04 ...	File folder
EDMEDIA	2012/12/08 08:27 ...	File folder
EISTA 2013	2013/03/01 07:03 ...	File folder
ELEARN 2013	2013/02/21 05:58 ...	File folder
IMSCI 2013	2013/03/01 07:04 ...	File folder
IREPS 2013	2013/04/15 03:03 ...	File folder
SACCOM 2013	2013/01/27 09:36 ...	File folder
SAIDE Listings	2012/12/08 08:33 ...	File folder
SITE 2013	2012/12/08 01:03 ...	File folder
UTLO 2013	2013/02/07 12:58 ...	File folder
WMSCI 2013	2012/12/29 08:13 ...	File folder
X-PIRED	2013/01/20 05:22 ...	File folder

Do not be discouraged!

Do not be discouraged! Have a long list of potential conferences and try for later ones if you miss deadlines.

The same paper may not be submitted to more than one conference at a time, but may be re-written - or submitted as is - for another conference if not accepted for the first one.

THANK YOU

