

**Call for Papers: Mediate 2015**  
***The Power of Mediation***  
**3/4 December**  
**Queen Margaret University**  
**Edinburgh**

Queen Margaret University and the Scottish Mediation Network are proud to host Mediate 2015 – *The Power of Mediation*.

The event is an international conference, attracting academics and other professionals from universities, business, public and third sector organisations, and government. And of course, we will welcome practising mediators from across the globe.

*The Power of Mediation*

The theme of the 2015 conference is *The Power of Mediation*. This will allow us to explore sub-themes, such as

- The resolving power to end disputes and conflicts;
- The transforming power to save or mend relationships;
- The power to improve communication;
- The power to enable organisations to work better;
- The power in the room: where does it lie and whose interests does it serve?
- Is mediation a tool for individuals, for the community, or for the powerful?

We are also interested in looking at mediation in context: where does it fit within current justice policy in the UK's different legal systems and abroad? How are mediative skills used by public and private sector organisations to aid better communication and help resolve disputes? What are the implications of technology for mediation?

Delegates will include academics, mediators, leaders of consumer organisations, dispute resolution professionals, business managers, civil servants, students, peer mediators, consultants, and policy makers.

## **Opportunities to contribute**

The conference will provide a range of fora for invited presenters to contribute. These are:

- Plenary panel sessions: Built around a high profile keynote speaker, these themed sessions will combine individual papers with panel discussion and audience Q&A;
- Parallel presentations: Delivered to an audience of up to 50, these sessions will allow several presenters of papers to explore sub-themes of the conference;
- Workshops: More practice oriented, workshop sessions are designed to marry the theory with the practice in an interactive style!
- Poster presentations: Researchers are welcome to submit ideas for a poster presentation, which will be displayed in one of the communal spaces throughout the conference.

## **Guidelines for Submission**

Prospective speakers may submit either a full paper or a 2-page abstract for consideration. In either case, a cover page giving the author's name and affiliation needs to be provided. The author should not be identifiable from the paper or abstract itself.

An outline of any prospective poster presentation may be made in brief narrative form, either by email attachment or a simple email.

In all cases, submissions must be in English and should be made as an email attachment (Word document) only.

Abstracts of papers presented at the conference will be made available to delegates.

### **Submission dates and review process**

Initial offers of interest should be made by Monday 13 July 2015.

Abstracts and proposals for workshops should be submitted by Wednesday 30 September. Following review, notification of acceptance will be made by Friday 30 October.

Full papers may be considered for a special post-conference publication.

Poster presentations may either be submitted directly or an invitation to present a poster may result from the review process where a paper has not been selected for oral presentation. Proposals for poster presentation should be submitted by Friday 30 October.

For all accepted submissions, the review panel will propose the most appropriate forum for presentation in consultation with the applicant.

### **Conference location**

This year Mediate 2015 moves to the city of Edinburgh, Scotland, at the superb Queen Margaret University campus located in Musselburgh. The campus is a vibrant academic village with high-tech buildings, attractive landscaped gardens, and a range of environmental features. [http://www.qmu.ac.uk/the\\_university/new\\_campus.htm](http://www.qmu.ac.uk/the_university/new_campus.htm)

Edinburgh is easily accessible for international participants and is one of the most beautiful and exciting cities in the world. It attracts thousands of tourists every year to learn more about its history and view the sights, museums, art galleries and festivals. Major attractions include Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace, the Royal Mile, the Whisky Heritage Centre and the Scottish Parliament.

### **Further information**

We will shortly have a dedicated webspace with comprehensive information about the conference in one easy to find location.

In the meantime to express interest or raise any queries you may have, please contact either:

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