



US
University of Sussex



“Perspectives on Research Plurality in Science, Technology & Innovation”

22ND ANNUAL SPRU DPHIL CONFERENCE
9TH AND 10TH OF MAY 2016
BRIGHTON, SUSSEX

2016 marks the 50th anniversary of SPRU, celebrating the legacy of its founder Christopher Freeman who in 1966 pioneered the first interdisciplinary research centre in the field of science and technology policy. Following in the rich tradition of doctoral students since 1994, we are especially pleased to announce the 22nd Annual SPRU DPhil Conference. The DPhil Conference offers doctoral students working in science, technology and innovation policy, and related fields, a dedicated platform to exclusively focus and engage with peers and prominent academics on their challenges, and build research skills in targeted areas of interest. An added feature of the conference is the opportunity offered to doctoral students for early feedback on their research in a supportive environment with other students and faculty members.

SPRU is an interdisciplinary research centre that aims to contribute to “real world questions”, challenging and contributing to positive change in a constantly evolving world. Research disciplines are becoming increasingly inter-related and diverse. New research approaches are emerging and evolving to capture multiple contexts, geographies and constituencies. Given these new dimensions and the rapid and transformative changes evident in every discipline across the globe, the theme for 2016 is “Perspectives on Research Plurality in STI”.

Day 1, 9th May – DSkills Day

Building on the theme of research plurality, the DSkills day aims to build additional competencies in dealing with research challenges faced by early career researchers. The day will include key note addresses from leading STI/socio-technical transition scholars, along with panel discussions from special guests. Sessions dealing with the different aspects of research will be offered by leading researchers and academics at SPRU and beyond, tackling topics such as:

- Awakening the “creative” social scientist
- Diversity of approaches in research methodologies addressing the challenges for the social researcher
- Impact of research beyond research institutions.

The sessions will be organised to promote active dialogue between presenters and participants.

Day 2, 10th May – DPhil Day

DPhil Day is an opportunity for doctoral students at all stages to present their research in an engaging, supportive and professional environment, in order to gain critical insights and thoughts on their work from peers and prominent scholars alike.

Call for Abstracts

The conference organisers welcome the submission of abstracts from PhD candidates at any stage of research, working at the nexus of science, technology, policy and innovation, under the following research themes:

- Economics of Innovation and Industrial Policy
- Technology and Innovation Management
- Science, Politics and Decision making
- Energy, Sustainability and Development
- Food, Energy, Health, and Human Security

If you are interested in presenting your work at DPhil day on 10th May, please complete the Google Form at <http://goo.gl/forms/coaefJoLQI>. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words in length and the call will close at midnight on March 20th. We shall notify successful abstract submissions on March 28th.

Logistics

- There is no fee for attending DPhil Day
- Lunch, tea and coffee will be provided on both days
- Participants and guests are invited to a dinner on the evening of 9th May, hosted by SPRU.
- Transport arrangements would be for the account of the participants

Carbon offset project

The aim is to offset the emissions generated as a result of this year's conference through support of one of local Brighton NGOs. Further details on emissions calculator and offset option would be available on the website (please see below).

Further details

A full programme of presentations for both days of the conference will be made available at a later date. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us, either at spru-dphil-day@sussex.ac.uk, through our Communications Co-ordinator Donal Brown d.brown@sussex.ac.uk, or via Twitter @SPRU_DPhilDay

For more information about DPhil Day please visit:

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/newsandevents/events/past/dphildays>

For more information about SPRU, please visit: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/>

For information on the 50th anniversary activities, please visit <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/about/50years>