

Randomised Controlled Trials in the Social Sciences

Eighth Annual Conference

Registration Brochure and Call for Abstracts

11th, 12th & 13th
September 2013



THE UNIVERSITY *of* York



Keynote Speaker

- ◆ **Larry Hedges**, Board of Trustees Professor of Statistics, Education and Social Policy, and Professor of Psychology Faculty Fellow, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University (USA). Hedges is well known for his work to develop statistical methods for meta-analysis. He has authored numerous journal articles and books, including the seminal *Statistical Methods for Meta-Analysis* (with I. Olkin, Elsevier, 1985) and *The Handbook of Research Synthesis for Meta-Analysis* (with H. Cooper and J. Valentine, Russell Sage, 2009).

Invited Speakers

- ◆ **Professor Sheila M. Bird**, based at the MRC's Biostatistics Unit in Cambridge, has an international reputation as a statistician researching a broad range of areas including epidemics, drugs-related deaths, and public health interventions but also the wider areas of criminal justice, veterinary science and military epidemiology. She has recently been particularly passionate about developing RCTs in the area of criminal justice.
- ◆ **Professor Clare Bambra**, Director, Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing, Durham University. Clare studied political science (BSocSc, Birmingham) and comparative public policy (MA, PhD, Manchester) before moving into public health research. Her research is highly interdisciplinary, applying theories and methods from the social sciences to epidemiology and public health. Her research focuses on health inequalities and the social determinants of health.

Eighth Annual Conference

We are pleased to announce the eighth annual conference RCTs in the Social Sciences. The conference will be an opportunity for delegates to share expertise, interests, and concerns about conducting trials in all fields of social sciences.

The conference will be held on 11th, 12th and 13th September 2013 at Collingwood College, Durham University

This conference aims to:

- ◆ Facilitate sharing and collaboration between academic disciplines in this area
- ◆ Discuss the opportunities and challenges of communicating about trials to wider audiences

Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are now invited for refereed oral and poster contributions relevant to RCTs conducted in the social sciences.

Abstracts should:

- ◆ Follow a structured format - such as Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusion
- ◆ Be no longer than 250 words, excluding references
- ◆ Include no more than three references

This year the planning committee will award prizes for the best contributed presentation and for the best poster. The prizes will be presented by the keynote speaker.

Please send submissions by 28th June 2013 by email to:

c.n.heaps@durham.ac.uk

or by post to:

Clare Heaps

Part-time Research Administrator
School of Education, Durham University
Leazes Road, Durham, DH1 1TA, UK

Venue and Travel

The conference will take place at Collingwood College, South Road, Durham University, Durham, UK, DH1 3LT. Accommodation is available in nearby Grey College, Durham.

Durham is on the main East Coast Line from London King's Cross to Edinburgh. Fast trains leave from both north and south at frequent intervals. There is also a direct service from Leeds, Manchester Airport and Newcastle. A metro service operates from Newcastle airport to Newcastle station.

Collingwood College is 2 miles from the railway station. A journey by taxi from the railway station to Collingwood College will take approximately 5 minutes. There is a taxi rank outside on both sides of the station.

The bus station is a 5 minute walk from the railway station. There is a regular bus service which stops outside the College.

Collingwood is a 30 minute walk from Durham Station through the historic city centre of Durham.

Limited car parking is available at the College. Visitors using the car park need to report to reception and provide their registration number. If the car park is full, the Howlands Park and Ride Scheme is a 5 minute walk from Collingwood. Please note the Park and Ride is open 7.00am - 7.00pm.

For information about Collingwood College, the conference venue and travel, please visit the following link:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/event.durham/venues/colleges/collingwood.college/delegate/>

Accommodation is available in nearby Grey college. Guests staying at the college can check in from 2.00 pm and check out by 10.00 am (luggage can be stored if required). On arrival please report to reception. For information about Grey College, please visit the following link:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/event.durham/venues/colleges/grey.college/delegate/>

Two workshops on how design aids and eases analysis; a typology of effect sizes and their relative merits.

Friday 13th September - Collingwood College, Durham

The programme includes two one hour advanced level workshops with questions led by Professor Larry Hedges:

- (1) How design aids and eases analysis.
- (2) A typology of effect sizes and their relative merits.

The workshop is sponsored by the ESRC-funded project forming part of the national Researcher Development Initiative and the Quantitative Methods Initiative.

The workshop is free to all, but is designed to be most appropriate to experienced social scientists and those involved in teaching quantitative methods for new researchers. Because this is part of an on-going project, the presenters will ask the audience for formative feedback at the end.



Main Conference

Wednesday 11th September and Thursday 12th September 2013

The Conference will open on Wednesday 11th September and close on Thursday 12th September. The registration fee includes lunch and refreshments on both days. The conference dinner will be held on Wednesday evening.

The Conference will include keynote and invited presentations from national and international speakers and contributed presentations on all aspects of randomised trials in the social sciences.

Professor Larry Hedges will present a keynote lecture on 'Some challenges in conducting cluster randomised field trials in education and the social sciences.'

There will be an opportunity for delegates to discuss their own trials at a one-hour 'surgery'.

The above details are correct at the time of going to print. The organisers reserve the right to make amendments to arrangements where necessary.

The conference is jointly organised by Professor David Torgerson (University of York, York Trials Unit, Department of Health Sciences), Dr Christine Merrell (Durham University, CEM) and Professor Carole Torgerson (Durham University, School of Education).

The conference workshop will be jointly organised by Professor Carole Torgerson and Professor Stephen Gorard (Durham University from 1st May) as part of the ESRC Researcher Development Initiative Wave 5 Project on Training in Quantitative Methods.

Planning Committee

Mrs Hannah Ainsworth
Ms Sally Baker
Professor Martin Bland
Professor Karen Bloor
Ms Clare Heaps
Dr Catherine Hewitt
Dr Christine Merrell
Dr Amanda Perry
Dr Gerry Richardson
Professor Carole Torgerson
Professor David Torgerson
Dr Andy Wiggins

Research Fellow and Trial Co-ordinator
Conference Administration
Professor of Health Statistics
Professor of Health Economics and Policy
Conference Administration
Senior Research Fellow and Statistician
Director of Research and Senior Lecturer, CEM
Senior Research Fellow
Senior Research Fellow
Chair in Education
Director, York Trials Unit
Associate Director of Research and Evaluation, CEM

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Registration Form

Title	First Name	Last Name
Organisation	Department	
Address		
City		
County		
Postcode		
Email	Telephone	
Dietary and Special requirements (e.g. vegetarian/vegan/kosher/halal/other)		

Registration Fees: (Please Tick)

If you plan to attend the conference only, please complete section A. If you plan to attend both the conference AND the workshop, please complete sections A and B. If you plan to attend the workshop only, please complete section B.

Section A.

Early Registration

(payment received up to and including 26th July 2013)

Conference fees (two days: 11th and 12th September) £250	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 11th September) £125	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 12th September) £125	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening Dinner (11th September) £30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optional Trip to Lindisfarne Gospels exhibition (11th September) FREE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Standard Registration

(for payment received after 26th July 2013)

Conference fees (two days: 11th and 12th September) £300	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 11th September) £150	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 12th September) £150	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening Dinner (11th September) £30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optional Trip to Lindisfarne Gospels exhibition (11th September) FREE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Student Registration

Conference fees (two days: 11th and 12th September) £100	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 11th September) £50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference fee (one day only: 12th September) £50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening Dinner (11th September) £30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optional Trip to Lindisfarne Gospels exhibition (11th September) FREE	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section B.

Workshop

Workshop led by Professor Larry Hedges (13th September) FREE	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Method of payment

PLEASE QUOTE 'RCT CONFERENCE 11TH-13TH SEPT' ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.

Online registration and individual credit/debit card payment only visit <https://www.dur.ac.uk/conference.booking/details/?id=196>

Cheque - Amount enclosed: £_____

Please make cheques payable to 'Durham University' and send together with completed registration form to the address below.

If you would like to pay by invoice, please tick this box and the conference administrator will contact you.

Accommodation

There are a limited number of ensuite single rooms available at Grey College (a 5 minute walk from Collingwood College). If you would like to reserve accommodation for the event, please indicate your requirements below. The conference administrator will then be in contact with you regarding your booking.

Tuesday 10th September	Single ensuite (Bed and breakfast) £44.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 11th September	Single ensuite (Bed and breakfast) £44.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday 12th September	Single ensuite (Bed and breakfast) £44.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please advise us of any special accommodation requests or accessibility requirements.

Details of accommodation available in Durham can be found at <http://www.thisisdurham.com/>

Please send completed registration form and payment to:
Daryl Dowding, Durham University, Event Durham, Mountjoy Centre, Maple Wing, Stockton Road, Durham, DH1 3LE.

Email: conferenceadministration.service@durham.ac.uk