

## Registration Form

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Title   | First Name   |
| Last Name   | Organisation |
| Address   |              |
| Postcode  |              |
| Telephone   | Fax          |
| Email   |              |
| Special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian/vegan/kosher/halal/other) |              |

### Registration Fees: (Please Tick)

#### Early Registration (payment received up to and including 30th July 2010)

Workshop alone (including buffet lunch and wine reception) FREE\*

Conference fees (two days) £225

Dinner £25

  
  

#### Standard Registration (for payment received after 31st July 2010)

Workshop alone (including buffet lunch and wine reception) FREE\*

Conference fees (two days) £275

Dinner £25

  
  

#### Student Registration

Workshop alone FREE\*

Full Conference £75

Dinner £25

  
  

\*Sponsored by the ESRC

#### Accommodation

There are a number of single en-suite rooms available on campus at a cost of £52.75 per night, including breakfast. If you would like to reserve accommodation for the event, please indicate your requirements below and include the appropriate additional payment along with your registration fee.

Monday 20 September 2010

 Single

Tuesday 21 September 2010

 Single

Please advise us of any special accommodation requests or accessibility requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

The University website also provides details of bed and breakfast facilities in York. View: [www.york.ac.uk/np/visitors.htm](http://www.york.ac.uk/np/visitors.htm)

#### Method of payment

Please quote ref: 4011 C0095901 on all correspondence

Cheque - Amount enclosed: £\_\_\_\_\_ (Please tick if enclosing cheque)

Please make cheques payable to 'The University of York' and send together with your completed registration form to the address below.

Direct Bank Transfer - Amount transferred: £\_\_\_\_\_ (Please tick if paying by bank transfer)

Please indicate which days you are attending and your name on all money transfers.

Name of account: University of York, bank: HSBC, Branch: 13 Parliament Street, York YO1 8XS,  
Sort Code: 40-47-31, Account No: 20898201

# Randomised Controlled Trials in the Social Sciences: Methodological Advances in Experimental Research Fifth Annual Conference

## Registration Brochure and Call for Abstracts

20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>th</sup>  
September 2010

THE UNIVERSITY *of York*



### Keynote Speaker

- ◆ Professor Don Green is A. Whitney Griswold Professor of Political Science at Yale University, where he has taught since 1989. Since 1996 he has served as Director of Yale's Institution for Social and Policy Studies.

### Invited Speakers

- ◆ Professor Peter John is the Hallsworth Chair of Governance and Co-director of the Institute for Political and Economic Governance at Manchester University, UK.
- ◆ Professor Chad Nye is Executive Director of the University of Central Florida, US, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities and Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.
- ◆ Professor Faye Taxman is a University Professor in the Administration of Justice Department, Co-facilitator of the Network for Justice Health, and Director of Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence.



THE YORK  
TRIALS UNIT



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



Please send completed registration form and payment to: Conference Administrator, Lower ground floor, YTU, ARRC Building, Department of Health Sciences, University of York, Heslington, York, YO10 5DD.

Telephone: (01904) 321726 Email: [RCTs-conference@events.york.ac.uk](mailto:RCTs-conference@events.york.ac.uk)

## Fifth Annual Conference

*We are pleased to announce the fifth annual conference addressing the theme 'RCTs in the Social Sciences: Methodological Advances in Experimental Research'. 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 20, 21 and 22 September 2010 in the Berrick Saul Building at the University of York.

This conference aims to:

- ◆ Facilitate sharing and collaboration between academic disciplines in this area
- ◆ Facilitate methodological advances in experimental methods
- ◆ Introduce advanced thinking in experimental methods

## Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are now invited for refereed oral and poster contributions relevant to:

- ◆ Methods
- ◆ RCTs in the social sciences and systematic reviews including RCTs

### *Abstracts should:*

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

*Please send submissions by 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010 to:*

RCTs-conference@events.york.ac.uk OR Sally Baker  
Lower Ground Floor, YTU  
ARRC Building,  
Department of Health Sciences  
University of York,  
Heslington,  
York, YO10 5DD

The conference is jointly organised by Professor David Torgerson (University of York, York Trials Unit), Professor Carole Torgerson (University of Birmingham), and Professor Steve Higgins (Durham University).

## Venue and Travel

The conference will take place in the Berrick Saul Building, University of York, UK. York 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 across the Pennines between York, Leeds and Manchester Airport. The University is two miles from the railway station. A journey by taxi from the railway station to the University will take approximately 15 minutes. There is a taxi rank just outside the station. Parking at the University is very limited, however, delegates wishing to travel by car should visit [www.york.ac.uk/np/maps](http://www.york.ac.uk/np/maps) for maps and directions to the University campus and further information about parking fees and restrictions.

## The Programme includes a choice of two free workshops sponsored by the ESRC

### Parallel Workshops

- ◆ Workshop 1 - An Introduction to RCTs
- ◆ Workshop 2 - Advanced Meta-analysis

**Monday 20th September 2010 in the Bowland Lecture Theatre, followed by wine reception**

### Workshop 1

- ◆ David Torgerson: Design issues in social science trials: David will talk about design issues with respect to social science trials. Cluster trials are more vulnerable to a range of post-randomisation biases, such as recruitment, exclusion and attrition bias compared with individually randomised studies. David will look at threats of these biases and discuss how modifying the design of a trial may allow us to avoid them.
- ◆ Martin Bland: Allocation methods: Martin will describe allocation in practice. He will describe simple and blocked randomisation, the problems of matching, and the advantages and difficulties of stratification. He will describe the minimisation method with an example drawn from a cluster randomised trial.
- ◆ Martin Bland: The analysis of trials using cluster allocation: Martin will show the dangers of ignoring the clusters in the analysis of cluster randomised trials. Some different methods will be used to analyse a trial in education, including both cluster level and individual level analyses. The results will be compared.
- ◆ Chad Nye: Assessing Methodological Quality of Randomised and Quasi-Experimental Trials: This session will use an example of a systematic review of RCTs and QEDs in the field of speech/language pathology to provide a detailed analysis of the methodological quality of experimental and quasi-experimental group designed studies in the area.
- ◆ Karen Bloor, Chair, all speakers: Panel discussion: This will be an opportunity to ask speakers anything about the contents of the day or anything else concerning trials.

### Workshop 2 - Advanced meta-analysis (Speakers and programme to be confirmed)

- ◆ Level 3.
- ◆ Suitable for those involved in undertaking meta-analysis or those who have completed Levels 1 and 2.
- ◆ The workshop will cover an advanced methodological issue in meta-analysis.

## Main Conference – Tuesday 21 September, Wednesday 22 September, 2010

The Conference will open on Tuesday 21 September and close on Wednesday 22 September. The registration fee includes buffet lunch and refreshments on both days. The conference dinner will be held on Tuesday 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. There will be an opportunity for delegates to discuss their own trials at a one-hour 'surgery' on Tuesday 21 September.

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