

Author Guidelines – EdTech 2014

Fifteenth Annual Conference of the Irish Learning Technology Association *Eurovision 2020: Technology Enhanced Learning for a New Horizon*

Call for Contributions

We are delighted to invite Irish and international participants to submit abstracts for inclusion to the fifteenth Annual Conference of the Irish Learning Technology Association. There will be opportunities for submitting and presenting (i) **research papers** (ii) **practitioner papers** (iii) **Gasta**¹ (brief rapid-fire micro presentations) (iii) **ePosters** and (iv) **Practice Exchange** that relate to the conference themes from pedagogical, research, **innovation, policy and organisational perspectives**.

Key Dates

- 8 January 2014 Call for Abstracts
- 29 January 2014 Author Guidelines available from <http://ilta.ie/>
- 28 February 2014 Conference submission system open from <http://ilta.ie/>
- **18 March 2014** **Closing date for abstract submissions**
- 9 April 2014 Notification of Authors
- 11 May 2014 Final versions of accepted abstracts accepted for inclusion to Programme
- 26 May 2014 All presentations submitted
- 29 – 30 May 2014 EdTech 2014 Conference, UCD, Dublin, Ireland

Conference themes

Irish higher education is undergoing fundamental structural reform at a national level, while engaging in an increasingly globalised market place. As we move towards 2020 student participation, retention and resourcing challenges sit alongside policy and practice tensions. However, the core issue of **quality in higher education** remains of paramount importance for all educational stakeholders.

The EdTech 2014 conference theme, *Eurovision 2020: Technology Enhanced Learning for a New Horizon*, aligns with the forthcoming EU strategic report ‘**New Methods of Delivering Quality in Higher Education**’ (Due June 2014 by the EU High Level Group for the Modernisation of Higher Education which is chaired by former President Mary McAleese). The aims of this conference are (1) to pro-actively contribute to this agenda-setting debate; and (2) provide a tangible evidence-base to inform our own policy and practice through knowledge and practice exchange. **Your submissions will contribute to this agenda.**

Abstracts for papers aligning with the conference theme and addressing the following topics will be welcomed:

- Online Education - MOOCs, SPOOCs and SPOCs – how to, why to, or not to
- Digital Literacies for All Stakeholders – students, staff, institutions and governments
- Show me the Evidence-Base – informing policy and practice
- Learning Technologies – Disruptive or Reductive?
- eAssessment – the REAL student and staff focus
- Digital Badges – new currency or non-runner?
- mLearning – flexible learning for lifelong learners
- Learning Analytics – rationale, process and application
- Flipped/BYOD Learning – innovative use of scarce resources or DIY learning?
- Digital Identity – data, presence, ownership, safeguards
- Engaging with EU programmes – who, what, when, how?
Where mHealth & eLearning intersect – meeting societal challenges, patient centred care, continuous professional development.

¹ *Gasta* (adjective): An Irish word meaning fast, clever, quick, smart, snappy (Ref. *Irishionary.com*). Our thanks go to Dr. Tom Farrelly, IT Tralee for this suggestion.

How to submit an abstract

All abstracts should be submitted online via the conference website, accessible from <http://ilta.ie/> from the **28th of February 2014.**

Conference Tracks

Abstracts will be welcomed for the following tracks:

1. Research Paper

Please submit a 500 word abstract describing research (methodology, findings and results) on new or emergent ideas, technology or practice, and the benefits of this research to teaching and learning. Presentations in the research strand are similar to the short paper strand format, but with a presentation of 25 minutes, and allowing approx. 10 - 15 minutes for questions at the end of the strand session.

Authors will be notified by 9th April. Authors of accepted research papers will be invited to submit their full paper to a [TEL Ireland Journal](#) (Special Edition) after the conference. See *Guidelines for Full Paper submissions* for more information.

2. Short Practitioner Paper

Please submit a 300 word abstract describing an application or evaluation of technology-enhanced learning, and the benefits of this initiative to teaching and learning. Short papers should be no more than 15 minutes in length and allowing approx. 10 - 15 minutes for questions at the end of the strand session.

Authors will be notified by 9th April. Authors of accepted short papers will be invited to submit their paper to a [TEL Ireland Journal](#) (Special Edition) after the conference. See *Guidelines for Full Paper submissions* for more information.

3. Gasta

Gasta (the Gaelic word for fast, clever, quick, smart, snappy) is a short concise presentation with slides for practitioners to present on an activity or research idea that they are implementing with students or their colleagues. The presentation can come in a variety of forms that may involve role-play, interactivity and lecture styles. We invite you to be creative with this one. The format is a 5 minute presentation, with timed slides on a loop, followed by moderated Q & A at the end of the session.

Please submit a 300-word abstract outlining the idea you used and the lessons/challenges for teaching and learning. Authors will be notified by 9th April.

4. ePosters

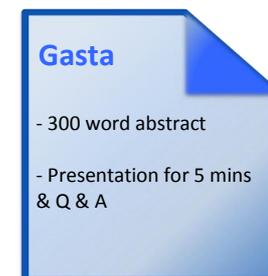
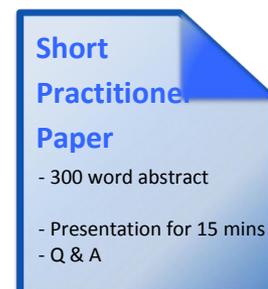
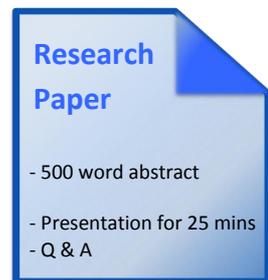
ePosters or electronic posters are a new feature this year, and offers an alternative to the traditional paper poster. Authors will be able to present and discuss their work in the moderated ePoster session. The format is a 5 minute presentation, ePosters will be timed on a loop, followed by moderated Q & A at the end of the session. Delegates can view ePosters on their smart phones. See *Guidelines for ePosters submissions* for more information.

Please submit a 300 word abstract describing your ePoster/electronic poster. Should your abstract be accepted, you will be invited to submit a poster for publication. Authors will be notified by 9th April.

5. Practice Exchange

Practice exchange is a forum for practitioners to give a short, succinct pitch on a idea or technique they have implemented with students, and the learning and/or challenges that emerged from the experience. The format is a 3-minute presentation, without slides, followed by Q & A.

Please submit a 100-word abstract outlining the idea you used and the lessons/challenges for teaching & learning. Authors will be notified by 9th April.



Conference tracks at a glance

Strand	Abstract	Presentation	Publication
Research Paper	500 words	25 minutes with Q & A	Authors will be invited to publish after the conference. 2,500 – 5,000 word count. Conference Proceedings with ISBN, Printed Book of Abstracts, Special Edition of TEL Ireland Journal .
Short Practitioner Paper	300 words	15 minutes with Q & A	Authors will be invited to publish after the conference. 1,500 – 2,500 word count. Conference Proceedings with ISBN, Printed Book of Abstracts, Special Edition of TEL Ireland Journal
Gasta	300 words	5 minutes with Q & A	Printed Book of Abstracts
ePoster	300 words	5 minutes with Q & A	Printed Book of Abstracts
Practice Exchange	100 words	3 min pitch. Moderated short session with Q & A	Printed Book of Abstracts

Review Criteria and Marking Policy

All abstracts are subject to full, double blind, review by at least two peer reviewers. Accepted abstracts will be published in the electronic Conference Proceedings with ISBN and in the printed Book of Abstracts. Authors of accepted papers will be invited to submit their abstract as a full paper to a [TEL Ireland Journal](#) (Special Edition), after the conference.

Key dates:

Final abstract submission (for inclusion in book of abstracts): Sunday, 11th May 2014

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Privacy Statement

The names and email addresses entered in the online publication / Book of abstracts / programme will be used exclusively for the stated purposes of this journal and will not be made available for any other purpose or to any other party.

Guidelines for Abstract Submissions

Please submit your final version abstract in a suitable electronic "source" format. The following source formats are accepted:

- Open Document Text Format (ODT): Prepared using any suitable word processing system, such as Open Office or Google Docs.
- Microsoft Document Format/Open XML (DOC, DOCX): Prepared using any suitable word processing system, such as Microsoft Word, Open Office or Google Docs
- Apple Document Format: Prepared using Pages

Please use British English spelling and idiom throughout. Ensure that the manuscript has been fully spell-checked and proof-read for grammar, punctuation etc., before submission.

Abstract Format and Structure

The abstract should contain the following information:

- Title (maximum 40 words)
- Authors and affiliation
- Paper Type: e.g. Practitioner paper, etc.
- Your abstract (maximum word count for your paper format). - <http://ilta.ie/edtech/edtech2014/author->

[guidelines/](#)

- Keywords: A list of key terms for indexing etc.
- Citation and referencing should be done in conformance with the Harvard / APA (author/date) style.
- Web Hyperlinks to resources external to the manuscript should be embedded and associated with relevant link text using the appropriate native mechanism of the electronic format in use. In general, web addresses (URLs) should not be exposed in the normally visible text. Where references are available online, the title in the reference list should be hyperlinked as appropriate.
- The text should be single-spaced; uses a 12-point sans serif font; and all illustrations, figures, and tables are placed within the text at the appropriate points, rather than at the end.

Guidelines for Oral Presentations

- Your oral presentation will describe an application or evaluation of technology-enhanced learning, and the benefits of this initiative to teaching and learning. Your presentation should typically contain: introduction, clearly stated objectives, case studies, examples, learner experience, conclusions/implications, future plans, etc.
- Depending on the track of the conference, your session will allow for dedicated time for presentation and dedicated time for questions and discussion, at the end of the strand session. See <http://ilta.ie/edtech/edtech2014/author-guidelines/> for presentation and Q & A timelines.
- Your session will be chaired by an ILTA committee chair. Please make yourself known to the chair on the morning of your presentation. The chair will introduce you at the beginning and facilitate a 5 -10 minutes Q & A session at the end of the strand session. They will be vigilant with the start and end times to ensure your session is coordinated with the concurrent sessions, so please watch your time!

Guidelines for ePoster submissions

- Prepare your ePoster in PowerPoint (versions 97-2003, 2007, 2010 & 2013). Supported PowerPoint files types are .ppt & .pptx
- Your message can be demonstrated visually, and interactively by embedding multimedia content (e.g. videos, animated charts or graphs, hyperlinks, 3D models) along with static elements, (e.g. titles, logos, and summaries).
- We recommend using sans serif fonts such as Arial & Verdana) in font size 12 or larger for plain text).
- Supported video types are the following: .ava, .wmv, .mov, .mpg, .mp4.
- Maximum number of slides for your ePoster is 10. Do not animate your slides & do not layer images, graphics, etc.
- The total file size should not exceed 15 Mb.

Technical assistance

- If you have any queries throughout the day, just ask the registration desk to direct you to the technical assistants for your room. All rooms will have a desktop, projector, Internet access and speakers for sound. We will also cater for most generic software (e.g. Office, flash plug-ins, java applets, windows media, etc.). Queries on the day will be directed to the on-site conference support team.
- An Interactive whiteboard will be made available for demonstrating the ePoster sessions.
- All presentations will be uploaded to a dedicated server in advance of the conference, to ensure there is no delay between sessions.

Please refer to <http://ilta.ie/> for all information,

Best regards,
EdTech 2014 Review Committee