About Colloquium

The second Action Research Colloquium which brings together practitioners and action researchers from different fields such as business, industry, healthcare, education and tourism will be held in Waterford Institute of Technology on 24th & 25th May 2012. Building on the success of last year, the 2012 colloquium will have a focus on sharing and exploring experiences working with action research or other collaborative research approaches.

The colloquium ethos is on opening conversations. The programme will have two streams: paper presentations and practice workshops. The colloquium theme for 2012 is ‘Collaborative Research - Values and Impact’. To facilitate the colloquium’s conversation focus, both streams will be structured to maximise time for discussion.

Additional workshops will address getting work published, building interest in action research across different fields and influencing policy. The Action Research Colloquium will provide an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to present their work and to engage with critical issues emerging in the field. The conference will have Professor Rami Shani and Dr Clare Rigg as keynote speakers.

The Action Research Colloquium should be of interest to:

- Researchers undertaking action research
- Supervisors of students engaging in action research
- Participants (academic and practitioners) in action research projects
Call for Papers

There are two choices for paper submission corresponding to two activity streams at the colloquium:

Stream 1 – Academic Papers

If you wish to present a paper at the colloquium on the theme of ‘Collaborative Research - Values and Impact’, you are invited to submit an extended abstract describing your work. Abstract format is outlined in Appendix A.

If your abstract submission is accepted by the colloquium committee and you wish your paper to be published in the colloquium proceedings you must submit a full paper by May 23rd 2012. Please note this is an optional choice only and authors are not required to submit a full paper unless they desire inclusion in the colloquium proceedings. Please see Appendix B for details.

Stream 2 - Practice Papers

A key element of the colloquium programme will be the opportunity to share experiences of working with action research or other collaborative research approaches. If you have a story to tell about your experience of action research or collaborative research more broadly, we invite you to write a Practice Paper, an extended abstract of up to 1500 words providing thoughtful reflections on practice. Please refer to Practice Workshop section on page 4 for more details. Abstract format is outlined in Appendix C.

Extended deadline for all abstracts – May 7th 2012

Deadline for full papers (if applicable) – May 23rd 2012
Colloquium Highlights

Keynote speaker: **Professor A.B. Rami Shani**

Rami works at Orfalea College of Business, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California and at the School of Management, Politecnico di Milano, Milan Italy.

Rami developed an interest in collaborative work in organizations while working for the Israeli Institute of Productivity in the late 1970. For many years, based at Case Western Reserve University, Calpoly University, Stockholm School of Business, Tel Aviv University and Politecnico di Milano, he continued to work with organizations and practitioners while advancing both the scientific body of knowledge around action research and collaborative management research methodologies and the development of scholarly practitioners. He is the author, co-author or editor of 21 books and over 80 articles. Most recent books include “Organizing for Sustainable Effectiveness” (Volume 1, Edited with S. Mohrman, Emerald, 2011); “Fundamentals of Organization Development” (4 Volumes, Edited with D. Coghlan, SAGE, 2010), “Research in Organization Change and Development (Edited with W. Pasmore and R. Woodman, Emerald Publications”, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012-in press) and “The Handbook of Collaborative Management Research” (Edited with B. Pasmore, S. Mohrman, B. Stymne and N. Adler, SAGE, 2008).

Keynote speaker: **Dr. Clare Rigg**

Clare Rigg works at the Institute of Technology Tralee, Ireland. Following an early career in economic development and urban regeneration in Birmingham, England, she developed an interest in collaborative working that was further fostered through encountering action learning as an approach to management development in 1990. For many years, based at the universities of Birmingham and Birmingham City, she worked with practitioners from across diverse sectors, integrating action research and action learning into organisation development, management learning and community development work, continuing this work with a move to Ireland in 2005. Her doctorate, completed at Nottingham Business School in 2001, took a discursive approach to exploring relations between management learning and organisation practice. She is particularly interested in the inter-relationships between multiple levels of learning and change. She has researched and written on action learning, critical action learning, collaborative working and organisational development, including three co-authored books Action Learning, Leadership and Organizational Development in Public Services (Routledge, 2006); Critical Human Resource Development: Beyond Orthodoxy (FT Prentice-Hall, 2007) and Learning and Talent Development (CIPD, 2011).
Interactive sessions

Academic Papers Presentations

A key element of the colloquium programme will be the opportunity to share experiences and research ideas. We invite submission of abstracts for our academic paper strand. Papers should ideally address a specific theme for learning rather than present a description of the project. Academic papers will be presented in parallel sessions grouped around the broad themes of the submitted abstracts. Papers should address the value and impact of the research that is conducted. The aim of the colloquium is to generate discussion and debate on the papers presented. Presenters will have an opportunity to publish their work in conference proceedings.

Practice Workshop

The colloquium will also include a Practice Workshop as a forum for the presentation and discussion of practice papers. All authors of practice papers accepted will be invited to participate and the workshop will be hosted by a panel of experienced action research practitioners. A practice paper is more than just a platform for the exchange of techniques. We are interested in the insights you can share with colloquium participants or questions that have been raised for you about the practice of collaborative research. Practice papers are also not expected to be heroic success stories. Their uniqueness lies in the authors’ story and their own authentic thoughtfulness about their practice. Therefore we ask you to locate yourself in the story – to make visible your role and involvement in the process. Because we do not all mean the same thing when we use the terms ‘action research’ or ‘collaborative research’, as a starting point, practice paper authors are asked to explain their assumptions about Action Research and where they take their thinking about action research/collaborative research from. However, a long review of everything ever written on action research is not necessary, unlike the extensive referencing required for refereed academic papers.

To maintain the ethos of the Colloquium’s emphasis on conversations, the practice workshop will be held in the following format:

i. Two presenters will be asked to introduce their own papers (10 min each)

ii. A panel member will present a distillation of key points from all other papers (20 min)

iii. The panel and the audience will discuss themes raised by papers
Organisation and preliminary schedule

The colloquium has been designed as a two-day programme:

DAY 1 - Thursday, 24\textsuperscript{th} May 2012

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<tr>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Registration</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcome &amp; introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Developing an action and collaborative research community:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Geralyn Hynes</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Professor Rami Shani</td>
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<td>Practice Workshop</td>
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<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>Paper Presentations</td>
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<td>Evening</td>
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<td>Colloquium Dinner</td>
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DAY 2 - Friday, 25\textsuperscript{th} May 2012

| Morning  | Keynote Address: Dr Clare Rigg    |
|          | Response: Professor Rami Shani    |
|          | Coffee Break                      |
|          | Developing action research beyond the individual project: discussion groups |
|          | End of Day 2                      |
Colloquium cost

- Colloquium fee is €95 (including coffee breaks, lunch on the Day 1, and Colloquium pack)
- Colloquium + Evening Dinner is €140

Local hotel costs vary from €65 to €77 per night single corporate rate and are not included in the conference fee. A special rate of €30 per night is available for campus accommodation. Check colloquium web site www.arcolloquium.weebly.com for details.

Venue and travel

The colloquium will be held at the Main Campus, Waterford Institute of Technology, Cork Road, Waterford (exact venue is to be confirmed).
Booking Options

**Option 1:** You may book the event and pay the fee online at [www.arcolloquium.weebly.com](http://www.arcolloquium.weebly.com).

**Option 2:** Alternatively, you may complete the booking form *(Appendix D)* manually and send it with the relevant fee to the address specified below.

Organising Committee

Prof. David Coughlin  
Trinity College, Dublin

Dr. Geralyn Hynes  
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Dr. Derek O'Byrne  
Waterford Institute of Technology

Dr. Denise O'Leary  
Institute of Technology, Tralee

Dr. Clare Rigg  
Institute of Technology, Tralee

Contact Information

Should you have any queries in relation to the Colloquium, please contact:

Ms. Inna Kuzmenko  
Conference Administrator  
Waterford Institute of Technology  
Cork Road  
Waterford  
Tel: (+353) 51 302042  
Fax: (+353) 51 378792  
Email: actionresearch@wit.ie
Researchers interested in presenting their work in the colloquium should submit an extended abstract describing their work. The extended abstract in PDF format should be submitted to actionresearch@wit.ie on or before 7th May 2012. It must be written in English according to the guidelines specified below:

- Word Count – Not exceeding 1500 words including references
- Title: 14pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman Font
- Author(s); Organization and e-mail: 10pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman
- Body: 12pt single spaced, Times New Roman Font
- Abstracts should be submitted in PDF format

Primary authors are responsible for the content of their abstracts.
Full Paper Format

If the paper is to be published in the colloquium proceedings, it must be submitted to actionresearch@wit.ie by May 23rd 2012. The full paper should be written in English according to the guidelines below:

- **Word Count** – Not exceeding 7000 words including references
- **Title**: 14pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman Font
- **Author(s); Organization and e-mail**: 10pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman
- **Body**: 12pt Times New Roman Font, Line spacing 1.5
- **Margins**: 3.5cm
- **Full papers should be submitted as a Microsoft Word Document**
- The title, keywords and abstract are important for ensuring others find your article through online search engines such as Google.
- **Provide full contact details for the corresponding author including email, mailing address and telephone numbers. Academic affiliations are required for all co-authors.**

Primary authors are responsible for the content of their full papers.
Researchers and practitioners interested in participating in the Practice Workshop should submit an extended abstract describing their work.

The extended abstract in PDF format should be submitted to actionresearch@wit.ie on or before 7th May 2012. It must be written in English according to the guidelines specified below:

- Word Count – Not exceeding 1500 words including references
- Title: 14pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman Font
- Author(s); Organization and e-mail: 10pt, Bold, Centered, Times New Roman
- Body: 12pt single spaced, Times New Roman Font
- Abstracts should be submitted in PDF format

Primary authors are responsible for the content of their abstracts.
Appendix D

Booking Form
(for Booking Option 2)

Action Research Colloquium 2012

Title & Name: _______________________________________________________

Address (home): ______________________________________________________

Organisation (where registered if student): ________________________________

Department: __________________________________________________________

Email address: ___________________________ Mobile number: ___________________

I would like to book:

Colloquium ___________________________ €95   □

Colloquium + Evening Dinner ___________________________ €140   □

Please, make Cheque/Bank Draft payable to Waterford Institute of Technology.

Form to be returned to:

Ms. Inna Kuzmenko
Conference Administrator
Waterford Institute of Technology
Cork Road
Waterford:
Tel: 051 302042
Fax: 051 378792