

IT'S ALL ABOUT

NET ZERO

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE

IT'S ALL ABOUT NET ZERO – THE ERA EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS' CONFERENCE - 15th to 19th JUNE 2020

PROGRAMME

| Date and Time | Event |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 15 June 10am - 12pm | Opening Address and Expert Guest Speakers |
| Tuesday 16 June 10am - 12pm | Three-minute thesis style presentations |
| Wednesday 17 June 10am - 12pm | Post-doctoral researcher talks |
| Wednesday 17 June 7pm- 9pm | Quiz Night |
| Thursday 18 June 10 am – 11:30am | Panel discussion “Main barriers to achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2050” |
| Thursday 18 June 7pm | Pub PhD’s |
| Friday 19 June 10am - 12pm | Energy100 challenge presentations Closing remarks and Prize Giving |

Please contact James Blay: James.Blay4@nottingham.ac.uk for Zoom codes.

Posters

The virtual posters gallery shines a spotlight on the wide spectrum of energy research specialisms of our ERA affiliated researchers. Posters are be presented in a virtual poster gallery hosted on the ERA conference webpage.

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Guest Speakers

| Presenter | Title of presentation | Time |
|---|--|---------|
| Professor Andy Dainty, Loughborough University, Academic Lead, ERA Skills | Welcome to the ERA Early Career Researchers conference | 10.00am |
| Professor Martin Freer, Director of ERA, University of Birmingham | The Energy Research Accelerator and our Big Ideas for the future | 10.15am |
| Professor Mark Gillott University of Nottingham | Research in action – The Trent Basin project | 10.35am |
| Professor Zoe Robinson Keele University | Research in action – The HyDeploy project | 10.55am |
| Katherine Jackson, Technical Director, WSP | The future of energy in the UK | 11.05am |
| Questions and Answers | | 11.25am |
| Finish | | 11.50am |

3MT style Talk

Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) is a research communication competition developed by The University of Queensland (UQ). Participants will have three minutes (and a single slide) in which to present a compelling oration on their thesis and its significance. The aim is to challenge our doctoral students to consolidate their ideas and research discoveries so that they can present them concisely to a non-specialist audience. Winners will be awarded a £50 Amazon voucher and the opportunity to compete in the National Three Minute Thesis competition organised by Vitae.



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Post-doctoral researcher talks

The post-doctoral researcher talks will shine a light on the research our ERA partners and their associates are carrying out in the Energy sphere. Talks will be 15-minute-long with 5-10mins for questions at the end.

| Presenter | Title of presentation | Time |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Dr Mohamed Sakr Fadl | TBC | 10.00am |
| Dr Richard Sieff | TBC | 10.25am |
| Dr Derek Yan | TBC | 10.55am |
| Dr Abdelrahman Zaky | TBC | 11:20am |

Quiz Night

Join us to test your general knowledge and get to know other ERA members better at our annual ECR conference quiz. There is a grand prize of a £20 Amazon voucher up for grabs.

Panel Discussion

Each panel member will give a brief informal 5 min talk introducing themselves and very briefly what they feel are the main barriers to achieving Net Zero. This will be followed by a Q&A session; questions may be sent in advance of the session by emailing Lennie submitted during the session via the chat function of Zoom.

Panel members

Professor Martin Freer



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Martin Freer is a nuclear physicist, Director of the Birmingham Energy Institute at the University of Birmingham and the Director of the Energy Research Accelerator. In 2015 he co-led the Birmingham Energy Institute Commission, chaired by Lord Teverson, examining "Doing Cold Smarter", and in 2012 he led the Policy Commission, chaired by Lord Hunt, on the "Future of Nuclear Energy in the UK".

Dr Alison Mohr



Alison Mohr is an interdisciplinary social scientist working at the intersection of energy, environment and society. Alison has 17 years' experience working in academia on societal challenges and the role of energy and environmental technologies and social innovations as enablers of socio-economic and environmental change in different cultural and political-economic contexts; mostly as social science lead on large-scale transdisciplinary and transectoral research

collaborations.

Professor Upul Wijayantha



Upul Wijayantha graduated from University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka and read his MPhil at the Institute of Fundamental Studies, Sri Lanka. In 2007 he moved to the Department of Chemistry in Loughborough University to take up a Lecturer position. In 2014 he was promoted to Professor of Physical Chemistry. His main research areas of interest are Renewable Energy generation - Photovoltaic Cells, Solar Hydrogen Cells and Thermoelectric devices (Materials, Devices, Characterisation, and Scale Up), Energy Storage – Supercapacitors, Batteries (Materials, Devices, Characterisation, and Scale Up), Energy Conservation - Smart Windows and IR Switchable Windows (Materials, Devices, Characterisation, and Scale Up), CO2 reduction/conversion/trapping (Materials, Devices, Characterisation, and Scale Up) and Material Preparation/Processing Under Microwave - for a wide range of applications including energy.

Professor Naomi Brookes

Naomi Brookes has recently been appointed as WMG's first Professor of Complex Programme Management with a brief to establish a brand-new research capability for WMG in Project,



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Programme and Portfolio Management. Naomi began her career in in the aerospace industry with Rolls-Royce plc. Since then she has worked in academia in both business and engineering faculties (where she has held a prestigious Royal Academy of Engineering professorship) and has founded her own consultancy practice. She has authored over 130 peer-reviewed journal papers, and has conducted research projects funded by a wide variety of organisations including the UK Research Councils and the European Science foundation. Naomi 's work has been used by organisations such as the OECD, the European Commission, the European Investment Bank and the World Economic Forum.

Pub PhDs

Grab yourself a large cup of tea (or beer) sit back and relax whilst two of ERA’s PhD students, Donald Inns and Evé Wheeler-Jones entertain you with their science know how. Talks suitable for 12 years and above.

Energy 100 challenge

For the last four months some of ERA’s doctoral and post-doctoral researchers have been working on solutions on how we can create a low carbon industrial cluster in the midlands by 2020. During ERA’s ECR virtual conference we will be holding a session where the participants will present their ideas to a “fake/mock” research funding panel via a summary document (one-page A4) plus a virtual presentation.

Closing remarks and Prize Giving

Join us in thanking all the participants of our action-packed ERA ECR conference. Find out who our competition winners are and what the next steps for the ERA Skills Academy is.

Feedback

Thank you for attending our first virtual ERA ECR conference. We would love to get your feedback on our conference, the good, the bad and the truly spectacular. We will send you a feedback form and would be very grateful if you could please complete it.

We hope to see you at our next ECR conference!

