



**The 27th International Conference of the System
Dynamics Society**
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
Call for Papers for the PhD Colloquium
26 July 2009



The PhD colloquium, which became an important piece of the International Conference of the System Dynamics Society, is a one-day event devoted to the works of the PhD researchers working on foundations, techniques, tools, and applications of the System Dynamics approach. The colloquium, which is composed of an intensive academic program as well as a social gathering, is planned to take place on 26th of July, 2009.

We warmly invite PhD students especially in the early to middle stages of their research to present their research proposals and progress at the colloquium. You will receive valuable feedback from the experienced researchers in the field as well as from fellow students. Even if you are not presenting your work, you are still more than welcome to join the PhD Colloquium on the day. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow students from around the world and exchange ideas.

Objectives

Apart from aiming to foster interactions among the PhD community in the field, the main objective of the colloquium is to create a discussion environment where the PhD researchers in the early stages of their research may benefit from the experience of the senior academicians, practitioners and other students in the field.

Slightly different from the regular sessions in the conference, main focus during the PhD colloquium is aimed to be on the challenges being faced by the PhD researchers in their topic, rather than on communicating the results of completed research. In that respect, researchers in an early stage of their research are especially encouraged to make submissions for the event.

Format of the colloquium

The first part of the colloquium is the plenary sessions, followed by workshops. Accepted submissions are presented during the plenary sessions, and these sessions are followed by workshops dedicated to the individual presentations in the plenary sessions. This way it is aimed to have more focused discussions about each presentation. The second part of the event is the poster presentations, during which PhDs have the chance to have one-to-one discussions about their study with the audience.

Submissions

The submissions can be made in two different formats. Participants can either submit an extended abstract (i.e. 5-6 pages), or a full paper (i.e. maximum of 20 pages). The participants are expected to follow the brief guidelines given below. These guidelines summarize the core content that shall be provided in each submission. The priority will naturally be given to the submissions that comply with the given guidelines as much as possible. In any case, the participants are expected to complete the cover page that can be downloaded from the Student Chapter's website, and submit their papers/abstracts with this cover page.

The researchers with papers that are the outcome of an already completed research are highly recommended to consider submitting them to the regular program of the conference.

The submissions will go through a blind review process. The clear statement of the problem, the research objectives and the challenges will be the key components evaluated in this review process. The submissions to the colloquium will be made through the on-line submission system of the conference.

Guidelines for Extended Abstracts:

This alternative is especially intended for students in the early stages of their research. First of all, the extended abstract shall introduce the research project. In order to do so, they are expected to provide clear information about the research topic and the objectives (i.e. research questions), as well as the methodological approach planned for tackling the research problem. Secondly, current state of the project, and the future stages shall be summarized briefly. Considering the overall objectives of the colloquium, the participants are highly recommended to discuss experienced and foreseen challenges/problems in order to enhance the effectiveness of any feedback both from the reviewers and also from the audience during the event.

Following set of questions may provide some guidelines in shaping the content of the extended abstracts to be submitted;

- What are your research question and the objective of your work (i.e. research problem)?
- How does your research relate to former research done in that field? (i.e. Are there former works on the same issue, and if so, in what aspect does your research differ from them?)
- Which aspects of your research problem make system dynamics an appropriate approach for it?
- What are your model's boundaries?
- What are your dynamic hypotheses?
- What are the important feedback loops you can identify?
- Which insights do you expect to get?

Guidelines for Full Papers:

First of all, the content of a full paper should cover the issues highlighted for the extended abstracts. Hence the guidelines given for the extended abstracts are also valid for the full papers.

The full papers are expected to be more like an intermediate progress report of the research. In that sense, apart from the points highlighted for the extended abstracts, the papers are expected to provide a more in depth discussion about the current status of the study and the preliminary findings. Depending on the type of research, this may include detailed discussion of the model structure and preliminary output, or the setup used in group model building sessions, etc., for example.

Key Dates:

02 January 2009 : Opening date for paper submissions
23 March 2009 : Submission deadline
13 May 2009 : Notification of acceptance

Contacts:

PhD Colloquium Organizers

Gönenç YÜCEL, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands
Christian LEHR, Mannheim University, Germany

For any question regarding the colloquium program or submissions you may contact us through the following email address; phdcolloquium@systemdynamics.org



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Cover Letter for Submissions

1. Presenter: (Please Include Contact Details)

2. Thesis Supervisor:

3. Description of Research Topic:

4. Keywords:

5. Expectations from the Colloquium:

6. Possible Questions for the Discussion Session: