



Innovations in Built Environment Education 2017: “Learning Matters”

iBEE 2017: Thursday 7th – Friday 8th September 2017

with informal welcome event on Wednesday 6th September

Birmingham City University

First Call for abstracts

January 2017

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you as Chair of CHOBE to give you advance notice of iBEE 2017 conference – which has developed into *the* ‘can’t miss’ event for networking, CPD and acquiring fresh ideas about learning and teaching in built environment higher education. Organised and sponsored by CHOBE with support from industry, the event in 2017 is being hosted by Birmingham City University.

The emphasis this coming year will be on building up a community of Built Environment Education Practitioners. While we will include a range of keynote speakers and formal presentations, in response to feedback, we will allow more time for workshops and constructive conversations to facilitate exchange of views and deepening understanding of the issues that face those delivering education.

The conference fee will include a social agenda incorporating an optional informal social event on the Wednesday evening before the programme starts formally on Thursday morning. The conference fee, as usual will allow for a one or 2 day attendance with the 2 day attendance including the cost of the Gala Dinner on Thursday evening.

Birmingham City University’s Eastside Campus, which is the venue for the conference is located right in the heart of the city within easy walking distance of the main line train stations. It forms a part of a multi-million pound regeneration scheme and the modern buildings provide state of the art facilities. Birmingham itself has a rich economic and cultural history dating from medieval times, though rising to prominence during the enlightenment and the industrial revolution, resulting in achieving its current status as England’s ‘second city’.

Here is the link to the venue: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/maps-and-campuses/city-centre-campus>

On the Wednesday evening prior to the main conference proceedings there will be a free guided walking tour of historic Birmingham followed by a pay-as-you-go supper at a local restaurant.

Building on the success of prior iBEE events, this year's overarching conference theme is '**Learning Matters**' which, I hope you will agree, is extremely topical in the light of the emphasis of the newly introduced Teaching Excellence Framework. We hope you will use this opportunity to showcase your innovations in relation to supporting student learning, to celebrate the achievements of your staff and to share this with colleagues from the UK and elsewhere.

In addition the conference will feature presentations from the Award Winners of the annual CHOBE Grants Scheme, details of which can be found on the website (www.chobe.org.uk).

Full details of the call for submissions will be found shortly on our website (<http://chobe.org.uk/ibee-2017/>). **The date for submission of proposals is 31st July 2017.** Applications will normally be notified of the success or otherwise of their applications within 2 weeks. The full conference fee is **£250 to include the Gala Dinner and the single day rate is £115.** Delegates requiring accommodation will need to book separately at an extra cost. A list of hotels close to the University will be made available shortly on the website.

More details, including keynote speakers, prizes, and our Conference sponsors, will be made available nearer the date of the Conference so keep an eye on the website.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either of our Executive Officers, Jane Kettle and Sarah Sayce on info@chobe.org.uk who will be pleased to help you.

Best wishes and we look forward to seeing you in Birmingham in September 2017.

Jane Wright

Chair, CHOBE

20th January 2017