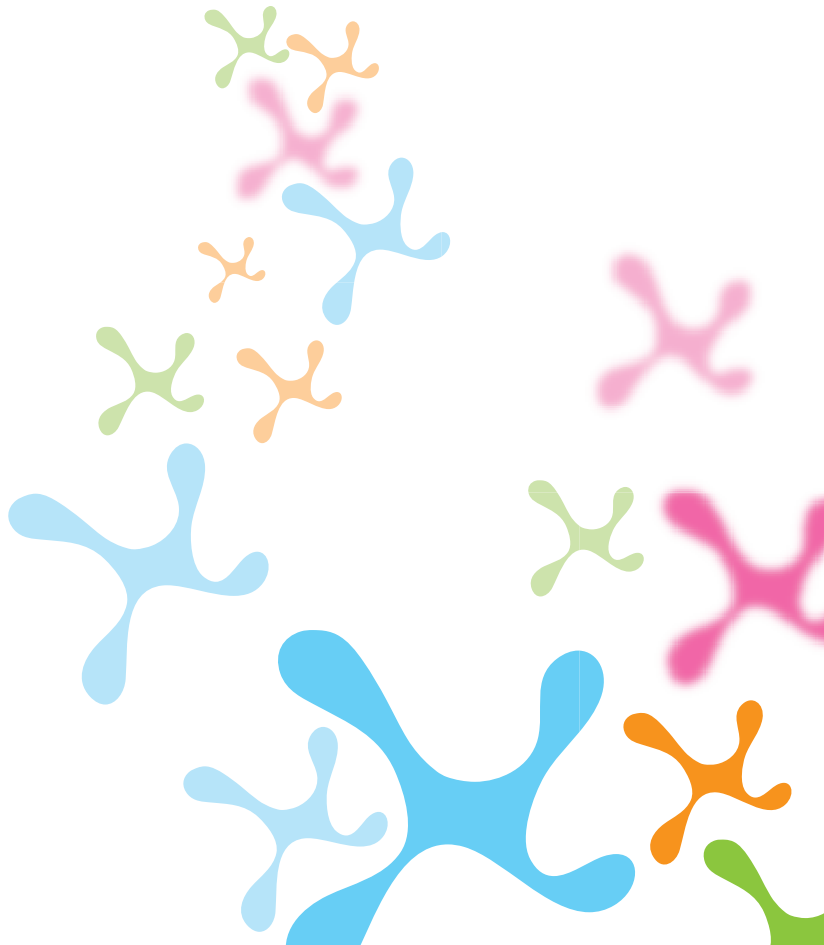


Shaping the Future?

9th International Conference on Engineering & Product Design Education
Northumbria University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK,
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Foreword

E&PDE 2007: Shaping the Future?

The 9th International Conference on Engineering and Product Design Education Conference was organised by the School of Design at Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne in participation with the Design Education Special Interest Group (DESIGN) of the Design Society, the Institution of Engineering Designers (IED), in collaboration with the British-HCI Group and endorsed by the Design Research Society (DRS).

The call for papers resulted in receiving 157 abstracts from 231 authors who were from 29 countries. These abstracts were reviewed by the conference committee and authors of 140 abstracts were invited to submit a full paper. We have received 104 papers. These full papers were double blind reviewed by the International Scientific Review Board members. Finally the conference committee assessed cross-check the finally submitted papers with the recommendation from the International Scientific Review Board members.

The joint Engineering and Product Design Education conference series began in 1999 Glasgow. The event has continued on annually with conferences at Brighton (2000), Derby (2001), Coventry (2002), Bournemouth (2003), Delft (2004), Edinburgh (2005) and Salzburg (2006).

This 9th International Conference on Engineering and Product Design Education (EPDE) conference has brought together representatives from education and industry who have an interest in shaping the future of design education. The conference provided a forum for educators and researchers from product development, engineering and industrial design, together with industry and government representatives to discuss current educational issues and the nature of design education in the future. The conference theme 'Shaping the Future?' provided the opportunity for participants to exchange ideas and build collaborative relationships. In keeping with the inclusive ethos of the EPDE conference participation in the conference took a number of forms such as paper, poster, workshop and exhibition presentations.

We would like to thank a number of people who have been helpful in organising the conference and preparing this set of proceedings. These include: team from the Institution of Engineering Designers Alison Parker and Nadine Pearce; Louise Taylor who created and maintained the conference website; Jamie Steane who encouraged his students to provide artwork proposals for this conference, Liam Connor whose design proposal was adopted; Tracey Urwin, Wendy Hutchinson and Suzanne Stelling who organised the local events; and every member of the International Scientific Review Board who provided their time and expertise during the review process.

On behalf of the Conference Organising Committee

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