

WORKSHOP

CO-PRODUCTION RESEARCH: Planning for impact March 10th and 11th 2008 – Aston University

The term co-production research is used to cover the many forms of research in which academics undertake research in collaboration from companies, and public and voluntary sector organizations. Co-production goes beyond just the provision of funds and access to research sites, and requires the active engagement of practitioners in planning and executing the research, and disseminating findings.

A key goal of co-production is the generation of knowledge that is more readily applied in practice. The importance of co-production research is widely recognised by policy makers, business leaders and academics. It can be highly rewarding, but it is also more intellectually, socially and politically demanding and entails big commitments and higher risk.

The Advanced Institute of Management Research (AIM), with the University Of Bath School Of Management, will be holding a workshop which aims to address the problems and pitfalls of collaborative research, and develop knowledge and skills required for effective co-production research.

This intensive, practical workshop is aimed at leaders of co-production projects which are at the proposal or design stage, and academics and practitioners who wish to develop joint research. Over two days, four eminent guest speakers will also act as tutors for group work during which participants will have the opportunity to develop and refine their research project and plan its implementation.

The aim of the workshop is to directly contribute to participants' project outcomes and impact through developing their capability as project leaders and the quality of the research proposal/design.

Participants' (prospective) projects may be small, medium or large scale, for qualitative or quantitative research, or both, and may follow any of the many forms of co-production. It is not necessary for academic participants to have identified their corporate research partners. Practitioner partners are however welcome to attend the workshop.

Workshop Objectives

By the end of the workshop, participants will:

1. better appreciate the risks and potential benefits of co-production research
2. have developed relevant knowledge and skills for undertaking collaborative research, and for leading such projects
3. have improved the design of their future research project
4. have developed their plans for leading and managing the project

Workshop Organizers and Speakers

The workshop is being organized by **Professor Andrew Pettigrew**, Dean, University of Bath School of Management and **Dr Louise Knight**, Senior Lecturer in Management, School of Engineering and Applied Science, Aston University. They will present findings from their AIM funded research project on collaborative management research.

The guest speakers/tutors participating in the workshop are:

- **Professor Elena Antonacopoulou**, Professor of Organizational Behaviour at University of Liverpool Management School (UK), Director of GNOSIS, Fellow of the Advanced Institute of Management
- **Dr Trish Reay**, Assistant Professor, Department of Strategic Management & Organization, School of Business, University of Alberta (Canada), Faculty of the Health Organization Studies programme and PI of Organizational Learning in Primary Health Care Innovation project
- **Professor Stuart Green**, Professor, School of Construction Management and Engineering, Director of the Innovative Construction Research Centre, University of Reading (UK)

Drawing on their extensive practical experience, each speaker will present the challenges and potential rewards of co-production research focusing on the key elements of leading, designing, executing, analysing and disseminating research.

Drs Astrid Wissenburg, Director for Communications and Information at the **ESRC** will attend day 2 of the workshop, to present current ESRC thinking on engagement, co-production and the policy/practice impact of research.

Venue and schedule

- The workshop will take place at Aston University's Lakeside Conference Centre in central Birmingham on March 10th and 11th 2008.
- It is a 10:00 start with registration and coffee from 09:15, and a 14:30 close on Day 2.
- Note there will be evening working on Day 1.

Costs and registration

There is no fee for the workshop. Accommodation and catering costs will be covered by AIM including, where it is considered necessary, the cost of an overnight stay in Birmingham prior to the workshop on March 9th.

If demand for places permits, we would be pleased to have more than one delegate per co-production research project. Please note - at least one must be from the UK.

Cancellations within 14 days of the date of the workshop will incur a fee of £200 unless we are able fill the place.

Attendance at this event is by registration only; please send an email to Katy McKen, University of Bath School of Management at mnskem@management.bath.ac.uk.

You will be asked to complete a short questionnaire about your co-production research project. For prospective participants who don't yet have funding, the organisers will ensure that they are not direct competitors, so there may need to be some selection.

If you have any queries regarding this event, please contact Katy McKen on 01225 383492.

For general enquiries about AIM please contact: Claire Fitzpatrick, Press and Communications Officer at claire.fitzpatrick@wbs.ac.uk