

**34th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MILITARY OPERATIONAL RESEARCH  
(34 ISMOR)**

**18th to 21st July 2017**

**Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, UK**

**SYMPOSIUM ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

ISMOR is an annual international symposium sponsored by the UK Ministry of Defence. Its purpose is to foster excellence in analysis and its application to defence and security through providing a forum for staff in government departments and agencies, international organisations, academia and industry. It is open to all who would like to participate in its discussions. Participants from all nations are welcome; recent symposia have included delegates from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the UK and USA. The Defence Special Interest Group of the UK Operational Research Society and the US Military Operations Research Society both provide strong support. ISMOR is self-funding and non-profit making.

Attendance at ISMOR offers a unique opportunity to spend four days exploring the application of analysis to practical issues in defence and security with a wide range of colleagues from across the world. As well as inspiring experienced practitioners with exposure to new approaches, innovative solutions and providing informal testing of ideas, it offers excellent development to early career analysts and an opportunity for the users of analysis to understand its potential.

This year's ISMOR symposium will be held at Royal Holloway, University of London, from Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st July 2017. The venue is self-contained with all accommodation on-site, enabling delegates to complement the presentations, discussions and workshops with extended ad hoc discussion and networking.

**The programme**

Papers and posters are sought on all aspects of the application of analysis to defence and security. We welcome practice-based papers that explore case studies, demonstrate new techniques and shed light on our most important issues.

This year we are particularly encouraging papers to support the over-arching theme of:

*“Keeping Analysis Fit for Purpose”* examining the conduct of high-impact analysis in a complex and resource-constrained world.

Topics of interest include:

*‘Making every penny count’ – covering issues of resource limitation, affordability and value-for-money*

*Dealing with the complex contemporary operating environment – analysis addressing activities such as hybrid warfare and cyber security*

*Harnessing advances in technology for the benefit of analysis – covering areas such as Big Data, advanced analytics, modelling and simulation architectures*

The themed sessions will be complemented by further sessions addressing all aspects of defence and security, and on the Wednesday there will be workshops, a dedicated poster

session and tutorials covering techniques, professional practice and case studies. Posters will be especially welcome from early-career analysts, who are able to attend the symposium at a specially reduced rate.

### **Our venue**

Royal Holloway is located next to Windsor Great Park, just 19 miles from central London and close to Heathrow Airport. There is easy access by train from London and the M25 and M3 motorways are nearby. Royal Holloway has modern conference facilities and accommodation as well as the historic Founder's Building, set in extensive grounds. All guest rooms are en-suite with complimentary Internet access. There are a fitness suite and sports facilities.

### **Booking**

The symposium will begin on Tuesday 18th July and will end after lunch on Friday 21st July. The cost of attendance will be £1145 and there will be a discounted rate of just £995 for those who register and pay by 31st March 2017. This fully inclusive fee covers the symposium, accommodation and all meals including the Symposium Dinner. For those with long journeys, it will be possible to stay on Monday night at extra cost.

For those unable to attend the whole event, it is possible to attend specific days. This will be at a cost of £250 per day, to include lunch and refreshments but not dinner or accommodation; overnight accommodation and dinner will be available at extra cost.

Alternatively, for those who wish to attend the whole symposium but make their own off-site accommodation arrangements, attendance at all four days' sessions, including lunch and refreshments, will cost £800. Individual evening meals, including the Symposium Dinner, can be added as required, at the appropriate additional cost.

Early-career analysts (in the first 3 years of an analysis career) and undergraduate and postgraduate students will be able to attend the full event for a heavily discounted price of just £600 including all meals and accommodation, or just £100 for an individual day without accommodation. Such delegates are especially encouraged to submit a poster for the Wednesday poster session.

Double accommodation and meals for accompanying partners or guests are available at extra cost, but this does not permit their attendance at symposium sessions.

All prices are subject to VAT at the current rate of 20%.

To secure your place at this year's symposium, please use the online registration facility at [www.ismor.com](http://www.ismor.com). In a change from previous years' arrangements, this facility is being provided by Royal Holloway, whose conference office will also handle any booking and payment enquiries; details are on the booking site. Online payment may be made by credit or debit card, although not, we regret, by American Express. There is no additional fee for payment by credit card. If you wish to request an invoice for subsequent offline payment by bank transfer or cheque you should contact the Royal Holloway conference office in advance of any registration.

Please note that The ISMOR Foundation Ltd reserves the right to decline any registration that it believes would compromise in any way the aims or success of the symposium.

### **Submission of papers**

If you are offering a paper or poster please submit an abstract (up to 200 words) as soon as possible and certainly before 30th April. Abstract submission is via the online registration

system. However, it is not necessary to do this on initial registration: please register as soon as you know that you are coming to the symposium; if your abstract becomes available later, then simply go back into the system and select the 'amend registration' process.

Papers will be selected on the basis of the abstract but there is also the option for full peer review of papers: if you wish to choose that, please indicate so when you submit your abstract. Notification of papers accepted will be sent with the Joining Instructions. Authors will be asked to give permission for publication of their paper on the ISMOR web site and an electronic copy will be required before the symposium.

Further information, updates to the programme and the archive of papers from previous years are at the symposium website: [www.ismor.com](http://www.ismor.com).

Judith Rawle

ISMOR Lead Chair  
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