



Innovation through Design Thinking

Track Chair

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The parallel disciplines of design and innovation research are drawing together. This is evidenced in the emergence and increasing profile of research combining innovation and design, for example *Design Inspired Innovation* (Utterback, 2007) *Design Thinking and the Experience of Innovation* (Wylant, 2008) the *Art of Innovation* (Kelly, 2006). There are also more innovation specialists writing on design and designers writing on innovation. In management research, innovation is often described as the realisation of invention (ideas or concepts) into practice. This separation of the concept of invention is a defining characteristic often shared by design research. Both design and innovation have their roots in renaissance thinking and activity where, the designer emerges from craft activities resulting in the separation of the 'doing' from the 'thinking'. Lawson (2007) arguing that the 'perceptual span' obtained through this separation of idea and making allows for much accelerated more dynamic innovations to be developed

This track will allow scholars, researchers and practitioners from innovation and management studies as well as those involved in design research to generate and communicate new insights into the relationships, practices, processes and assumptions that (in)form different disciplines of design thinking. We invite papers that address these or similar questions and topics:

- Histories and evolutions of design thinking and innovation
- Case studies on innovation through design thinking
- Methods and practices of design thinking
- Critical reflections on innovation in relation to design thinking
- Interpretations of design thinking
- The idea of innovation as design thinking
- Are there innovations without design?
- Is design thinking an innovation method?
- Design thinking as an innovation paradigm
- The role of foresight and forecasting in innovation and design
- Innovators and designers: One and the same people?
- How does innovation link to sustainability?

Keywords: Innovation, Design Thinking, Collaboration, Practice