



Call for Papers and Participation for the ARCOM Workshop Series on 'The Meaning of Numbers' Part 1, The University of Manchester, 11-12 December 2017

This is a two-part workshop series on the 'Meaning of Numbers', which originated from discussions on the quality of quantitative studies in the field of construction management research. There was acknowledgement of the need to improve statistical literacy and a need to strengthen the design and execution of quantitative research in the field. Second, there was also discussion around the creation and use of numbers, raising questions around how numbers are produced and consumed and with what intended and unintended consequences.

In the first part, a two-day workshop will take place on Monday 11 December 2017 and Tuesday 12 December 2017. This workshop is targeted mainly at doctoral students in the second and third year of their studies. The purpose of the workshop is to provide a space to share experiences of the difficulties of designing quantitative research, and to improve the technical competency of researchers in reading/reviewing, interpreting and presenting quantitative analysis.

We are now inviting short paper contributions from prospective participants who wish to participate in this workshop. Requirements for the short papers are as follows:

- Short papers must be around 1,500 to 2,000 words in length, excluding the list of references.
- The short paper must clearly contain (i) the research question and the rationale for this question; (ii) description and justification of the quantitative data collection approach, and (iii) explanation of the quantitative data analysis and a main (indicative) finding.
- Short papers must be sent to paul.chan@manchester.ac.uk before **2359hrs GMT on Monday 30 October 2017**. Please state 'Meaning of Numbers' in the email subject heading when sending your short paper.

The short papers will be reviewed and participants selected to present their work as the basis for the two-day workshop will be notified by Friday 17 November 2017. Travel and accommodation will be paid for these selected participants.

The two-day workshop will have two main foci. On the first day, the focus will be on crafting research questions, and methods of quantitative data collection and analysis. Day 2 will focus on reading, interpreting and writing up quantitative research. There will be ample opportunity for individual reflection, facilitated group discussions and sharing of experiences on doing and interpreting quantitative research in the field.