



FOOTBRIDGE2014

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

LONDON, UK
16-18 JULY 2014

Preliminary Invitation
and Call for Papers



Supported by:

RIBA

Bridge
DESIGN & ENGINEERING

The Institution
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Engineers

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Ian Firth (left) and Mike Schlaich

INTRODUCTION IAN FIRTH & MIKE SCHLAICH

Since its inauguration in Paris in 2002, the triennial *Footbridge Conference* has established itself as a highlight of the regular international conference programme for anyone engaged in the design, construction and maintenance of footbridges. What started in Europe now attracts speakers and participants from all around the world, and the London conference in 2014 promises to continue this trend.

In recent decades, footbridge designers have been able to push the boundaries much further than ever before. This is largely due to growing capabilities in computer visualisation and analysis techniques, as well as developments in materials technology and other factors. As a result, designers are able to imagine and create ever more adventurous designs. However, such imagination and creativity must inevitably be subject to economic, environmental, social and other constraints that continue to place important controls on what finally gets built. In this conference, we will explore a number of these issues, to enable delegates to learn from one another and benefit from the knowledge and experience of practitioners from all around the world.

Modern footbridges provide ample opportunity for adventurous structural and artistic expression, to create dramatic bridges which do much more than merely provide safe passage. However, it is not

always appropriate to build extravagant gestures just because it is possible to do so, and in many cases the right solution will be much more modest and gentle. Knowing when to do something is every bit as important as knowing how to do it, so we will also explore some of the philosophical issues surrounding footbridge design as well as the purely technical and practical ones.

We are also concerned with the maintenance, preservation and rehabilitation of existing footbridges. Looking after our existing bridge stock is a vital part of our responsibility to future generations, and achieving maximum sustainability and durability must be an essential part of our design process. Likewise we recognise the importance of learning from the lessons of the past, so this aspect will also be covered by the conference programme

The international scientific committee will review all abstracts and papers with a view to maintaining the high quality of presentations already established in previous conferences, and hopefully setting a new benchmark for future events in the *Footbridge* series. We look forward to welcoming you to London in July 2014 for what promises to be an important, influential and enjoyable conference.

Ian Firth and Mike Schlaich are co-chairs of the scientific committee.



Call for papers

Participants wishing to present a paper should submit a one-page abstract in English using the template on the homepage at www.footbridge2014.com. The abstract must be submitted via the link on the website. Hard copy, email or fax submissions will not be accepted. The subject must relate to the theme and topics or it will not be considered, and the specific topics addressed by the paper should be indicated.

One-page abstracts will be printed and published in the conference proceedings, so the layout and format must follow the correct template. Illustrations may be included as long as the one page limit is not exceeded.

ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013.

Authors of accepted papers will be expected to attend and be able to present their paper in good English at the conference.

Pre-registration

Visit the event website to register your interest in the event www.footbridge2014.com

Publication

The printed conference proceedings will contain the one-page abstracts of all papers accepted by the scientific committee. The full version will be included on a CD-rom enclosed with the proceedings.

Note that publication of the paper is conditional upon registration to attend the conference by the author.

Theme and topics

The conference theme is *Footbridges: past, present & future*. This is deliberately broad and intended to cover all aspects of footbridge planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance.

The main theme is supplemented by the following topics:

- Historical and heritage structures
- Dynamic response and structural behaviour
- Inspirations in footbridge design
- Planning, design and construction of sustainable footbridges
- Advances in materials technology for footbridge construction
- Future directions in footbridge design and construction

Papers will be allocated to one of the above topics.

Important dates

September 30, 2013

Deadline for submission of abstracts

December 2, 2013

Notification of provisional acceptance

February 3, 2014

Deadline of submission of full papers

March 31, 2014

Notification of paper acceptance

July 16-18, 2014

Conference



Exhibition

An exhibition of specialist products and services will take place at the conference venue. Potential exhibitors should contact Lisa Bentley at L.Bentley@hgluk.com

Sponsorship

A limited number of sponsorship packages are available, to connect corporate partners with key audiences through a range of branding and thought-leadership opportunities. Companies wishing to register an interest should contact Lisa Bentley at L.Bentley@hgluk.com

Social programme

A social programme will be organised for all participants including a gala dinner and welcome reception. Further details will be published on the conference website www.footbridge2014.com

Organising committee:

Helena Russell (chair), Lisa Bentley, Keith Brownlie, Peter Curran, Brian Duguid, Ian Firth, Simon Fryer, Martin Knight, Angus Low, Tim Outteridge

Footbridge Awards 2014

A call for entries for the Footbridge Awards 2014 will be issued in October 2013 via the website, email newsletter and our Linked In Footbridge 2014 group. All footbridges opened to the public between 1 January 2011 and 31 December 2013 will be eligible to enter. The awards are organised and sponsored by *Bridge design & engineering* magazine.

Contact details:

To be kept up to date with important announcements, deadlines, registration and practical information, please sign up for our email newsletter at www.footbridge2014.com or join our Linked In Footbridge 2014 group. For information about sponsorship or exhibiting, please contact Lisa Bentley on L.Bentley@hgluk.com. For general queries about the conference please email organisers@footbridge2014.com



Conference format

The scientific programme will include plenary, concurrent and poster sessions over three days. Keynote and invited speakers will address the conference generally in the plenary sessions, and thematic concurrent parallel sessions will be held for the presentation of papers selected by the scientific committee from those submitted. Poster sessions will be structured to encourage interaction with the authors.

Conference venue

The conference will take place at Imperial College London. The venue is situated in one of London's finest locations, adjacent to such landmarks as the Royal Albert Hall and the Science, Natural History and Victoria & Albert Museums, with Harrods and Hyde Park just a short walk away.

Accommodation

A variety of hotel options will be identified for delegates, covering a range of prices, all centrally located near the conference venue. Full details will be provided on the conference website.

Language

The conference will be conducted in English, with no simultaneous translation. Authors invited to present their papers must be able to do so clearly in English, and be prepared to respond to questions in English during the discussion periods.

Students

Students will enjoy reduced rates and other benefits, details of which will be available on the conference website in due course.

Scientific committee

Ian Firth (Co-Chair)	United Kingdom	Jan Biliszczuk	Poland
Mike Schlaich (Co-Chair)	Germany	Krzysztof Zoltowsky	Poland
David Morris	Australia	Álvaro Cunha	Portugal
Joanne McCall	Canada	Elsa Caetano	Portugal
Jiri Strasky	Czech Republic	John Anderson	South Africa
Poul Ove Jensen	Denmark	Miguel Aguiló	Spain
Søren Digmann Bjerregaard	Denmark	José Romo Martín	Spain
Philippe Vion	France	Juan Sobrino	Spain
Yves Pages	France	Jürg Conzett	Switzerland
Tony Dempsey	Ireland	Angus Low	United Kingdom
Enzo Siviero	Italy	Chris Wise	United Kingdom
Akio Kasuga	Japan	Jim Eyre	United Kingdom
Mamoru Kawaguchi	Japan	Rebecca Laberenne	USA
Duncan Peters	New Zealand		