

# THE CHANGING CONTEXT OF COMFORT IN AN UNPREDICATBLE WORLD

## 7th Windsor Conference 2012

The Global Economic Crisis has changed the world we live in. The cost of living has gone up, and for many the Standard of Living is going down. Even for larger companies the cost of energy is beginning to feature in Boardroom discussions. How can we maintain comfortable working and living conditions for the majority in such a world? The answer must be: by thinking differently. Unless thermal comfort research addresses such issues it may become increasingly difficult to fund. Our research must be seen as part of the solution to global concerns. Windsor 2012 will be a unique Conference on Comfort set firmly in the context of the emerging challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing and increasing unpredictable world.

In such circumstances how do we characterise a building that is truly 'Fit for Purpose'? How do we set design goals that will ensure that people can live comfortable, affordable and fulfilling lives? What new research areas do we need to address to ensure that such goals can be met? How will these changing goals impact on education, practice and Standards?

The evening lectures at Windsor will address these changing contexts and be accompanied by formal and informal discussions and social activities.

Comfort is central to how people behave in the built environment and consequently on the energy they use in their day to day lives. Against this background of big ideas and stimulating discussions the Windsor Conference will continue to provide a forum for leading researchers, practitioners, policymakers and students to present their work for considered discussion with leaders in the field from around the world. This unique event takes place in the luxurious surroundings of an 18<sup>th</sup> Century royal family residence in the grounds of Windsor Castle. Delegates can either come for the three days or on a daily rate but please book early for 2012 as numbers are limited and staying at Cumberland Lodge is a fondly remembered part of the experience.

This year the conference will take place between Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon and be loosely structured into the key themes below.

### Themes for 2012:

Contributions are invited in the following areas:

- Fundamental research
- Applications
- Dissemination, teaching materials

Some suggested topics:

Comfort:

- and productivity
- effect of climate and culture
- in mixed mode buildings
- outdoors
- impact of urban densification

Occupant behaviour:

- methods and models
- personal control and adaptive comfort
- prediction and simulation
- effect on IEQ and energy use

Modelling:

- occupancy
- productivity
- comfort in buildings
- adaptive opportunities
- overheating

Simulation and monitoring

- where are the errors
- how to predict IEQ and comfort

Retrofitting existing buildings

- to minimise AC in hot climates
- effect of energy improvements on IEQ

Impact of energy legislation on comfort

Designing for comfort what are the barriers?

The future form of comfort standards

The cost and value of comfort / discomfort

Papers may be theoretical, analytical or based on case studies. Sessions include discussion time and expert panel sessions.

**Workshops** are planned on:

Overheating in Buildings

Research methodology and analysis

The gap between prediction and reality

### Registration

Accommodation at Cumberland Lodge is strictly limited to 60-70 places and registration should be made as soon as possible. Prices for attendance (which include bed and meals) are shown overleaf. Registration and payment should be made through the London Metropolitan University's online shop at <http://eshop.londonmet.ac.uk> go to the Architecture section and follow the links for Windsor Conference choosing the accommodation which suits you.

### Timetable

**ABSTRACTS:** Contributing authors should submit an abstract of no more than one page to the organising committee **1<sup>st</sup> October 2011.**

**PAPERS ACCEPTED:** Authors notified of provisional acceptance: **End of October 2011.**

**FULL PAPERS:** Deadline for submission of full papers for refereeing: **1<sup>st</sup> February 2012.**

All papers will be available in electronic form and a selection of key papers will be published in a special edition of an academic journal or as a book.

### The Windsor thermal comfort conferences

The Windsor conferences have been held periodically since 1994. Each offered opportunities for thorough scientific discussion on a specific comfort-related theme. Because they are residential the conferences provide a perfect environment for frank and detailed discussion. Each conference has been followed by a special journal issue or book.

The first Windsor conference in 1994 laid the foundation for the recent changes in the theory of thermal comfort; in 2001 the second Windsor conference influenced International Standards; in 2004 the Post Occupancy Evaluation of buildings was covered; in 2006 what 'works well' in low energy buildings for the future; in 2008 air-conditioning & the low carbon cooling challenge; and in 2010 adapting to change: new thinking on comfort.

**7th Windsor Conference 2012**  
**The changing context of comfort in an unpredictable world**

**Provisional programme:**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April:** Welcome Reception, Supper and after dinner talk on Global Energy Futures.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April:** First session

**Friday Afternoon:** Workshop on Overheating

**Friday evening:** Supper and after dinner talk on Comfort, Design and Business Continuity Planning.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April:** Second session

**Saturday evening:** Supper and after dinner talk on the Role of Behaviour in Successful Buildings.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April:** Final session and Posters Conclusions and Croquet.



**Cumberland Lodge:** Cumberland Lodge has superb conference facilities and on-site accommodation, and is within walking distance of many of Windsor's major historical attractions. It is approximately 10 km from Heathrow airport, close to train links to central London and just off the M4 motorway: website [www.cumberlandlodge.ac.uk](http://www.cumberlandlodge.ac.uk).

**Cost:** Before the end of February the full cost of the event including **full board** in the luxurious surroundings of Cumberland Lodge will be £650 per person for single accommodation. For people sharing a twin room the cost is £500 per head. Booking after the end of February 2012 will attract an additional £50 late booking surcharge. The full cost will have to be pre-paid to secure one of the limited places. A few daily places will be available for £100 per day.

**Organising group** (UK-based except as indicated):  
Fergus Nicol, Luisa Brotas, Sue Roaf, Maria Kolokotroni, Michael Adebamowo (NG), Ed Arens (US), Atze Boerstra (NL), Gail Brager (US) Richard deDear (AU), Dusan Fiala (DE), Andy Ford, Max Fordham, Rajat Gupta, Jake Hacker, George Havenith, Shahin Heidari (IR), Mike Holmes, Michael Humphreys, Madhavi Indraganti (IN), Yi Jiang (CN), Tri Harso Karyono (ID), Stanley Kurvers (NL), Alison Kwok (US), Ashok Lall (IN), Roberto Lamberts (BR), Hal Levin (US), Edward Ng (HK), Li Baizhan (CN), Marialena Nikolopoulou, Bjarne Olesen (DK), Mark Olweny (UG), Ryoza Ooka (JP), Gwelen Paliaga (US), Ken Parsons, Jens Pfafferott (DE), Adrian Pitts, Hom Rijal (JP), Darren Robinson (CH), Agathi Sakka (GR), Mat Santamouris (GR), Olli Seppänen (FI), John Stoops (US), Shin-ichi Tanabe (JP) Paul Tuohy, Stephen Turner, Mike Wilson, Peter Wouters (BE), Runming Yao,

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**Low Energy Architecture Research uNit**



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metropolitan  
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**THE CHANGING CONTEXT OF COMFORT IN AN UNPREDICTABLE WORLD**



**International Conference to be held**  
**12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012,**  
**at Cumberland Lodge,**  
**Windsor Great Park, UK**

**First Announcement**  
**and call for papers**



**Organised by the Network for Comfort and Energy Use in Buildings** ([www.nceub.org.uk](http://www.nceub.org.uk))