

**European Science Foundation Programme**  
**Towards Electronic Democracy:**  
**Internet-based Complex Decision Support (TED)**

Workshop on  
**Facilitation Issues in e-Democracy**

Manchester Business School,  
 Manchester, UK

November 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006

The advent of web-technologies has brought the possibility of supporting geographically and temporally dispersed group decision making. Technically it is now possible to discuss issues, debate objectives, formulate problems, access data, analyse models, conduct sensitivity analyses, vote, decide and implement actions, all without the group meeting other than virtually. Moreover, web-based group decision support can be extended in principle to structure deliberative *e*-democracy and *e*-participation in societal decision making. The facilitation of such large scale group decision support will not be easy and may need skills and techniques beyond those currently used in small groups, be they face-to-face or web-based. This workshop will focus on facilitation issues of deliberative *e*-democracy and *e*-participation, firstly seeking to identify the issues that need addressing and secondly to outline programmes of research.

**Objectives of the Workshop**

- To bring together behavioural scientists, information systems engineers, decision analysts, political and social scientists, psychologists and others to discuss multi-disciplinary perspectives on the facilitation of deliberative *e*-democracy and *e*-participation.
- To map out a research agenda on the development of effective facilitation of deliberative *e*-democracy and *e*-participation.

Please Turn Over

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**Please send to: Prof Simon French, Manchester Business School, Booth Street West, Manchester, M15 6PB, UK.  
 Tel: +44-161-275-6401. Fax: +44-161-275-7134. email: [simon.french@mbs.ac.uk](mailto:simon.french@mbs.ac.uk)**

**Registration Form**

Name: .....  
 Affiliation: .....  
 Address: .....

Email: .....  
 Tel: ..... Fax: .....

Registration: Full £160 ☐ Student/Young Researcher £80 ☐

If a doctoral student or young researcher (less than 3 years since doctorate awarded):

Name of Supervisor: .....  
 Email address of Supervisor: .....  
 Title of Project/Thesis: .....

Date of submission: .....

Accommodation requested for nights of:

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Nov ☐ Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Nov ☐ Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Nov ☐ Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Nov ☐

Other nights, give dates: .....

Accommodation costs £50.00 per night bed and breakfast. The accommodation is limited and we may not be able to accommodate late registrations. If this is the case, we will contact you to discuss other arrangements.

Special dietary requirements: .....

Payment form overleaf

## Format

The workshop will be held over three days at Manchester Business School. There will be a mix of keynote papers from invited speakers, contributed papers, a PhD Q&A session, a laboratory session using group support systems to explore a case study and a facilitated discussion to map out a research agenda. Two invited discussants, usually from a different discipline, will be assigned to each of the invited keynote papers to ensure that a range of perspectives are covered. There will be no parallel sessions so that the discussion of issues may grow continuously over the three days. Numbers will be limited to 50 participants.

## Invited Speakers

Gene Rowe (Institute for Food Research): *Deliberative e-Democracy and e-Participation*

Gwendolyn Kolfschoten (TU Delft): *Facilitation*

Alec Morton (London School of Economics): *Group Decision Support*

Duncan Shaw (Aston Business School): *Problem Structuring Methods and Facilitation*

## Registration

Registration fees (including coffee, lunches, teas, dinners on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Nov, handouts):

£160	full registration;
£ 80	student or young researcher registration.

Late payment of registration fees after November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 will incur an additional fee of £30 (£15 for students/young researchers).

**Further details available from: Prof Simon French, Manchester Business School, Booth Street West, Manchester, M15 6PB, UK. Tel: +44-161-275-6401. Fax: +44-161-275-7134. email: [simon.french@mbs.ac.uk](mailto:simon.french@mbs.ac.uk)**

## Payment Form

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*There is a late payment fee of £30 (£15 for a student/young researcher) for payment after November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.*