



Consumer Voice and Representation 4th International Consumer Sciences Research Conference

24-26 June 2009 at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Scotland

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

The Consumer Insight Group at Queen Margaret University is delighted to host the **4th International Consumer Sciences Research Conference** with the theme *Consumer Voice and Representation*, and invites you to join us for topical debate, collegiate discussion and superb Scottish hospitality.

How do consumers represent their views in modern markets? What does consumption mean to them? How do they push through their rights and who makes their case where consumers are vulnerable or disadvantaged? How do different economic agents define consumers' responsibilities and what are the local, national and global aspects of this? How does consumption relate to social capital and to public health? Within this theme, research and policy papers in all areas of the consumer sciences are invited. Papers focusing on the consumer voice in different areas of the economy, i.e. private, public and third sector (the social economy) and international papers will be particularly welcome. There are four tracks within the overall conference theme, namely:

- A. Consumer Behaviour
- B. Consumers and Health
- C. The Consumer and Business
- D. The Regulatory Landscape

Edinburgh is served by excellent air links to most British airports and has many direct international links. There are also excellent road and rail links. The new University campus is easily reached from the centre of Edinburgh (http://www.qmu.ac.uk/the_university/new_campus.htm). There will be high quality conference accommodation at the campus as well as hotels in Edinburgh. Why not combine the conference with a few days in beautiful Scotland?

Participants

The conference will be of interest to anyone researching, teaching or working in the broad areas of consumer sciences/studies and home economics. This will include academics and researchers and those working for consumer agencies and services within the private, public and third sectors including finance and the utilities. All those with an interest and/or responsibility in consumer affairs, protection or consumer service should attend.

Call for Papers

Contributions may be made as an oral or poster presentation. The format of applications for **oral presentations** will depend on whether you wish your paper to be considered for the Special Conference Issue of the International Journal of Consumer Studies (IJCS) to be published in 2010; if so, you will need to submit a **full paper** written to IJCS requirements, accompanied by a **1-page Abstract**, for publication in the Conference Proceedings. If you do not wish to publish in the IJCS, you may submit an **extended 5-page Abstract**, for publication in the Conference Proceedings. Full papers and extended abstracts will be subject to double blind peer review. **Poster presentations** may be requested up-front or may be offered to authors not chosen for an oral presentation

Submissions

Please submit contributions as an email attachment to **Dr Monika Schröder** (mschroder@qmu.ac.uk). The deadline for submissions has been revised since earlier announcement were made in this journal and this is now **27th February 2009**. It is important for authors to visit the conference website www.consumer09.org/ for detailed instructions on all three types of submission.