

10th September 2019

Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK

LERC

Lean Enterprise Research Centre



The LERC 25th Anniversary Conference

Lean Retrospective: Assessing Lean Thinking Evolution, Current State and Future Challenges.

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10th September 2019, Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK

LERC was formed in 1994, so 2019 is its 25th anniversary. This conference and celebratory dinner will mark the occasion and provide a springboard for collaboration and idea generation for the new LERC research agenda. Net proceeds from the conference will be used to fund future LERC research.

The conference will include keynote presentations from some of the most influential lean thinkers of the last three decades and feature lean coffee workshops - innovative 'bottom up' problem solving, discussion and idea-generating sessions - which are an ideal forum for experienced practitioners to share, learn and develop new insights.

[> Register](#)

Key questions to be addressed

Over the past three decades there has been an acceleration in the adoption of lean thinking and related avenues of thinking by companies and organisations in most sectors on a global scale.

There has been much debate about its definition, its impact, its applicability in different sectors and the precise methodology or model to be applied.

Questions have been raised about its acceptance by senior management, its longevity sustainability and, indeed, its relevance in today's fast changing business environment.

The conference will be a unique occasion to take stock, reflect and consider the future for lean thinking.

- What has been the impact of lean thinking and what is its current status?
- What are the challenges facing lean thinking?
- How will lean thinking evolve over the next decade?

Conference delegates

Delegates will include lean/continuous improvement practitioners, consultants and teachers in industry and the public sector, academics, those who attended a John Bicheno inspired lean MSc programme, participants of past LERC research activities and members of the Lean Competency System practitioner community.

Conference agenda

Type	Time	Activity*
	8:15 am	Registration, refreshments
Plenary sessions	9:00 am	Conference opens - introduction
	9:15 am	John Bicheno
	10:00 am	Nicola Bateman
	10:45 am	Break
	11:15 am	Dan Jones
	12:00 pm	Panel discussion
	12:40 pm	Afternoon briefing
	1:00 pm	Lunch
Breakouts	2:00 pm	Lean Coffee workshops and parallel discussion sessions
	3:15pm	Break
Plenary sessions	3:45 pm	Nick Rich
	4:40 pm	Summary
	5:00 pm	Conference closes

**Details of plenary session presentations will be available on the conference web page*

Panel discussion

Following the morning presentations, delegates will be able to ask questions on the issues raised directly to an expert panel and also via the Kahoot! app.



Lean Coffee workshops

Developed in Seattle, USA in 2009, “Lean Coffee” is a structured, but agenda-less meeting at which participants gather, build an agenda and begin discussing. Conversations are directed and productive because of the democratic nature of the meeting and because of the innate topic interest and expertise of the participants.

The LERC conference will operate an adapted approach, with each group (containing around eight participants) having a broad key theme to direct the discussion. A facilitator will provide guidance and ensure the output is captured effectively. One aim will be to generate themes, ideas and topics for the emerging LERC agenda, so the structure and method will be designed with this in mind.

Note that we are seeking volunteers from conference delegates to be workshop facilitators (there is an option to sign up to this in the online registration form).

Lean Coffee workshop themes

Design & Innovation, Green & Lean, Implementation, Leadership & Organisation, People, Public Value, Scheduling & Planning, Services & Lean, Supply Chain, Technology & Lean.



Parallel discussion groups

The afternoon session will include a number of discussion groups running in parallel. These discussion groups will cover a number of key topics and involve a presentation and discussion. Additional sessions may be added to this list.

Topic*	Facilitator
Lean & industry 4.0	Pauline Found, University of Buckingham & Cardiff University
Digital Lean	Dave Brunt, Lean Enterprise Academy
Lean Thinking and the Conception of Value	Mark Francis, Cardiff Met University
The Challenge in Creating a Lean Culture	Frank Devine, Accelerated Improvement
Lean: Leadership. Learning. Long-term perspective	Daryl Powell, Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Trondheim

**A description of each parallel session will be available on the conference web page*

Evening dinner

A celebration dinner with a guest speaker will take place on the evening of 10th September at the National Museum Cardiff, providing an ideal opportunity for networking and to continue the discussions initiated in the day.

Pre-conference workshop

2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, Monday 9th September, Cardiff Business School

Muda, Muri, Mura & The Equation of Lean - Facilitator: John Bicheno

This interactive workshop will provide a valuable insight into the 'Science of Lean', especially the lesser-known relationships between Muda, Muri and Mura. The workshop will shed light on demand management, process variation, arrival variation, and capacity and how often-ignored actions in these areas can be highly cost effective. The workshop has wide implications for both service and manufacturing

> More Information

Conference speakers & presenters

Nicola Bateman

Nicola is Associate Professor in Operations Management at the University of Leicester. She studied manufacturing engineering at Brunel University and researched the sustainability of CI in the automotive sector at LERC and the Department of Trade and Industry. She has worked at Loughborough University's School of Business and Economics and was a founder member of the Centre for Service Management before her current role. [> Read more](#)

John Bicheno

John is Professor of Lean Enterprise, University of Buckingham and founding Director of the MSc in Lean Operations at LERC in 1999. He is the author of several best-selling books including The Lean Toolbox and has developed several games in Lean and in Service. [> Read more](#)

Dave Brunt

Dave is Chief Executive of the Lean Enterprise Academy and has been both applying and researching lean since 1990. He helps firms making a lean transformation and has worked with Dan Jones since 1997. During that time he has been involved in both pioneering research into lean thinking and the practical implementation of lean practice. [> Read more](#)

Mark Francis

Mark is Director of the Value Flow Centre and Professor of Management in the School of Management at Cardiff Metropolitan University. He was a Senior Research Associate at LERC and a Reader at Newport Business School. His research interests include contemporary operations and management paradigms - particularly Lean Thinking and the Theory of Constraints; the conception of 'value'; creating and sustaining 'flow' within private and public sector processes; and organisational innovation and problem solving. [> Read more](#)

Daniel Jones

Founder of LERC and founder and Chairman of the Lean Enterprise Academy in the UK, Dan is a senior advisor to the Lean Enterprise Institute, management thought leader and mentor on applying lean process thinking to every type of business. With Jim Womack, he co-authored some of the influential and popular Lean Thinking books, including The Machine that Changed the World, and Lean Thinking. [> Read more](#)

Pauline Found

Pauline has recently been Head of Business Improvement Science & Lean, University of Buckingham and is a Knowledge Transfer Research Fellow, at Cardiff University. At LERC she was involved in a range of research, knowledge transfer, engagement and executive education projects and co-authored *Staying Lean: Thriving not just Surviving* for which she holds a Shingo Research and Professional Publication Prize. [> Read more](#)

Nick Rich

Nick is Professor in Operations Management, School of Management at Swansea University and is a socio-technical systems researcher, meaning he has an interest in how people and technology work together to generate high performance organisations and highly reliable organisations. Nick is a renowned academic, a polymath, and his interests cover healthcare systems reliability and high performance manufacturing and service operations. [> Read more](#)

Frank Devine

Frank is head of Accelerated Improvement and specialises in creating a high performance continuous improvement culture from the bottom-up, which deepens and accelerates employee engagement, removes barriers to enablement and systematically develops continuous improvement capability. Frank lectured on LERC's MSc in Lean Operations and executive short courses for over a decade. [> Read more](#)

Daryl Powell

Dr. Daryl Powell is an adjunct professor at the Department of Industrial Economics and Technology Management at Norwegian University of Science and Technology. In his full-time position as Lean Programme Manager at the Subsea division of Kongsberg Maritime, he is responsible for developing and deploying the company's lean programme across all KM Subsea companies worldwide. [> Read more](#)

Evening dinner - guest speaker

To be confirmed.

Pricing & packages

Package	Price
Pre-conference workshop	£140.00
Conference & dinner	£370.00
Conference only	£295.00
Dinner only	£75.00

Prices shown are exclusive of VAT and will be lower if you take advantage of the concessions available:

- LERC alumni and LCS community rate
- Early bird rate available from March to 30th April
- Group discount (two or more delegates from one organisation)

> Register



Sponsorship

The LERC conference is expected to attract over 200 leading lean thinkers and practitioners from industry, the public sector and academia, from all over Europe. It represents a great opportunity to engage and network with a highly influential and informed audience. The conference sponsorship packages are as follows:

Level 1 - Sponsorship Package
Two tickets to the conference and dinner
Display stand space in main conference building atrium
Logo on conference printed material and web pages
Organisational information in the conference brochure
Promotional leaflet for insertion in the delegate bag
Price: £2,250 (plus VAT)

Level 2 - Sponsorship Package
Five tickets to the conference and dinner
Display stand space in main conference building atrium
Logo on conference printed material and web pages
Organisational information in the conference brochure
Promotional leaflet for insertion in the delegate bag
Price: £3,750 (plus VAT)

Level 3 - Sponsorship Package
Exclusive dinner table for ten guests
Five tickets to the conference
Display stand space in main conference building atrium
Logo on conference printed material and web pages
Organisational information in the conference brochure
White paper or equivalent article or report for inclusion in the delegate bag
Price: £4,650 (plus VAT)

Sponsorship registration

Visit the [LERC website sponsorship page](#) to register.

How to register

Visit the [conference event page](#) to register online.

About Cardiff Business School

Cardiff Business School is a world-leading, research intensive business and management school with a proven track record of excellence and proud to be the world's first public value business school. Guided by its progressive public value strategy and principles, it is committed to delivering economic and social improvement through interdisciplinary teaching and research that tackles the grand challenges facing the world today.

It has a global community of staff and students, representing multiple countries and nationalities, with a vibrant and collegiate environment, which enables and supports the delivery of transformative thinking and impactful research. It is currently ranked sixth for research quality (out of 101 UK business schools) and is one of only two business schools in the UK to rank in the top 10 in each government research exercise since 1992.

About LERC

LERC acts as a catalyst for change and improvement through collaborative and applied research, offering new insights into lean thinking and how it can be applied to help organisations improve their effectiveness and achievement of purpose.

LERC was formed in 1994, bringing together the benchmarking and lean production work of Daniel Jones (together with James Womack of MIT) and the work on supplier development and materials management of Peter Hines. Its innovative research programmes played a significant role in the development and application of lean thinking and it pioneered several ground-breaking initiatives, such as the world's first lean Master's programmes and the Lean Competency System.

LERC is now being rejuvenated and is managed and controlled by the Lean Competency Services Ltd, which holds the Cardiff University licence to operate the Lean Competency System



LERC 25th Anniversary Conference sponsors

