

EDRA50 SUSTAINABLE URBAN ENVIRONMENTS:  
RESEARCH, DESIGN AND PLANNING FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS



**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**50th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**  
**May 22-26, 2019**

Department of Technology, Culture & Society  
TANDON SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK  
[conference@edra.org](mailto:conference@edra.org)

## **SUSTAINABLE URBAN ENVIRONMENTS: RESEARCH, DESIGN AND PLANNING FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS**

This conference will explore how environments at all scales can be designed in support of a more sustainable world. While cities are contributors to the causes of climate change and other environmental problems, the urban setting will be the proving ground for many of the solutions that address environmental, economic, social and behavioral issues across the globe. Environmental design research is integral to shaping urban design and changing environmental behavior at the global scale.

This interdisciplinary call invites proposals from researchers and practitioners to share their knowledge of best practices that address the critical mission of urban sustainability, encompassing built and natural environments for which long- and short-term responses contributing to a more sustainable, equitable and resilient world are sought.

*EDRA50 is also about celebrating the history and vitality of our field and the Environmental Design Research Association in this Golden Jubilee year.* From the current EDRA Board of Directors:

50 years ago, a renowned group of environmental design researchers set us on a clear path against racial discrimination, design standardization, and a purely functional approach to the making of our cities and neighborhoods. They proposed a person-centered, compassionate approach to design and advocated for our responsibility as design researchers and practitioners to endeavor to serve all of society, and to do that with creativity and delight.

For the EDRA story to continue to evolve and adapt to the changing landscape of our communities, we must challenge ourselves to act and continually renew our commitment to creating places that are democratically shaped, designed to be accessible, and capable of affording healthy relationships between people and the landscape, and between each other. The strength of our responses to the societal challenges the world is facing requires new partnerships and collaborations between experts and citizen scientists, students and professors, designers and contractors, community groups and corporate clients.

EDRA50 will take place in one of America's premier urban settings — Brooklyn, NY. Please join us for this conference that will celebrate the 50th year of the Environmental Design Research Association by being a part of presentations, discussions, and reflections.

**We encourage submissions on the following TOPIC AREAS that address *Sustainable Urban Environments*, and other environmental design research areas including:**

- Urban Sustainability, Equity and Globalization
- Global Climate Change: Attitudes and Behavior
- Green and Blue Infrastructure, Natural Resources and Urban Ecology
- Participatory and Evidence-Based Strategies for Sustainable Design
- Environmental Design Research: Advocacy Through Policy and Design
- Place-making: Personal, Social and Cultural Meanings of Space
- Resilient Community Planning, Housing and Design
- Heritage and Cultural Infrastructure
- Sustainable Lifestyles and Behavior

We recognize that EDRA is home to a broad and diverse range of work and *welcome submissions from across all disciplines and professions to represent the full variety of issues* that are encompassed by environmental design research.

***We look forward to receiving your submission,  
and to seeing you in Brooklyn!***

## **KEY DUE DATES**

**October 1, 2018** Submission portal opens. Visit [edra.org/page/edra50](http://edra.org/page/edra50).

**November 12, 2018** DUE DATE for all Individual and Group Presentations. (Papers, Symposia, Workshops, Practitioner/Researcher Collaborations and Intensives.)

**December 1, 2018** DUE DATE for Visual Presentations abstracts for Display Posters and Digital Media Shorts.

**December 7, 2018** Early Bird Registration Opens

**January 26, 2019** Acceptance notification to all authors and presenters.

**March 16, 2019** DUE DATE for conference participants and presenters to register for the conference  
Required in order to be part of the EDRA50 program.  
Regular registration begins.

**May 22-26, 2019** EDRA50 Sustainable Urban Environments Conference in Brooklyn, New York

If you have any questions, please email: [conference@edra.org](mailto:conference@edra.org)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DEADLINES WILL BE STRICTLY OBSERVED. SUBMISSIONS MADE AFTER THE DUE DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW.**

## **SUBMISSION TYPES AND GUIDELINES**

Submissions must be made through the EDRA50 online system ([edra.org/page/edra50](http://edra.org/page/edra50)) and paired to one of the following session types.

### **Individual Presentations**

- Research Presentations
- EDRA at 50: Looking Forward, Looking Back ***Special Session for EDRA50***

### **Group Sessions**

- Symposia
- Workshops
- Practitioner/Researcher Collaborations ***New Session Type!***

### **Visual Presentations**

- Display Posters
- Digital Media Shorts

### **Pre-Conference Sessions (Wednesday, 5/22)**

- Intensives – Full or Half Day

## **INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS**

*Both full papers and abstracts are eligible for submission.* Individual presentations should focus on original scholarly or professional research that has not been published or presented elsewhere. All submissions will undergo blind peer review.

#### Guidelines

- Abstracts should be limited to 300 words.
- Four learning objectives are required.
- Blind review requires authors *not* place their names or other identifying information in the uploaded abstract or document.

#### *Paper Submission must also follow the criteria below -*

- Papers should not exceed 20 pages, double spaced at 11-point font size, including references, figures, tables and citations, to be qualified for review.
- All images, references and citations must be fully incorporated into one document. Attachments will not be accepted. The full paper should be publication-ready, formatted according to APA (American Psychological Association) guidelines.
- Submission files must use MS Word or compatible formats (.doc, .docx, .rtf).
- *Papers over the allowable number of pages and that do not follow spacing and font size requirements, or papers with attachments will be automatically disqualified for review.*

Please note - It is possible that accepted individual submissions may be placed for presentation in Paper Sessions, including in a Symposium of papers on a similar topic.

## **SPECIAL SUBMISSION CATEGORY FOR EDRA50**

### **Request for Proposals: “EDRA 50/50: The Past 50 years — The Next 50 years”**

EDRA50 is a time to both reflect and project. New insights, technologies, social media, and approaches contribute to the lasting basic values of environmental design research. Yet the basic values that underlie EDRA1 and EDRA50 - to understand and support design that supports human needs, and makes a more sustainable world - remain unchanged. We are asking for papers that look at this past and consider the future. What topics do you think are critical for understanding the distance EDRA has come and where it needs to go?

*You are invited to submit a proposal for a retrospective review and/or prospective view of an important topic in Environmental Design Research.* There are numerous possible topics - specific and special settings (health care, workplace, housing, etc.), particular kinds of users (identified by age, ability, culture, location, etc.) behaviors (work, play, caretaking, energy use etc.), methods and theories.

Please submit an abstract of *no more than 500 words* that responds to each of the questions below.

1. What topic you would like to address?
2. Why this is important for discussion and reflection at EDRA50?
3. What approach you would take in considering the history and/or future of this issue?
4. Why you are the right person to prepare and make this presentation?

Selected proposal authors will be invited to complete a full paper (that could contain a multimedia presentation or graphic elements) for peer review that would be presented at a special session of EDRA50.

## **GROUP PRESENTATIONS**

### **SYMPOSIA**

A *symposium* submission organizes a group of three to five papers on a theme as a forum for emerging conceptual and methodological issues or a critical discussion of exploratory research and work in progress. Symposia submissions that include full papers will be reviewed and considered for publication in the proceedings. The discussion moderator must be able to assure a professional level of discourse. Sessions should include time for audience questions and comments.

#### **Guidelines**

- The submitter must provide an abstract describing the purpose and goal of the symposium, as well as abstracts and/or full papers for each presentation.
- Group and individual abstracts should be limited to 300 words.
- Full paper submissions as part of a symposium should follow guidelines for individual paper submissions noted above.
- Four learning objectives are required.

## **WORKSHOPS**

A workshop submission may be designed to collaboratively explore a particular research or practice construct; or discuss a particular advanced design, method or practice concept. Workshops should be considered as interactive sessions and therefore should limit time spent in formal presentations and encourage interaction and discussion among organizers and audience.

### Guidelines

- The workshop organizer must provide an abstract describing the purpose, goal and format of the workshop.
- Workshop summary abstracts should be limited to 500 words.
- Participating workshop presenters should also be identified.
- Four learning objectives are required.

## **PRACTITIONER/RESEARCHER COLLABORATIONS**

This is a new category of *practitioner/researcher collaborations* group session meant to encourage and provide a forum in which collaborative, cross disciplinary teams can describe the integration of research and design or planning practice on specific projects. Teams can also profile a project of the built or natural environment where research has been used to inform adaptive management practices or policies.

Collaborative presentation by both a researcher and practitioner (or a team where they are represented) which describes the place, project, research method and outcomes is essential to this session category.

### Guidelines

- The collaboration organizer must describe the project including the purpose, method and outcomes of the collaboration.
- Collaboration summary abstracts should be limited to 500 words.
- Participating presenters should also be identified.
- Four learning objectives are required.

## **VISUAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **DISPLAY POSTERS**

*Display Posters* provide an opportunity for open discussion between the authors and an interested audience. Authors are invited to stand by their display and discuss its content, process or design with other conference attendees. The display should represent in-progress or finished research that lends itself to visual presentation, and/or research-informed design projects. Among other types of research, posters sessions are an appropriate outlet for professional or student studio-based design work, policy studies or visual research.

### Guidelines

- The presenter must provide an abstract limited to 300 words detailing the topic and methodology.

- Abstracts may also contain visual material, a mock up, or draft of the poster but must be submitted in PDF format.

*Display Poster Submission must also follow the criteria below.*

- Two sizes will be accepted:
  - 24" x 36" landscape orientation, or;
  - 36" x 40" portrait orientation.
- In addition to making a digital submission of the final poster, authors of accepted posters will be expected to bring a pre-printed poster for hanging at the conference.
- Further hanging instruction will be given upon acceptance.
- Display Poster submissions are eligible for the EDRA Student Design Award.

## **DIGITAL MEDIA SHORTS**

EDRA Digital Media Shorts are a kind of multimedia poster. They are intended as a means to offer a brief digital presentation in an engaging, abbreviated way. It can include video, audio, slides and animation and should be limited to 6 minutes of total presentation time. Submissions are intended to impart a story about research or practical research application through image, moving image, with or without sound.

Shorts will be on display during EDRA50. They may involve a continuous loop in a media hall and/or be posted to an online gallery. Similar to the Display Poster process, accepted authors are invited to stand near their display and discuss its story with other conference attendees during a scheduled session.

### Guidelines

- The presenter must provide an abstract limited to 300 words detailing the topic and research design.
- This presentation idea submission can also include a graphic element which could include samples from the digital media that supports the idea being proposed, but it must be submitted as a PDF initially.
- There will be 6-minute maximum for this visually oriented presentation and please identify the proposed digital media (slides, video, animation, etc.)
- Each presentation submission should respond to a particular topic area or research construct.
- The digital upload will not be required until after acceptance.

## **SPECIAL PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019**

### **PRE-CONFERENCE INTENSIVES**

Intensives are sessions that provide an opportunity for a group to devote a significant amount of time for *in-depth exploration* of a single topic or theme. They can use a variety of formats (e.g. presentation, charrette, working session) to engage varying numbers of attendees.

Proposals are to request space for a full day or half-day session to be held on Wednesday 5/22/2019.

#### Guidelines

- Each presenter must provide an abstract limited to 300 words.
- Four learning objectives for the entire intensive session are required.
- Submission must indicate whether proposed for full or a half-day session.
- Participating presenters should also be identified.

## **GENERAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Submissions MUST follow the guidelines and meet the requirements listed above for each submission type in order to be considered for review.

- **Submissions Portal:** All submissions must be made ONLINE at [edra.org/page/edra50](http://edra.org/page/edra50).  
**Maximum Submissions:** Individuals may only participate in a maximum of three (3) proposal submissions across ALL submission types. Any submissions of authors/presenters over the allowable maximum number of three submissions will not be accepted.
- **Group Presentations:** Submissions must include a summary abstract for the presentation and individual abstracts for each presenter for Symposia, with each abstract limited to no more than 300 words. For Workshops and Practitioner/Researcher Collaborations only one abstract describing the presentations need be submitted by the session organizer which must be limited to 500 words, and presenters should also be listed.
- **Duplicate Submissions:** EDRA discourages duplicate submissions. If you submit a proposal for one category (such as part of a symposium), DO NOT submit the same abstract for another category (such as a poster).
- **Author Anonymity:** To ensure that submissions are appropriately blinded for review, the author's name MUST NOT appear in the abstract.
- **Publication Permission:** Submission implies author(s) permission for EDRA to publish the paper or abstract in our proceedings. The author(s) must affirm the paper is not under consideration for publication elsewhere and has not been previously published or presented elsewhere.
- **Continuing Education Credit Consideration Requirements:** An abstract and four learning objectives are required to complete the submission. The submitter will also be asked to identify which professional organizations are considered most appropriate for providing continuing education credits for this session. The final selection of presentations offering continuing education credits will be made by the EDRA50 conference committee and communicated to the authors prior to the conference. More information will be available on the website.
- **Conference Registration:** *All accepted presenters of conference material including Pre-Conference Intensives, Individual and Group Presentations, and Visual Presentations must register by **MARCH 16th, 2019**.*

## **SELECTION AND REVIEW PROCESS**

EDRA's abstract review process is intended to be enriching and useful to authors

in developing their submissions. A copy of peer reviewer guidelines will be made available on our website. These are the guidelines that peer reviewers will follow as they review your submission, and you are welcome to review them prior to submitting your proposal. Your efforts to address the requirements to the extent possible will ensure that your abstract submission is reviewed and evaluated fairly and accurately.

Individual Papers, Symposia, Posters, and Shorts will undergo the double-blind peer review process. Other types of submissions will be reviewed and accepted based on recommendation from the reviewing board and upon discretion by the conference Co-Chairs and Advisory Committee.

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS**

Requirements for Continuing Education Credit consideration:

In addition to submitting abstracts the submitter will be required to provide four learning objectives for the session to support possible use of the session in providing Continuing Education Unit (CEU) certification by various professional organizations. Additional information and guidance on Continuing Education Credits will be made available on our website.

## **GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING WORKSHOP**

Graduate students who submit work to EDRA are eligible to participate in the Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop by clicking a box at the time of submission. The Mentoring Workshop is designed to provide a forum for graduate students to present and discuss their ongoing research with senior mentors in environment-behavior design research. The purpose of the workshop is to strengthen and further thesis/dissertation work, as well to support the development of networks for young researchers, both with senior researchers and with other graduate students. Accepted presenters who elect to participate in this mentoring workshop should prepare an expanded research summary prior to the workshop. This would include an outline of the research inquiry, stage in the research process, and any specific questions to be addressed.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

Submissions will be considered for the following awards:

### **BEST PAPER AWARD**

All authors will have the opportunity during the submission process to indicate if they would like the submission to be considered for the EDRA50 Best Paper award. Full length papers that are accepted will be judged on the submission's quality of research, quality of writing, and alignment of the project to EDRA's mission.

### **STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS**

A limited number of conference scholarships in the form of reduced or complimentary

conference registration and/or travel reimbursement are available for current EDRA student members. Student authors may indicate their interest in applying for a scholarship on the abstract submission site.

Scholarship recipients will be notified upon acceptance. Please note that EDRA membership must be current in order to be considered for EDRA conference scholarships.

## STUDENT AWARDS

Awards will be announced at the EDRA50 conference

- First Prize for The Student Paper Award includes a \$500 travel voucher, complimentary conference registration, and a one-year EDRA student membership.
- Second prize is a one-year EDRA student membership.
- All student award finalists merit recognition in EDRA publications.

### **STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

Papers submitted by student authors are eligible for the Student Paper Award, but must adhere to specific guidelines. Please visit [www.edra.org/page/student\\_awards](http://www.edra.org/page/student_awards) for additional information.

### **STUDENT DESIGN AWARD**

Poster submissions eligible for the Student Design Award. This work is distinguished by its recognition of environmental design that responds to human factors at a full range of environmental scales through the deployment of research findings and user inputs in answer the improvement of human needs within their built environment.

We invite submissions of exemplary environmental design work at a range of scales including urban design, landscape architecture, and architecture, interior and industrial design completed by EDRA student members.

#### Eligibility

- Design projects should emphasize a link between research and design, demonstrating how an understanding of human interaction, use and experience can inspire excellent environmental design.
- Student authors must indicate if they would like their submission to be considered for the Student Design Award.
- Only student authors who upload an electronic copy of their display poster and are present during the poster session will be considered.

In addition, EDRA presents many awards at the annual conference which recognize outstanding work in the field of environmental design research. These awards are solicited through edra.org on a timeline distinct from conference submissions. These include awards for Career, Service, Achievement, and Organization, Great Places Awards, EDRA Core, and The Michael Brill Urban Communication & Design Behavior Research Grant. Please visit [www.edra.org](http://www.edra.org) for more information.

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***WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT  
EDRA50 IN BROOKLYN IN  
MAY OF 2019!!!***

