



Call for papers and presentations

Dear Colleague(s),

We are delighted to invite you to the fifth European Lean Educator Conference (ELEC 2018), 13-16 November 2018 at the University of Minho, Braga, Portugal. See www.elec2018.pt. We hope you will be able to come and contribute!

For many years, the Lean Educator Conference has been held in the USA in association with the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers IISE and the Lean Enterprise Institute. The first European Lean Educator Conference took place in Stuttgart, September 2014. The second, third and fourth European Lean Educator Conferences were organized in Sweden, England and in the Netherlands with the number of attendees increasing from 100 to over 140 and then to over 200. All four conferences were exceptionally good, allowing delegates to hear highly relevant keynotes, offering the opportunity to share best practices and papers, to participate in workshops, and generally to network and share experiences in teaching, educating, communicating and learning Lean. For an insight, please take a look at the website of last year's European Lean Educator Conference: <http://specials.han.nl/themasites/elec2017/>

All four conferences distinguished Lean as a broad operations improvement philosophy supported by a growing set of methods and tools. These methods not only include the Toyota Production System, but also philosophies such as agile manufacturing/management, lean-six sigma and quick response manufacturing. Lean is increasingly used in various sectors, such as manufacturing, product development, supply chain management, health care, education, public services, offices, and services in general. There are many cross-over learning opportunities between the various fields. ELEC supports this.

The previous European Lean Educator Conferences were attended by an approximate 20% (lean managers & facilitators), lean consultants (50%) and teachers/researcher (30%). The European Lean Educator Conference supports the exchange within academia as well as between education and industry/services. The lean educator role is the cornerstone of ELEC. At the centre of the ELEC ideal is how to teach and educate managers, workers and students in order to create a Lean culture in organizations. This will help society to develop and become fairer.

Lean is now being challenged with great opportunities. With developments in computer-based 'intelligence' (including AI, AR, RPA, additive manufacture), software (including Agile, Sprints, Scrum), Innovation in Design (in both manufacturing and service), the environment ('Lean is Green'), as well as in improvement (such as Kata), the opportunities of learning for a new generation of Lean are a huge and emerging challenge. And, of course, the 'old' challenges such as transformation of the Lean enterprise not only remain but are even more pressing.

The theme of the conference is *lean educator' role in lean development*. The objective of the conference is to provide the right environment for lean educators, either from universities or from companies, sharing experiences in learning/teaching/training lean as well as its role in lean development. This conference aims to align the objectives of the lean community players such as managers and facilitators in organizations with consultants, teachers and researchers in their common role as lean educators.

The theme includes topics such as:

- The training role in lean development.
- Developing effective lean culture in organizations through training.
- How to apply case studies/simulation/serious gaming/etc. in lean courses/programs? How to measure the effectiveness of various methods? Are they effective?
- Lean principles and concepts applied in teaching and learning lean; Continuous improvement in teaching.
- What is the role of the lean facilitator? How to combine teaching and coaching?
- How to link practice to lean courses/programs on universities and schools in an effective and efficient way?
- What is the researcher's role in lean education?
- How to facilitate organizational learning in the lean journey of organizations?
- Which knowledge and capabilities are needed for workers, middle-managers, top managers in various areas?
- What is the educator's role of a lean consultant?
- How to organize on-the-job training?
- Etc.



Begin to put together a 200-400 word abstract for a presentation and/or paper. People from industry and other non-academic professionals are welcome to present their work, submitting only a simple abstract and then presentation without the need of preparing a full scientific paper.

Key dates for submission of papers or presentations

- Deadline for submission of 200-400 word Abstracts: 30 April 2018 (Please submit to <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=elec2018>)
- Notification of Abstract acceptance: 1 June 2018
- Full paper (not mandatory) deadline: 1 September 2018
- Notification of Full Paper Acceptance: 1 October 2018
- Final submission of paper and/or presentation slides: 1 November 2018

Proceedings and special issues in journals

Upon submission you can indicate if you want to submit a full paper version for special issues in a journal. The best quality papers will then be published in special issues on the Production Planning & Control journal and on the International Journal of Lean Six Sigma. All other papers and abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings.

Conference dates:

- 13th November: Pre-conference workshops.
- 14th November: Keynote speakers and parallel sessions.
- 15th November: Parallel sessions, key notes, panel discussions.
- 16th November: Post-conference workshops.

We hope to welcome you at ELEC2018 in Braga!

Best wishes,

Dinis Carvalho

Conference Chair

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