



## **Future Systems in ICT Workshop: Call for Expressions of Interest**

**18 February 2015  
Birmingham Area**

EPSRC is holding a one day workshop on 18 February 2015 in relation to its [Photonics for Future Systems](#) cross-ICT priority, one of five which were identified in the current Delivery Plan (2011-2016). This priority highlights opportunities for ICT researchers including, but not limited to those in the areas of photonics, electronics, communications, computer science and user-interface technologies to work together.

Following on from a series of discussions in 2009 and 2010, including the [Photonic Materials and Devices Theme Day](#), [Communications Theme Day](#), [Electronic Materials and Devices Theme Day](#), it was clear that a systems approach to ICT was not well represented in the UK academic research community in a way that maximised benefit for the UK. Further discussions at the [Photonics Systems Workshop](#) and [ICT Research - The Next Decade Workshop](#) aimed to bring together the ICT community to discuss and identify a common vision for photonic systems research and explore opportunities for crossing the boundaries between photonics and other ICT disciplines.

Over recent years, the range of available advanced materials and device fabrication technologies has grown and diversified, which has led to new opportunities and challenges in the area of systems research. As the separate technologies contributing to advanced systems continue to evolve, a convergence is being driven within the field of ICT which requires greater connectivity between researchers in photonics and beyond. The ICT Theme would like to provide an opportunity for these research communities to build on the vision laid out in the previous workshops and identify new challenges and opportunities in this area, as well as encouraging the formation of new connections and collaborative working partnerships that may begin to address these challenges.

### **Objectives of the workshop**

The principal objectives of the workshop are to:

- Increase awareness and understanding of the Photonics for Future Systems priority beyond the photonics community, particularly amongst early career researchers.
- To bring together researchers from across the ICT community, who are able to contribute to the next generation of photonic ICT systems, to consider the future challenges and opportunities in this area.

- Expand on previously identified research challenges and identify new ones in which a systems approach is needed, to generate output to inform EPSRC's future plans concerning its photonic systems strategy.

## Applying to attend and selection procedure

Those wishing to attend the workshop should complete [the short Expression of Interest \(EoI\) form on the EPSRC website](#). This will be used to select participants based on their ability and willingness to contribute to the discussion as described in their EoI submission, while ensuring a balanced representation of organisations, expertise and career stages, from both the academic and user communities. Places are limited and the number of attendees from a given organisation *may* have to be restricted in the event of multiple applications.

We would like to encourage contributions from across all career stages. Outputs from the workshop will be presented as a report which will feed into EPSRC's strategies regarding systems research within the relevant research areas over the course of the next Delivery Plan.

All submissions should be sent using the form below. The deadline for submissions is **23:59 on Monday 05 January 2015**. We are unable to accept applications after this deadline. Applicants will be notified of the decision during the week commencing **12 January 2015**. EPSRC's decision on attendance is final and feedback will not be given to unsuccessful applicants.

**A list of attendees will be published prior to the workshop.** This is to allow the delegates to engage with their colleagues prior to the workshop and to contribute any thoughts which they may wish to feed in.

Expenses for travel, subsistence or accommodation incurred by attendees will **not** be covered by EPSRC.

## Location and date

The workshop will take place from 10:00 – 17:00 on Wednesday 18 February 2015 in the Birmingham area. An application will be considered confirmation of availability on this date and a commitment to attend if selected. Full details of the venue and an agenda will be made available to the selected participants.

## Enquiries

For general enquiries please contact:

Dr Susan Peacock  
Portfolio Manager - ICT Theme  
EPSRC  
Polaris House  
North Star Avenue  
Swindon SN2 1ET  
Tel: 01793 444578  
Email: Susan.Peacock@epsrc.ac.uk

Dr Vivienne Blackstone  
Senior Portfolio Manager - ICT Theme  
EPSRC  
Polaris House  
North Star Avenue  
Swindon SN2 1ET  
Tel: 01793 444552  
Email: Vivienne.Blackstone@epsrc.ac.uk