



The 26th European Conference on Information Systems
23 – 28 June 2018

Blockchain Workshop

Title of the workshop
Blockchain Research: Beyond the Horizon
Main Contact Details
Dr Trevor Clohessy Email: trevor.clohessy@nuigalway.ie
Organizers
Dr Trevor Clohessy, Lecturer and Researcher Profile: http://whitakerinstitute.ie/person/mr-trevor-clohessy/
Dr Thomas Acton, Lecturer and Researcher Profile: http://www.nuigalway.ie/cairnes/ourstaff/thomasacton/
Dr Grace Fox, Lecturer and Researcher Profile: http://www.ic4.ie/about/our-team
Reuben Godfrey, Director Blockchain Association of Ireland Profile: https://ie.linkedin.com/in/reuben-godfrey-1a18055
Dr. Horst Treiblmaier, Professor Profile: https://www.modul.ac.at/user/treiblmaier/
Theme of the workshop

Blockchain - a peer to peer network that's sits on top of the internet - was introduced in October 2008 as part of a proposal for Bitcoin by Satoshi Nakamoto, a virtual currency system, that "eschewed a central authority for issuing currency, transferring ownership, and confirming transactions" (Iansiti and Lakhani, 2017). Bitcoin is viewed as the first application of Blockchain technology. Blockchain is not a disruptive technology, it is a foundational technology, which possesses "the capacity to create new foundations for our economic and social systems" (Iansiti and Lakhani, 2017). Modern applications of Blockchain range from low novelty and complexity initiatives (e.g. Bitcoin payments) to high novelty and complex initiatives (e.g. self-executing contracts). There are also nuanced mature Blockchain supply chain tracking initiatives. For instance, in the diamond industry off-the-shelf Blockchain technologies can be acquired to trace gems along the supply chain from origin to the customer. However, research pertaining to Blockchain is still at an embryonic stage, specifically from an organizational readiness perspective. The aim of this workshop is to advance the theoretical discussion on Blockchain from an organizational readiness perspective and to provide substantial feedback to authors with an interactive format. This workshop is open to both early-stage research and experienced researchers and offers networking opportunities.

Format

The goal of the workshop is twofold: (1) giving feedback to the authors and helping them to develop their ideas, and (2) providing networking and collaboration opportunities

Workshop participants are selected based on extended abstracts. These abstracts can either be ideas or suggestions for academic papers or research collaborations. Either way, they should be early stage, but show some potential. In the abstract the authors should indicate whether they are interested in networking or simply want to get feedback on their paper. In either case, they should provide a concrete idea on the topic they are interested in. The extended abstracts should not exceed two (2) pages.

The submitted abstracts should outline a research question and the method being used. There are no restrictions pertaining to the academic approach. Conceptual abstracts are fine, as are empirical (theory-building and –testing) and design science papers.

The workshop will be restricted to 30 participants. Accepted authors will be allocated to teams based on similar blockchain research interests and situated at roundtables. Initially, the authors will briefly present an overview of their research. They will then receive constructive feedback from both mentors and fellow authors.

Mentors and authors will be free to move from table to table to provide feedback. The interactive format of the workshop is geared towards providing a high degree of feedback to authors.

Submission Deadline: April 13th 2018

Notification to Authors: May 11th, 2018

Suitability to ECIS audience

Given the current topical interest in Blockchain from both theoretical and practical perspectives, we envisage that this workshop will garner significant interest across a wide range of ECIS audiences.

Program committee members

Dr Trevor Clohessy, Lecturer and Researcher
<http://whitakerinstitute.ie/person/mr-trevor-clohessy/>

Dr Thomas Acton, Lecturer and Researcher
Profile: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/cairnes/ourstaff/thomasacton/>

Dr Grace Fox, Lecturer and Researcher
Profile: <http://www.ic4.ie/about/our-team>

Reuben Godfrey, Director Blockchain Association of Ireland
Profile: <https://ie.linkedin.com/in/reuben-godfrey-1a18055>

Dr. Horst Treiblmaier, Professor
Profile: <https://www.modul.ac.at/user/treiblmaier/>

Plan for publications

The papers will not be included in conference proceedings and so authors retain all copyrights to their work.

Target audience and expected attendance

PhD Students
Post-Doctoral Researchers
Academics
Practitioners

Workshop schedule

Preliminary Schedule:

09:30 – 10:00 Opening Organizing Committee Address
10:00 – 12:00 Paper Presentations and Roundtable Discussion, session 1
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch & Networking
13:00 – 14:00 Paper Presentations and Roundtable Discussion, session 2
15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00 Paper Presentations and Roundtable Discussion, session 3

The schedule is dependent on the number of submissions received.

Special equipment needed

- Open Flat Classroom
- Moveable Tables and Chairs
- Projector and PC and Clicker

Prior experience of the proposers in workshops organisation

2017: STEM and Gender Stereotyping Panel ([Link](#))

2015: Bled Workshop: Cloud Computing Towards Business eModel Enlightenment ([Link](#))

2014: NUIG Cloud Computing: Towards Enlightenment Workshop ([Link](#))

2013: NUIG 1st IAIS Workshop on Cloud Computing Research ([Link](#))

2010: Annual Pre-ICIS Workshop on HCI Research in MIS, Co-Chair

2009: Annual Pre-ICIS Workshop on HCI Research in MIS, Co-Chair

2008: European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS), Conference Co-Chair