

Call for Contributions

The Fab Lab network keeps growing, and so is our collective research, both in practical forms such as Fab Lab projects and in more academic forms such as research papers. In the interest of capturing and disseminating Fab network research, we are continuing the peer-reviewed research conduit at the fab forums.

To that end we are soliciting papers, posters, working papers, fab lab projects and other research contributions for presentation during the workshop in Yokohama on Saturday 24 August, 14–18h.

Contributions

We understand the word “contribution” as placeholder for any form of coherent materialisation or manifestation of some research outcome – from the more conventional, academic forms of papers, posters and working papers to well documented prototypes, demonstrators and artistic exhibits in any media.

Still, the research outcome manifestations would have to conform to regular requirements:

1. The research does “what is says on the tin” (validity)
2. The research outcome is more than sheer coïncidence (reliability)

Submission Procedure

If you are working on some research related to Fab Labs, their programs or users, or the network, and would like to be included in this second edition of the research stream, please submit a short description of maximum of 500 words through an online submission system ([EasyChair](https://www.easychair.org/):

<https://www.easychair.org/account/signin.cgi?conf=fab9research>).

Those descriptions will be blind reviewed by at least 3 members of the Program Committee which consists of academic and non-academic members of the community (to become a reviewer email research@fabfolk.com). Authors of descriptions that are

accepted for inclusion in the research stream will be required to provide a full version of their contribution.

All selected contributions will get the opportunity to be presented orally at Fab9. Also, they will be published in the conference proceedings. Authors of the best contributions will be invited to submit extended versions or documentation for publication in a proposed “Fab Lab Research Quarterly” or for a possible special issue of the Journal of Peer Production.

Schedule

description submission deadline	2013-07-24
full contribution submission deadline	2013-08-05
final version deadline	2013-08-19
presentation	2013-08-24

Topics

Topics for contributions can come from a variety of research areas as Fab Labs offer a truly interdisciplinary field. The list of disciplines below is indicative but not exclusive:

1. engineering and technical sciences
2. industrial design and architecture
3. social sciences
4. arts and humanities
5. training and education
6. ...

Also, contributions can cover various aspects, from theoretical to practical, from analytical to explorative to designerly.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

1. Research in Fab Labs
2. Social impact of Fab Labs

3. Fab Labs and/in education
4. Perspectives of and on Fab Lab users
5. Crowdsourcing and open knowledge systems
6. Collaboration and co-operation
7. Technological developments and personal fabrication
8. Management of “intellectual property” issues
9. Business models and sustainability
10. Implications in art and design
11. (The meaning of) innovation in a Fab Lab context
12. Policy making
13. ...

Formats for Contributions

1. Full papers (min 4000 words)
2. Short papers (min 2000 words)
3. Position papers
4. Workshop and colloquium topics and contributions
5. Demonstrations
6. Fab Lab projects
7. Artistic exhibits
8. ...

Contact: Peter Troxler (trox@fabfolk.com) is steering the collection and review process. The programme committee can be reached at research@fabfolk.com

Note on Fab Lab Research Quarterly

“Fab Lab Research Quarterly” is a proposal for a Fab Lab related research periodical. It is supposed to consist of three sections:

1. original work;
2. reviews of work presented/published elsewhere;
3. “curated abstracts”

The quarterly online journal will dedicate the four issues per year to:

1. research (fall, post fab x)—which is indeed the main issue
2. tutorials (winter),
3. projects (spring), and
4. operations (summer)

Note on submitting to Easychair

When submitting to Easychair, follow these steps, please

1. If you do not yet have an Easychair account, sign up for an account on Easychair; otherwise log in with your account (password recovery is available)
2. Once logged in, go to Fab9 and click on “New Submission”, then fill in the form:
 1. Fill in the authors of the contribution—note the “click here to add yourself” option
 2. Fill in the title of your contribution in the field “Title”
 3. Fill in a description fo your contribution in the field “Abstract”
 4. Fill in a few keywords to describe your submission
 5. Add supporting material (photos, movies, etc.) where the form says “Paper: Choose File”
 6. Do NOT click “Abstract only”, do NOT add files as “Attachment”—otherwise the system will complain.
3. Click on “Submit”—uploading large files will take a while, so be patient and do NOT click submit a second time. The system will automatically confirm submission by email on success.