

THE LEICESTER CONFERENCE

TASK AUTHORITY ORGANISATION



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# Birthing, Learning, Leading in a Time of (post) Pandemic

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31 JULY – 13 AUGUST 2021  
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

THE  
TAVISTOCK  
INSTITUTE®

# WHY THE LEICESTER CONFERENCE IN 2021?



The 75th Leicester conference is taking place in times of a **reckoning**.

2020 and 2021 have been characterised by an existential crisis at a psychological, social, environmental and political levels. Covid-19 as a global health crisis has invoked persistent other social viruses which – hopefully – we cannot ignore anymore – including racism, poverty and world climate. It has felt as though – as a world – we have reached rock-bottom at the same time there is a rainbow and a silver lining- the USA has managed to begin a process of change, democracy has prevailed, scientist have developed a vaccine at the speed of light however as I am writing these words, the road to a ‘better world’ is in very early stages.

This *Task Authority Organisation* conference will be exploring *Birthing, Learning, Leading* in this context. Staff and members will gather together from a range of work settings and roles from public, private and voluntary sectors both nationally and internationally - to create a learning organisation for two weeks to examine what is going on in the here-and-now through active participation in the events of the conference.

The conference is an intensive experience which enables us to examine and question the nature of our roles as leaders, managers and followers and the place of our organisations in uncertain environments. The conference will offer the members opportunities to take part in developing new structures and technologies of practice to mobilise and encourage creative collaboration and inter-dependency.

- If you seek to **understand** yourself as part of the system;
- To **deepen** understanding of system and context;
- To **enhance** your knowledge through experience of complex dynamics which are sometimes under the surface;
- To **manage** yourself better in role;
- To **engage with** the questions of task uncompromisingly in order to **bring up** a new generation of skilful leaders and managers who will develop vision and foster creativity in a sustainable way;
- To **take an active part** in transforming your experience of citizenship in your organisation and society...

then this is the conference for you.

Learning is an act of finding and taking up authority. To lead means to be able to both learn and give birth at the same time. This is a process in tension Taking up authority involves risk, and putting one’s authority into action involves recognising not only one’s responsibility, but also one’s accountability to an-other, or a group of others. This last year in particular has challenged our capacity as citizens and leaders of our local context to contain, to work with the unknown and unexpected, to take thought-through risks and to create and provide opportunities for transformation despite the almost unbearable conditions.

We have been required to find resilience despite not having the emotional and physical distance from the experience of our clients and colleagues.

Join us at the Leicester conference to learn of the place of feelings, impressions, expectations, thoughts, fears, assumptions and narratives as these reverberate in the conference and create its fabric and to explore both what is known but more so what is not yet known within our organisational life including the relationship between the organisation and its social, political and economic environments.

# CONFERENCE STAFF



## CONFERENCE DIRECTOR:

**Eliat Aram CBAM, Dip IoD, PhD;**  
CEO, The Tavistock Institute  
of Human Relations; UK

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR:

**Leslie B Brissett JP, PhD;**  
Company Secretary, Principal Consultant  
Researcher and Director of the Group  
Relations Programme. The Tavistock  
Institute of Human Relations, UK

## DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION:

**Megan Davies BA Hons;**  
Operations and Editorial Manager, TIHR

## ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR:

**Matthew Gieve MSc MBPsS;**  
Senior Researcher and Consultant,  
The Tavistock Institute of Human  
Relations, UK

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## CONSULTANT STAFF

will be drawn from:

**Eliat Aram**

**Leslie Brissett**

**Mary Fullerton EMBA;**  
Organizational Consultant and Accredited  
Leadership Coach; Partner: Caribbean  
Group Relations Consulting Ltd - supporting  
organizations and leaders to overcome  
transformation challenges, Trinidad

## Matthew Gieve

**Pauline Holland MA, MPhil;**  
Founder of Limen Associates: Principal  
Organisation Consultant, Executive Coach,  
Leadership Development specialist; member  
of OPUS and Group Analytic Society; UK

## Rachel Kelly BA mSTAT;

Consultant, Engagement & PR Liaison and  
Manager, Tavistock Institute of Human  
Relations; Member, Society of Teachers of  
the Alexander Technique; UK

## David Lawlor PhD MSc CQSW Dip App Beh Science;

Professional Partner and co-director on the  
Organisational Consultancy: Working with  
the Dynamics programme at the Tavistock  
Institute of Human Relations; visiting lecturer  
at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust; UK

## Terttu Malo

**MA in Ed. (Education), MA in AOC;**  
Organizational Consultant, Taite Organizational  
Consultancy; Instructor of Management and  
Consultation, The Evangelical Lutheran  
Church of Finland; Finland

## Debra Noumair EdD;

Professor of Psychology & Education, Academic  
Program Director for Social-Organizational  
Psychology, Founder & Director of the Executive  
Master's Program in Change Leadership (XMA),  
Department of Organization & Leadership,  
Teachers College, Columbia University, New  
York, USA. Fellow, A. K. Rice Institute for the  
Study of Social Systems; USA

## DeMarcus Peguis PhD;

Leadership & Team Coach, The Institute for  
Management Development (IMD); USA

## Antonio Sama MA (AOC);

Senior Lecturer Management and  
Leadership, Christ Church Business School,  
Organisational Consultant, Tavistock Institute  
Professional Partner; UK

## Haritha Sarma MSc. Earth Sciences;

Certified Organisation Development  
Practitioner, Gender and organisational  
strategy specialist, Human Process consultant;  
Member, Group Relations India; India

## Sarah Wynick MB, BS;

Head of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry,  
Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust; organisation  
and group consultant, psychoanalytic couple  
psychotherapist, BPC accredited; UK

**The Primary Task of the conference** is to study the intra- and inter-personal, inter-group and organisational behavior and dynamics as they unfold in the here-and-now of the conference as a temporary organisation within its context.

# WHEN IS THE CONFERENCE? VENUE?/COST?



## TIMINGS

Registration opens at  
12pm on Saturday, 31 July.

Conference closes on  
Friday, 13 August at 12pm.

## VENUE

The University of Leicester

## FEE

£5,200 – The fee includes all  
accommodation and meals.

## DISCOUNTS

Early bird discounts of £600 are  
available for applications received  
before 1 May 2021.

£100 discount each for two applicants  
from the same organisation

£250 discount each for 3+ applicants  
from the same organisation

£450 discount if you have  
participated in one of our modular  
programmes in the last 5 years  
Partial bursaries are available on  
request. Please see Terms  
& Conditions.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

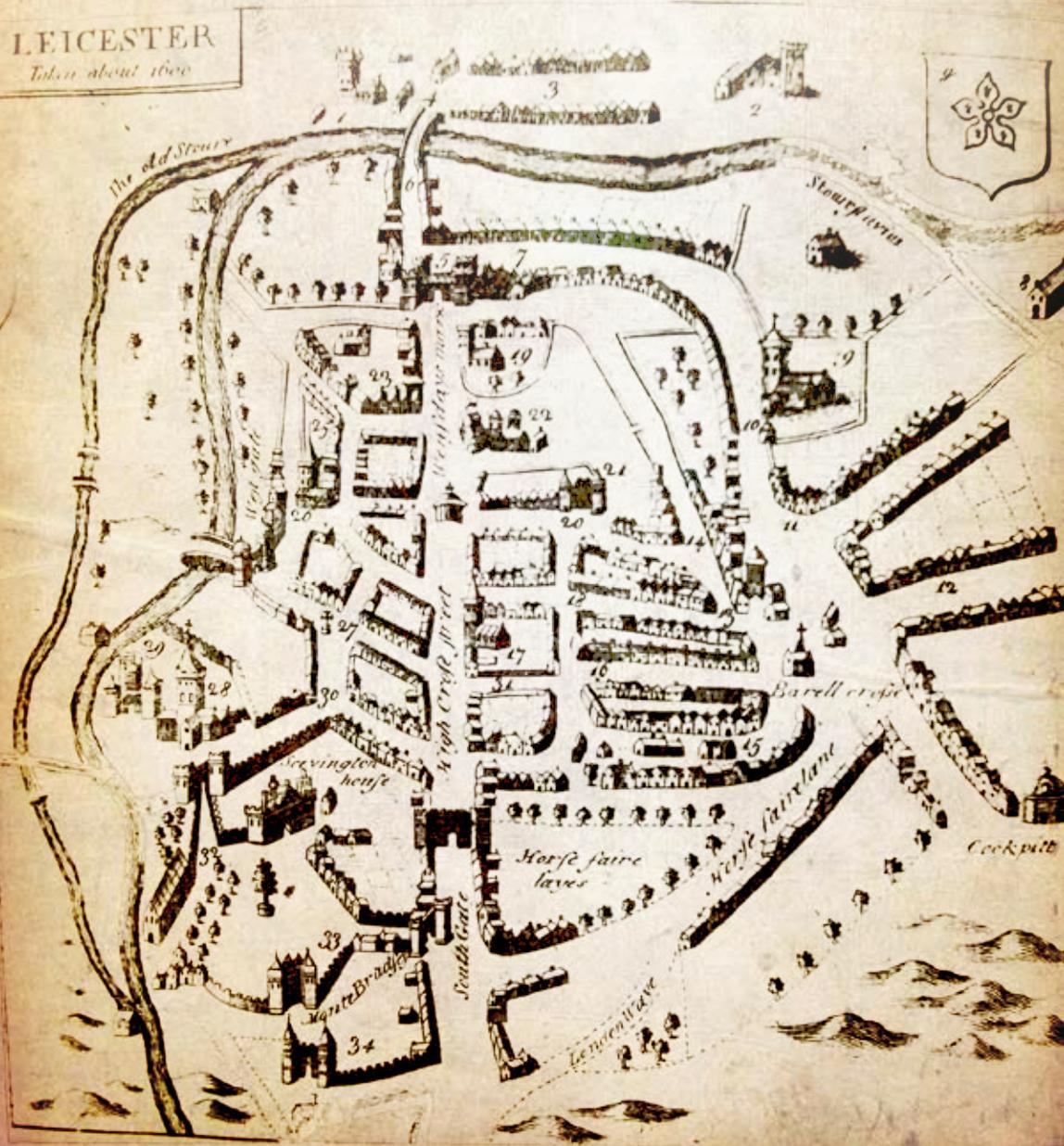
Fill in the application form here.  
All applications for the reservation  
of a place at the conference should  
be accompanied by the booking  
fee of £700. Acceptance to the  
conference is not automatic and  
places are limited.

## CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS

Monday 12 July 2021

Contact **Anabel Navarro**,  
Pre-conference Administrator,  
with any queries or questions:

Email: [A.Navarro@Tavinstitute.org](mailto:A.Navarro@Tavinstitute.org)  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7457 3926





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The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations is engaged with evaluation and action research, organisational development and change consultancy, executive coaching and professional development, all in service of supporting sustainable development and maintaining its impact as a UK Charity.