

CIMR NEWSLETTER

September 2025

**This newsletter celebrates
the CIMR community's
successes in the Summer
term 2025.**

**[WWW.BBK.AC.UK/RESEARCH/
CENTRES/CENTRE-FOR-
INNOVATION-MANAGEMENT-
RESEARCH](http://WWW.BBK.AC.UK/RESEARCH/CENTRES/CENTRE-FOR-INNOVATION-MANAGEMENT-RESEARCH)**



Unpack CIMR's latest activities and events

We're excited to share the latest developments in our research activities, events, and team updates over the past term at CIMR.

Looking ahead, we have a busy term lined up and invite you to stay tuned for more updates!

Follow us



Inside The Issue

- ◆ Newsletter Highlights
- ◆ Research Blogs
- ◆ News Blogs
- ◆ Other News Blogs
- ◆ New Publications
- ◆ New Reports
- ◆ New Books
- ◆ Call for Papers
- ◆ Presentations
- ◆ CIMR Debates In Public Policy Series and joint workshops
- ◆ Team News



Best Referee *Regional Studies*



Newsletter Highlights

Well done to our very own Helen Lawton Smith for being honored with the 2025 Regional Studies Best Referee Award on June 2025. This award underscores Helen's commitment to academic excellence.

Learn more on the CIMR News Blog section

Top News

New publication: Caloffi, A., Colovic, A., Rossi, F., Yang, J. and Bagherzadeh, M. (2025), Determinants of crowdsourcing openness in high-urgency conditions: a configurational approach. *R&D Management*. [Link to paper](#).

Nicola Searle was appointed to the UK Government's Department of Culture, Media & Sport College of Experts.

On May 28th CIMR joined the **'1st Critical Innovation Studies Workshop'**, which was co-organised with [Innogen](#), [The Open University](#) and [The University of Edinburgh](#) and [Entrepreneurship Research Group](#), University of Westminster.

Welcome onboard, Nancy!



We're excited to collaborate with [Princess Nancy Okonkwo](#) as we continue to strengthen our Alumni network and increase our impact within the innovation management field. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to her!

Learn more on the Teams News section

Blogs

We are grateful to our members who have contributed interesting and thought-provoking reflections to our blog series.

Learn more about the research and news blogs we have hosted since April 2025:



Research Blogs

Expanding Technological Indicators for Biodiversity and Environmental Sustainability – by Helen Lawton Smith; 26th May 2025

The Future of Technological Leadership: Insights from Nations in the Technological Race to 2030 – by Archibugi Daniele; 30th May 2025

Exploring Uncertainty and Enterprise: Insights from CIMR's Latest Seminar – by Helen Lawton Smith; 10th June 2025

Determinants of crowdsourcing openness in high-urgency conditions – by Federica Rossi; 12th June 2025

Generative AI in SMEs – the role of trust – by Marion Frenz; 26th June 2025

Deep-Tech Solutions for Global Challenges: insights from our latest CIMR Debate – by Helen Lawton Smith; 30th June 2025

News Blogs

Innovation, Inclusivity, and Impact: CIMR at the RSA Annual Conference 2025 – 15th May 2025

Welcoming Professor Sanjib Bhakta as Visiting Fellow at CIMR – 21st May 2025

Welcoming Dr. Dize Dinçkol to Birkbeck – 28th May 2025

Rethinking Innovation: a reflection on the 1st Critical Innovation Studies Workshop – 4th June 2025

Celebrating Excellence in Peer Review: Helen Lawton Smith Receives the 2025

RSA Best Referee Regional Studies Award – 9th June 2025

Welcoming Nancy Okonkwo to the CIMR Alumni Community – 11th June 2025

Towards Sustainable Business, Energy, and Society: a reflection on the 4th International Workshop on Global Sustainable Innovation (9-10 June) – 25th June 2025

Welcoming Dr. Abhijit Sengupta as Visiting Fellow at CIMR – 21st July 2025

Other News Blogs

Reforming the UN Security Council: enlargement is not enough – by Daniele Archibugi; 9th June 2025

The UN Security Council is Broken. Can it Be Fixed? – by Daniele Archibugi; 30th June 2025

New Research Activities

Our members have been busy producing ground-breaking research papers, book chapters and books.

Discover the research work released during this Summer term:



New Publications

Archibugi, D., Cellini, M., & Malgieri, A. (2025). **The Reform of the UN Security Council: What Are the Issues?** *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 31 (2), 137-162.

Archibugi, D., Mariella, V., & Vezzani, A. (2025). **What next? Nations in the technological race through the 2030.** *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 212, 123987.

Caloffi, A., Colovic, A., Rossi, F., Yang, J. and Bagherzadeh, M. (2025), **Determinants of crowdsourcing openness in high-urgency conditions: a configurational approach.** R&D Management.

Rossi, F., Finardi, U. (2025) **Organisational determinants of international collaborations in clinical research: evidence from Italian research hospitals,** *Journal of Technology Transfer*.

Reports

Borghi, M.; Ganglmair, B.; Searle, N.; **Trusted Research and Innovation: How Knowledge Leakage Affects the Research & Innovation Ecosystem;** June 19th, 2025; IRC Report no 24

Books

Archibugi, D., Visone, T. & Voltaggio, F. (eds) (2025). **Filosofi per la pace. I progetti di pace perpetua.** Editori Riuniti, Roma, 389 pp.

Call for Papers

Co-creation for Sustainable Innovation

Submission deadline: 30 January 2026

Firms are increasingly encouraged to innovate sustainably, balancing economic, environmental, and social

goals. Sustainable innovations improve performance by avoiding harm, fostering development, and implementing governance schemes. Co-creation, where ecosystem actors like businesses, universities, governments, intermediaries, and citizens integrate their resources, knowledge, and networks, is crucial for systemic changes, stakeholder collaboration, and integrating diverse perspectives for sustainable solutions. The Special Issue welcomes original empirical, methodological, and conceptual papers on the actors, processes, and impacts of co-creation that support economic, social, and environmental sustainable innovation.

Guest editors:

- Federica Rossi, Associate Professor, Dipartimento di Economia "Marco Biagi", Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia
- Muthu De Silva, Professor, Birkbeck, Business School, Birkbeck, University of London
- Agnieszka Radziwon, Associate Professor, Department of Business and Sustainability, University of Southern Denmark; Research Fellow, Haas School of Business, University of California Berkeley
- Wim Vanhaverbeke, Professor, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Antwerp

[Find out more](#)

Events & Grants

CIMR places considerable emphasis on the organisation of events, including our award-winning CIMR Debates in Public Policy series. Our members also attend a variety of conferences and panels as guest speakers.

Learn more about this term events:



Presentations

Federica Rossi

Speaker at the seminar '*Organisational determinants of international collaborations in clinical research: evidence from Italian research hospitals*', University of Florence, 17th April 2025

Speaker at the iBegin Conference, 'Innovation intermediaries and the digital transition for circularity: The case of the textile cluster in Prato', Milan, Italy, 8–9th May 2025

Speaker at the seminar '*Le imprese manifatturiere emiliane e la sfida dell'innovazione sostenibile*', at University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, 27th May 2025

Speaker at the R&D Management

Conference '*Addressing Grand Challenges through Transdisciplinary Arts and Culture Research: The Role of Stakeholder Involvement*', Pisa, Italy, 30 June – 2 July 2025

Helen Lawton Smith

Keynote speaker at the 4th International Workshop on Global Sustainable Innovation: Towards Sustainable Business, Energy and Society: '*University Entrepreneurial Ecosystems: Addressing the Grand Societal Challenges of Inequality and Sustainability*', , Innolab, University of Vaasa, June 9–10th 2025

Panellist in Panel discussion: Juha Kytölä (the Director of R&D and Engineering at Wärtsilä) (Guest speaker) and Gary Knight (Willamette University) The 4th International Workshop on Global Sustainable Innovation: Towards Sustainable Business, Energy and

Society, Innolab, University of Vaasa,
June 9–10th 2025

Paper presentation at the Regional
Studies Association International
Conference: *'HEIs' Missions, Graduate
Labour Markets and Regional Economic
Development'* (with Bill O'Gorman and
Richard Hayes), Porto May 7–19

Daniele Archibugi

Guest speaker at the University course
of Professor Tommaso Visone 'Political
thought of colonization and
decolonization', on 'How to build peace
today?', Sapienza University of Rome,
May 7th 2025.

Speaker at Conference on International
Relations and Democracy in a
Multipolar World, on 'The Internal and
External Level for a Global Democracy',
London School of Economics and
Political Science, May 15–16th 2025

Participated to the 2025 Venice
Conference on Democracy's Discontent.
Questions for Political Philosophy of Our
Time. Venice International University,
May 29–31 2025

Speaker at the Comics Festival in
Krakow (June 27–28 2025) to discuss
how scientific communities could
engage successfully in people's
diplomacy.

Speaker at Conference of the
International Sociological Association in
Rabat (Morocco), July 6–11 2025, to
present his research on world
technological competition.

CIMR Debates in Public Policy and joint workshops

6th May 2025

**2025 RSA Annual Conference
Navigating Regional Transformation
University of Porto**

[Link to blog](#)



14th May 2025, 12:00 – 13:00

**Expanding Tech Indicators for
Biodiversity & Environmental
Sustainability (CIMR Debate in Public
Policy)**

Chair: Dr Marion Frenz – Birkbeck,
University of London, CIMR

Speakers

- Dr. Viviana D'Angelo, Italian National
Research Council

- Dr. Fabrizio Tuzi, Senior Researcher at Institute on Regional Studies – Italian National Research Council
- Dr. Andrea Filippetti, Senior Research Fellow, Italian National Research Council

Discussant:

- Prof Daniele Archibugi, Birkbeck, CIMR
- Prof Helen Lawton Smith, Birkbeck, CIMR

[Link to YouTube Video](#)

[Link to blog](#)



28th May 2025

1st Critical Innovation Studies Workshop (Joint Workshop) University of Westminster London,

Co-organised with:

- [Innogen](#),
- [The Open University](#)
- [The University of Edinburgh Entrepreneurship Research Group](#),
University of Westminster.

[Link to blog](#)



3rd June 2025, 14:00 – 16:00

Uncertainty and Enterprise: Venturing beyond the Unknown (CIMR Debate in Public Policy)

Welcome: Prof Helen Lawton-Smith, CIMR Director, Birkbeck, University of London

Chair: Prof Gylfi Zoega, Birkbeck, University of London and University of Iceland.

Speakers

- Prof Amar Bhidé, Columbia University Medical Center and Tufts University
- Prof Kamalini Ramdas, London Business School

[Link to YouTube Video](#)

[Link to blog](#)



25th June 2025, 15:00 – 16:30

**Bridging Research and Innovation:
Deep-Tech Solutions for Global
Challenges (CIMR Debate in Public
Policy)**

Welcome: Prof. Helen Lawton Smith,
Director, CIMR, Birkbeck, University of
London

Chair: Filipe Martins, Birkbeck PhD
student and ConvergeLab Researcher

Speakers:

- Ronaldo Pedro, Founder & Principal Investigator, NanoBusiness & ConvergeLab | Professor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ)
- Malu Junco, ConvergeLab Project Specialist | STEM Policy Communicator | Dual Majors, Economics and Biotechnology in Integrated Science Scholar at Claremont McKenna College

[Link to YouTube Video](#)

[Link to Blog](#)



New CIMR Members

Prof. Sanjib Bhakta - Visiting Fellow



Sanjib Bhakta is Professor of Molecular Microbiology and Biochemistry at UCL and [Birkbeck, University of London](#). His research on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in TB has been widely recognised, including Nature Scientific Reports' Top 100 most-read articles of 2018.

Beyond academia, Professor Bhakta serves as a Steering Group member for ISMB, UCL-TB, the NTM Network UK, and the Acid-Fast Club, UK.

We are thrilled to have Professor Bhakta join CIMR as a Visiting Fellow. His expertise and contributions to scientific innovation will undoubtedly enrich our research community.

[Link to blog](#)

Dr. Dize Dinçkol - Postdoctoral Research Fellow



Dr. Dinçkol is an emerging scholar with an impressive research portfolio at the intersection of entrepreneurship, strategy, and business models—particularly in data-driven, highly regulated industries.

Before joining Birkbeck, Dr. Dinçkol was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, where she was honored with the Research Excellence Award for Early Career Researchers, a testament to her outstanding contributions to the field.

CIMR is delighted to welcome Dr. Dize Dinçkol to the Birkbeck Faculty of Business and Law as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow of the Innovation & Research Caucus in which Prof Muthu De Silva is the Birkbeck's Co-investigator.

[Link to blog](#)

Princess Nancy Okonkwo - Alumni



Princess Nancy Okonkwo, a MSc Management with International Business graduate at [Birkbeck, University of London](#) brings with her a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to innovation, ethical business, and cross-sector collaboration.

As an alumna, Nancy is eager to contribute to the CIMR community, sharing insights and engaging in discussions on innovation ecosystems, ethical business practices, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

We are excited to have her on board and look forward to her contributions in shaping the future of innovation management.

[Link to blog](#)

Dr. Sanjib Bhakta - Visiting Fellow



Dr. Abhijit Sengupta is Associate Professor (Reader) in Business Analytics at Surrey Business School.

His research explores how research outputs translate into impact—particularly within university ecosystems and the higher education sector.

He is currently engaged in projects examining collaborative research networks and their influence on science and society. His work has been featured in prominent journals such as Research Policy, British Journal of Management, Technovation, Journal of World Business, and Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, among others.

[Link to blog](#)

ABOUT CIMR

The Birkbeck Centre for Innovation Management (CIMR) is a college-wide research centre of Birkbeck, University of London.

Launched in 2008, it undertakes international research focusing on multi-disciplinary academic, industrial and commercial themes relating to the management of innovation. It is a hub for enabling collaborations, teaching and sharing of research, ideas and practice to create impact and facilitate more effective management, commercialisation of innovation and the development of effective policy.

Our researchers regularly publish in top quality journals, present at international conferences and undertake consultancy for national and international policy-making bodies and research for influential think tanks.

WWW7.BBK.AC.UK/CIMR/



Contacts

Director

Professor Helen Lawton Smith:
h.lawton-smith@bbk.ac.uk

Deputy Directors

Dr Marion Frenz:
m.frenz@bbk.ac.uk

Dr Federica Rossi:
federica.rossi@unimore.it

Associate Director

Dr [Thanos Fragkandreas](#)

Follow us

