

# Materials Education SYMPOSIA

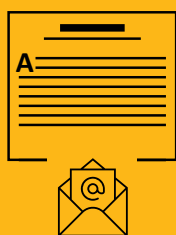
## IMES

Cambridge, UK - April 15-16 2026

preceding workshops on April 14

Registration  
now open

International Materials Education Symposium



### Call for Abstracts

Submit your abstract  
for a presentation or a poster  
[using this link](#)

November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2025 – Talk Abstract Deadline

January 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 – Poster Abstract Deadline

### / Session Themes

The Scientific Committee would like to invite participants to share their ideas and experiences relating to **Materials Education** under the following session themes:

- Materials science within **multidisciplinary** education – holistic program review
- **Novel** materials and **emerging** applications
- **Risks, responsibilities, ethics** and potential of **AI** in education
- Designing for **Social and Environmental Sustainability**: Equity, Materials, and Education
- **New and emerging teaching & learning techniques**: frameworks for effective and aligned materials education
- **Universal** design of learning for **inclusivity**
- **STEM** and **outreach** activities
- Knowledge, competences & skills in Materials for **employability in industry**

### / Why attend?

- To **share** ideas, innovations, experiences, successes and failures;
- To **provoke productive discussion** around these issues; and
- To **expand the links** that form such a key feature of the Materials Community.

The symposia foster an **atmosphere of community** amongst educators involved in teaching undergraduate materials science across disciplines including engineering, design, and science.

The symposia events are annual events spread around the world.

### IMES 2026 Scientific Committee

Responsible for program (sessions and speakers) and abstract review:

**Paloma Fernández Sánchez**, Universidad Complutense de Madrid  
**Jessica Gwynne**, University of Cambridge  
**Kathryn Jackson**, University of Sheffield  
**Alison Harvey**, University of Manchester  
**Robert Thompson**, University of Cambridge  
**Darshil U. Shah**, University of Cambridge  
**Deborah Blaine**, University of Stellenbosch  
**Barbara Del Curto**, Politecnico Di Milano  
**Sepideh Godrat**, Delft University of Technology (TU Delft)  
**Tatiana Vakhitova**, Ansys Academic Program



## / What's included?

- A packed **speaker program** from a panel selected by the Symposium Scientific Committee; talks cover a wide range of topics related to the teaching of materials in: materials science, manufacturing and processes, mechanical engineering, industrial design, aerospace and nuclear engineering, bio engineering, plastics, and sustainable engineering
- Interactive **discussion** sessions
- **Networking** over lunches and the Symposium Dinner
- Two days of **poster sessions**, with 'Poster Teasers' sessions allowing presenters to briefly introduce their work in the main lecture theater
- Other activities including an invitation only **Presenters' dinner**, materials education **workshops** and **development meetings**.



*Join us for dinner in one of the historic Cambridge University dining halls.*

*Exchange ideas  
with colleagues  
from around the  
world*



*"This has been an incredibly useful meeting  
– one of the best I have ever attended"*  
**Dr. John Long, Deakin University**

*"A must for all serious materials educators"*  
**William Callister (Utah)**

## / The Symposia philosophy

Materials have played an enormous part in the technology advances of the 20th century. Emerging structural, functional, and bio-materials are poised to play an even larger part in the technology of the 21st century. Almost all the "Grand Challenges" identified as the essential technological and social advances for the next three decades have a material dimension. The part materials play in global and national economics and security is, today, so important that governments list the materials they perceive as "critical" and seek to assure access and to identify substitutes or alternatives should their supply chain be disrupted. For these (and many other) reasons, the education of materials-literate engineers and of informed and innovative materials scientists is essential for economic development and growth.

The Symposia are now firmly established in the calendar as a leading venue for the university-level materials education community to come together to discuss ideas, tools, and best practices relating to the teaching of materials across engineering, design, science and sustainability.

