



**SOCIETY OF CONSTRUCTION
LAW AUSTRALIA.**

2020 CONFERENCE CALL FOR ABSTRACTS.

The SoCLA Conference Subcommittee is calling for papers for its 2020 National Conference, to be held at the Hobart Function and Conference Centre in Hobart on 24-25 July 2020.

Just living is risky business. A search of Google suggests that people make up to 35,000 decisions each day although research by Sheena Iyengar in 2011 suggests that only 70 of those are fully conscious. Whatever the number, there is risk in every one.

The situation is no different in the construction game. There is risk in everything that we do. Upsides and downsides to every decision. However, are we managing risk well? Could we be doing it better? What are the unknown unknowns? These are just some of the questions that the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee is asking (and hopes to have answered) at this year's annual conference.

TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS.

Abstracts Due	1 May 2020
Peer Review Process	2-14 May 2020
Notification of Acceptance	15 May 2020
Speakers to Register & Pay	29 May 2020
Final Papers Due	13 July 2020

THE SOCLA CONFERENCE SUBCOMMITTEE IS CALLING FOR ABSTRACTS FOR PAPERS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STREAMS.

Known Knowns and Unknown Unknowns

Papers for this stream should be focused on methods for identifying risks. What tools are being developed (or should be developed) to improve our crystal ball gazing abilities to foresee (and therefore manage) risks in construction?

Baby steps or giant leaps?

It seems to be universally recognized that, in theory, risks should be allocated to those best placed to mitigate and manage them. How does that general principle apply to major construction procurements? Are we merely taking baby steps from the last deal when we should be making giant leaps to customize the allocation of risk for each project? Papers in this stream should focus on the theory and practice of risk allocation in major construction procurements.

A material risk?

It is nearly 3 years since the Grenfell tower tragedy but the cladding problem is far from solved. Papers in this stream should focus on efforts to reduce the risks connected to the very materials and methods that are used in construction.

When opportunity knocks

Risk has a bad reputation but there is upside risk in construction as in any commercial endeavour. Papers in this stream should focus on the positive aspects of risk management in construction including the use of active risk management tools and strategies during the delivery phase.

The questions posed above only cover a small sample of the myriad issues the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee hope to see addressed this year. However, all abstract submittals should carefully consider and focus on the role the body of construction law will (or should) play as we seek answers to these questions.

While the preference is to have papers in the streams described above, the SoCLA Conference Subcommittee reserves the right to allow abstracts into the conference that are within the general scope of the conference even if they do not talk directly to one of the above streams.

RULES FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS.

By submitting an abstract the submitted confirms his or her agreement to comply with these rules for Abstracts and Papers. A signed copy of this document should accompany any abstract. Failure to do so may result in your abstract not being considered for inclusion in the conference program.

- The abstract and the paper should be sent in native form (e.g. *.doc, *.docx).
- The abstract must be between 500 and 750 words.
- The paper must not exceed 5,500 words. The word limit relates only to the text of the abstract and does not include title, authors, institutions, footnotes or references.
- All abstracts and papers must be submitted electronically to socla_callforpapers@scl.org.au and comply with the Australian Guide to Legal Citation: https://law.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2877782/AGLC3.pdf
- Submitters of abstracts must provide two copies of the abstract, one showing the author's details and one with any identification of the author removed. This is to allow a proper peer review process to take place efficiently.
- The title must clearly characterise the issue to be presented.
- The paper should identify (and be relevant to) the theme of the conference and a stream of discussion identified above.
- The paper must be an original work, not having been published elsewhere. Although the conference committee reserves the right to accept previously published work where it is relevant and of exceptional quality.
- Where it is proposed to present the results of any empirical research the approach and the results must be clear from the paper. In any event the paper must draw a clear conclusion.
- The paper must contain sufficient information so that if published it will be a complete report independent of presentation.
- Papers containing brochures or advertising material will be rejected. Brand-names can be mentioned under the responsibility of the authors.

- Where the abstract is accepted:
 - All author(s) who intend to present the paper at the conference must register (and pay) to attend the conference within 14 days of receiving notice of acceptance of their abstract. Failure to register (and pay) to attend the conference may result in the acceptance being withdrawn and the presentation spot being offered to another author(s).
 - The author(s) must submit a fully developed paper in accordance with these rules and any accompanying presentation to the conference committee by the date set out above or such further date as may be agreed.
 - The author(s) authorise the conference committee to publish the paper and any accompanying presentation to the conference attendees and on the www.scl.org.au website.
 - [Please strike out the following clause if no permission is given] The author(s) acknowledge that the conference committee may arrange for the presentation of the abstract to be recorded (video and audio). The author(s) give SoCLA permission to publish the recording on the www.scl.org.au website or such other website as SoCLA decides in its absolute discretion.

Signature:

Name:

Date: