

We are delighted to propose Edinburgh, Scotland as venue for the 7th International Symposium on Deep-sea Corals. The conference would be facilitated and hosted by the University of Edinburgh via the 'Changing Oceans' research group in the School of Geosciences.

The University of Edinburgh was founded in 1583. It is Scotland's top ranked university with 13,000 staff and 35,000 students. Our vision for ISDSC7 is to capitalize on the research momentum and funding available through the European Horizon 2020 programme by hosting the meeting in 2019 or 2020 as this programme reaches its conclusion. With a reach across all science disciplines and a multi-billion budget H2020 has made substantial investments in research directly relevant to ISDSC7. Europe has budgeted 120M euros to implement its components of the Galway Statement on trans-Atlantic co-operation and has already invested in several projects including 20M euros between the new ATLAS and SponGES projects. We would also explore ways by which ISDSC7 could embrace the rapidly developing deep-water sponge research community and engage those working on their biotechnological potential, themes that haven't been a traditional feature of the ISDSC.

As part of our bid to host ISDSC7 we would commit to seek sponsorship from the EU via the existing Atlantic Ocean Area Research Alliance which sponsored the Galway Statement workshop at ISDSC6 and other agencies active in this area. We would also seek support from industry partners working with relevant projects in Europe and beyond: for example the ATLAS project is working with industry partners headquartered in western Australia, Norway and the UK.

Our attached proposal gives a summary of the University of Edinburgh venue and the conference management service we would use to ensure smooth and efficient conference organization.

Edinburgh is Scotland's capital and one of the most beautiful and dynamic cities in Europe. We hope to welcome you all to Edinburgh for ISDSC7

U of E – School of Geosciences International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals 2020 June 2020

Thank you for considering Edinburgh First at the University of Edinburgh for your conference in the future, we look forward to working with you. Currently we have availability on the dates you are considering for both the conference and the bedrooms, as well as dining facilities should you need them. I have pleasure in proposing the following based on estimated numbers of 200.

Pollock Halls Campus

Pollock Halls is just south of the city centre, close to the Scottish Parliament, and within walking distance of the famous Royal Mile. Set in the shadow of Arthur's Seat at Holyrood Park it is conveniently located for all public transport links. It also has the benefit of on-site complimentary car parking. 15 min walk from the Royal Mile, 5 min taxi from Waverley Station and on-site taxi rank makes this the perfect location to host your event.

Adding to the village atmosphere of the campus, we also have a shop, a cash line and a bar open until 11pm.

The Pollock Halls Campus is the location of the proposed conference, as well as the accommodation.

John McIntyre Conference Centre

This conference centre is all self-contained and on the one floor. There is a central lounge area, free wifi, state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment in all the rooms, potential for a conference office and business suite, a reception foyer and outdoor terrace, with the back drop of Arthurs Seat.

Details:

- First Floor
- Wheelchair accessible
- Natural daylight
- Temperature controlled rooms
- Black out facilities present
- No pillars in rooms
- 3 phase power
- Rooms have carpeting



Conference

Main Meeting Room (Max 330 theatre) (Max 180 cabaret)

The largest room in the entire conference centre is the **Pentland Suite**. This room will hold a maximum of 330 delegates in a theatre style layout.

The room has ceiling mounted dual data projection with 2 large screens, as well as a fully integrated PA system, lectern with microphones and a lap top.



Please note that this room can also have a dividing partition – it can be split in to two separate rooms if required. For example should you need to have parallel sessions in the afternoon, you could have 1 x 150 and 1 x 120 next door to each other. Alternatively of course you can use one side for the meeting, and the other side for posters.

Registration

Registration for the conference would take place in the huge foyer area just outside the main room and across from the lounge area. Conveniently located next to this registration are two small board rooms.

Generally these two additional rooms are used as an organiser office, or a speaker green room.

3 x small breakout rooms

Still within the conference centre, on the same floor, there are an additional two meeting rooms that will each take up to 40 in a theatre style, and a third that will take 30. All rooms are right next door to each other and very similar.

- Holyrood max 40 theatre
- Salisbury max 40 theatre
- Duddingston max 30 theatre



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Exhibition, Refreshments & Networking

If you were planning to have exhibitions and catering, we would position the tea/coffee stations throughout the exhibition/posters. This allows the delegates to peruse the stands at their leisure speaking with as many exhibitors as possible.

If you have the conference centre reserved exclusively, then exhibitors can set up in the communal areas – lounge, concourse and marquee should you wish and you can have free use of every area.

However, if only one room was booked exhibitors and posters would need to remain in private meeting rooms as opposed to the communal space.

The marquee, if needed will give an extra 250sqm of exhibitor/networking space. All spaces are fully accessible



Marquee on the terrace



Centro Lounge area

Conference Lunches

Depending on final numbers and your preference, the lunches can either be served with in the conference centre lounge area where the meeting rooms are, OR you are welcome to use the dining room on the ground floor.

In the dining room delegates would be free to mingle and sit with who they choose. Their menus would include a variety of hot and cold options; Soups, salads, various main courses, desserts, cheeses, fruits etc. Unlimited hot and cold beverages.



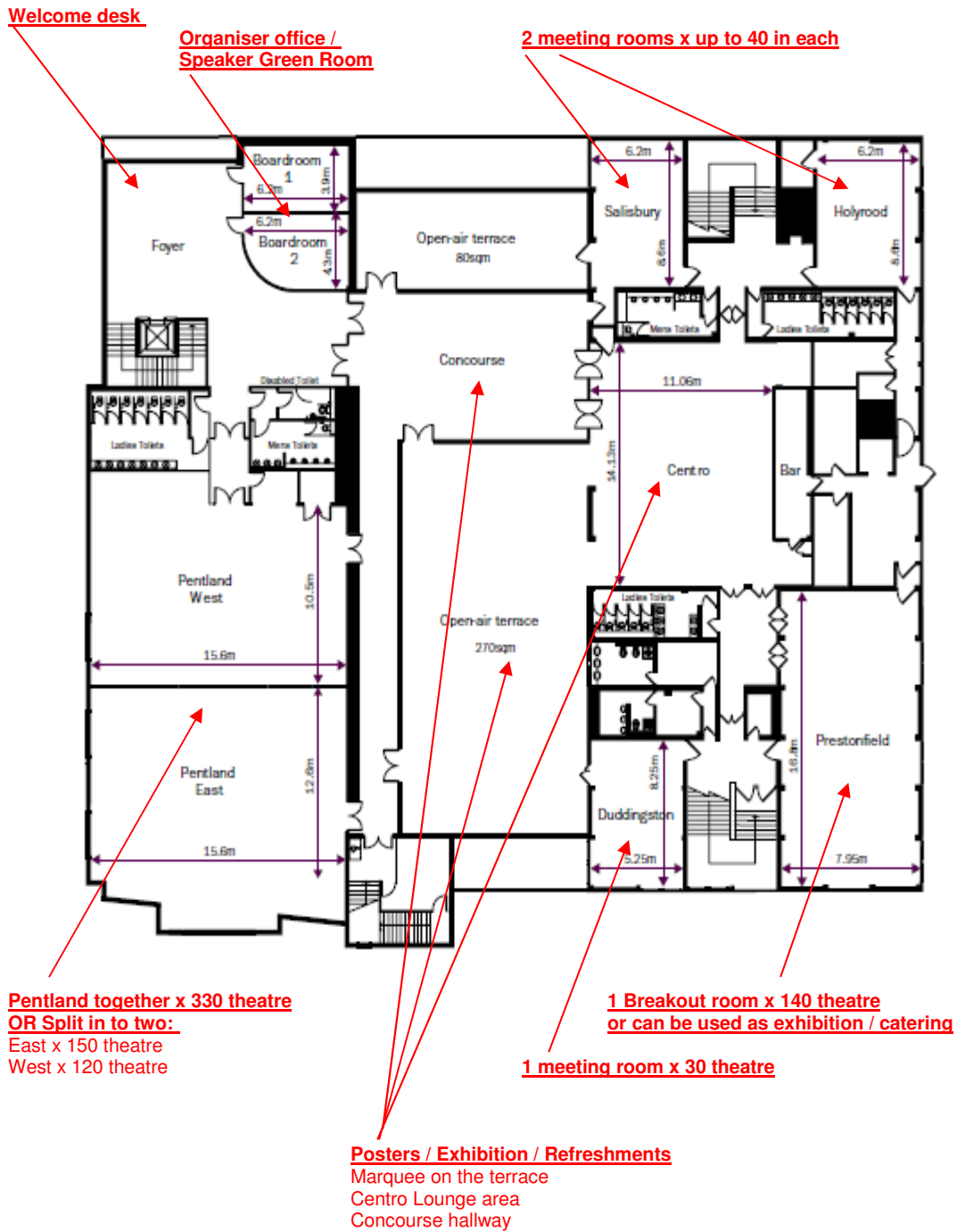
Conference Centre Restaurant



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Floor Plan

The main room, the Pentland Suite can divide down the middle to form two separate meeting rooms if required.



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Drinks Reception

Following the conference during the day guests can be welcomed in to the lounge area of the conference centre for a drinks reception, or to peruse any exhibition stands informally.

South Hall Complex

Across the car park from the conference centre, is the South Hall.

This light-filled, contemporary venue is both flexible and spacious. It is capable of hosting up to 200 for a gala dinner or up to 160 for a dinner dance.

The venue has a flat oak-sprung floor purpose built for ceilidh dancing, state-of-the-art thematic lighting and convenient access for loading. There is also a stage for any entertainment you are planning and a data projector should you wish to display pictures or a slide show.



The tables would be set for dining and include menu cards. We can also provide place names if you choose to have a seating plan.

Menus

Edinburgh First has a highly experienced team of chefs. You can trust them to create a menu making the most of fine local produce and global ingredients, all designed to suit your budget, tastes and guests' dietary requirements.

Our extensive wine list features wines from both the old world and the new at every price range. Your allocated events co-ordinator would be on hand to help you match them to the food.



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Accommodation

On the same campus as both the conference centre and the South Hall, we have a huge variety of accommodation options.

Salisbury Green Hotel

Ideal for speakers or vip guests.

This is a beautifully restored 3 star 18th-century mansion house hotel set in beautifully landscaped grounds. The modern interior has been carefully designed to reflect the atmosphere and the history of the building and its architecture; all 36 en-suite bedrooms exude richness and quality. The bedrooms offer a range of facilities including free internet access, tea & coffee making facilities and room service. Available all year round, the hotel offers 4* standard bedrooms.



Masson House

Guests will feel right at home in this modern and extremely comfortable guest accommodation.

All 100 rooms have a Freeview TV and en-suite bathroom facilities, plus essentials such as a telephone, wireless and cabled internet access and tea/coffee-making facilities.

Masson House Bistro and Lounge offers a fine dining experience in a relaxed atmosphere. A delicious dinner menu in the Bistro using locally-sourced ingredients or tapas-style food in the Lounge, is the perfect way to relax, unwind and enjoy the exquisite food.



Travel information to Pollock Halls

Location: Pollock Halls is situated south of the city centre, close to the Scottish Parliament, and within walking distance of the famous Royal Mile. Set in the shadow of Arthur's Seat at Holyrood Park it is conveniently located to explore Scotland's Capital.

Trains: Edinburgh's principal railway terminus is Waverly Station, less than 15 minutes walk from the University. A taxi to the University will cost around £6. Trains from the West Coast or from Glasgow will also stop at Haymarket station, at the west end of Princes St. GNER trains travel up the east coast line. www.gner.co.uk, 08457 225 225 tickets or 08457 484 950 for enquiries. For details on timetables, see www.networkrail.co.uk or telephone 08457 484 950.

By Coach/Bus: Coaches arrive in St Andrews Square located almost directly across Princes St from the Waverley Train Station. St Andrews Square is a 20 minute walk from the University. Buses travelling past Pollock Halls (stopping at the Royal Commonwealth Pool) include 30, 33, 2, 14 and 86. There are frequent services from London Victoria Bus Station to Edinburgh. Further information can be obtained from www.nationalexpress.com or telephone 08705 808 080.

By car: As you approach Edinburgh take the City by-pass (A720). Exit at Sheriffhall Roundabout, take the A7 and head for the city centre. Stay on the A7 which becomes Dalkeith Road. Turn right at the Royal Commonwealth Pool onto Holyrood Park Road (approximately 4 miles) and the entrance to Pollock Halls is approximately 200m on the right.

Campus Facilities @ Pollock Halls

Within our newly refurbished John McIntyre Conference Centre we have a small convenience store with a cash machine and a public bar and restaurant. There is a taxi rank on site with a free phone line, and free car and coach parking. We are also located close to the University's Centre for Sport and Exercise.

Sustainability Policy

Edinburgh First has identified sustainable development as development that meets the needs of current customers and staff and without compromising the ability of future generations to be able to meet their own needs. For more information please view: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability>

Accreditations

Investors in People

Hospitality Assured

Eat Safe Award

Fairtrade

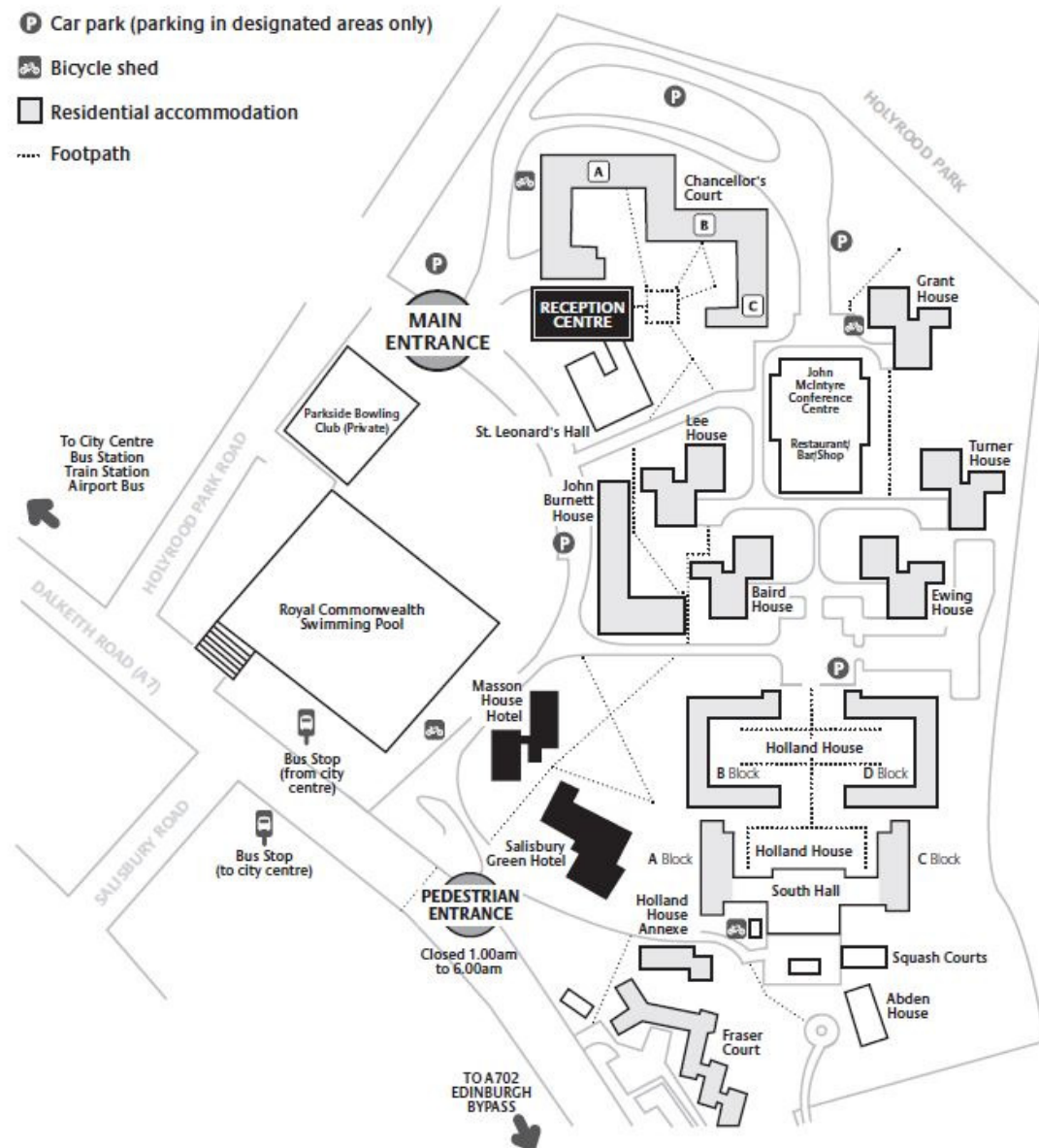
Healthy Living Award (1st University to be awarded this in the UK)

Food for the Brain Award (1st University to be awarded this in the UK)



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