

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## 2<sup>nd</sup> RGCS Symposium

Research  
Group  
Collaborative  
Spaces

We are pleased to announce the second international symposium of the RGCS network:

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> and Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in London  
at UCL, Cass Business School & Dauphine London

### **Coworkers, Makers & Hackers: True Opportunities to Renew Work Practices and Entrepreneurship?**

#### **1. Topics of the second symposium**

This second RGCS symposium will focus on the **relationship between the corporate world, collaborative movements** (i.e. co-workers, makers, hackers and the fab lab network) and **new work practices**.

On the one hand, it seems that management and consultants bring high expectations to their work with collaborative techniques and exponents of collaborative movements. Hackathons, corporate hacking, open knowledge, communities, ‘labs’, have all recently entered the contemporary managerial vocabulary and practices. They are expected to be at the heart of new innovative and strategic practices such as disruptive or open innovation. Industry is also increasingly investing in collaborative environments. Coworking spaces are thus increasingly designed and owned by real estate companies, and corporate sponsors support maker and hacker spaces in apparent need of these resources and the legitimacy they bring.

On the other hand, some actors of collaborative movements criticize the superficial and opportunistic use of collaborative values. For example, hackers defend an ethic which is interesting from a governance point of view (beyond the punctual ‘use’ of hackathons). Makers defend ‘repair’ logics which are seen as a profound alternative to capitalist notions of fast innovation and hyper-consumption.

**What are the relationships between collaborative movements and the corporate world? How do coworkers, makers and hackers contribute or could contribute to new work practices and new forms of entrepreneurship in organizations and society?** Are makers and hackers the muse or the nemesis of managers? Are the two in a dialogical relationship, in conflict, or even mutually interdependent in today's urban professional life?

**This second symposium will also be an opportunity for critical and political perspectives on collaborative movements, collaborative techniques and their translation in the world of management.** New work and management practices associated to collaborative workplaces (e.g. digital nomads, telework, co-working, distributed work) raise novel tensions and paradoxes in control and surveillance issues that need to be explored at greater depth. Therefore **new domination, control and surveillance practices will also be at the heart of our discussions.**

Here are the issues we would like to cover (this list is non-exhaustive):

- Collaborative movements and their relationships with the corporate world: as mutual sources of innovation, legitimation, transformation;
- Collaborative practices in the context of corporate coworking or maker spaces and independent coworking and maker spaces;
- Repair, DIY, DIT, maker movements and their relationship with society, organizations, organizing, politics and their joint transformations;
- Fab labs as networks, contributors to open knowledge and their translation in a corporate environment;
- Spatial, temporal, visual and material dimensions of the relationships between the collaborative and corporate worlds;
- The legitimation and co-legitimation of collaborative techniques, collaborative communities and corporate projects in organization and society;
- How spaces, time, bodies are involved in the legitimation processes and practices of corporate techniques in the collaborative environment, or collaborative techniques in the corporate environment;
- Historical views on firms, corporate environments and collaborative movements. Comparative historical perspectives on the two phenomena;
- Critical perspectives on the 'use' of collaborative techniques and collaborative values in a corporate world;
- Joint emergence of new work practices in corporate and collaborative worlds;
- Institutional, practice, process, phenomenological, Marxist, post-Marxist, discursive, aesthetic, critical views on both phenomena and their joint evolution;
- Ideologies, myths of the collaborative and sharing economies and how they feed the corporate world. Conversely, how the corporate world is renewed or maintained by the sharing economy and the collaborative economy;

- Affordance and proximity in and of collaborative spaces in the city, and how they relate to traditional business districts;
- Boundary-spanner issues between corporate world, third places and the city;
- Open innovation and how it is grounded, justified, fed by transformations introduced by collaborative communities;

## 2. What is RGCS?

RGCS is an **alternative academic network** set up in 2014 which aims at gathering **academics, practitioners, activists, journalist and politicians** interested in **collaborative communities and collaborative movements** (coworkers, hackers, makers...) and **how they transform or make visible new work practices in organizations and society** (mobile work, telework, digital nomads, collaborative entrepreneurship, DIY, DIT, BYOD, etc.).

For more details about the Research Group on Collaborative Spaces (RGCS): @collspaces or <https://collaborativespacesstudy.wordpress.com/>

## 3. Submission process and organization of the second RGCS symposium

**All those interested in participating are welcome.** Submissions will be based on an extended abstract (1000 words, Times New Roman font). All submissions, related to RGCS or not, are welcome. The deadline for submissions will be **October 27<sup>th</sup> 2017**.

One key criterion of selection will ultimately be to represent the diversity of trends and practices in the cities and territories represented by RGCS chapters (i.e. Paris, London, Montreal, Berlin, Lyon, Grenoble, Toulouse, Barcelona, Milan, Roma, Amsterdam) but also in other cities in the world. We thus invite people interested in submitting a proposal to get in touch with us at: [collaborativespaces@gmail.com](mailto:collaborativespaces@gmail.com)

**Organizing committee:** H el ene Bussy-Socrate (Warwick Business School), Sabine Carton (Universit e Grenoble-Alpes), Aurore Dandoy (Universit e Paris-Dauphine, PSL), Fran ois-Xavier de Vaujany (Universit e Paris-Dauphine, PSL), Julie Fabbri (emlyon business school), St ephanie Fargeot (Universit e Paris-Dauphine, PSL), Anna Glaser (ESCP Europe), Albane Grandazzi (Universit e Paris-Dauphine, PSL) Stefan Haefliger (Cass Business School), Magda Hercheui (UCL), Janet Merkel (City University), Nathalie Mitev (King's College London), Anouk Mukherjee (Universit e Paris-Dauphine, PSL), Tuukka Toivonen (UCL), David Vallat (Universit e Lyon I).

The event will **include academic presentations based on [Pecha Kucha](#) techniques, keynote conferences, panels, co-creation workshop, learning expeditions... and city expeditions.**



Registration will be free of charge, but the number of seats at the symposium will be limited and registration will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis

For questions or submissions: [collaborativespaces@gmail.com](mailto:collaborativespaces@gmail.com)

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Site web : <https://collaborativespacesstudy.wordpress.com/>

Twitter : [@collspaces](https://twitter.com/collspaces)

LinkedIn : [Research Group on Collaborative Spaces \(RGCS\)](https://www.linkedin.com/company/research-group-on-collaborative-spaces/)

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### Partners of the second RGCS symposium



### Founding partners of RGCS symposium

