6th International Tourism Conference ENCUENTROS
March 24 to 26, 2017, Portorož, Slovenia
Organized by UP FTS Turistica and AIRTH

Call for Papers – Academic and Practitioner

HIGHLIGHTS
- Introducing the Alliance for Innovators and Researchers in Tourism & Hospitality - AIRTH
- Day 1: forming interest groups via presentations (stand-up & poster)
- Day 2: group road trips to visit recipients of the National Slovenian Tourism Innovation Award
- Day 3: discussions & plenary sessions

THEME
Innovation in Tourism and Hospitality – Preparing for the Future

AIRTHER is a global network of innovation-minded practitioners and researchers in tourism & hospitality with the goal to drive innovation research and spur innovation projects. Its mission is to foster interdisciplinary collaboration to develop and implement innovations that contribute to the sustainable development of destinations and tourism & hospitality businesses. This conference aims to put a spotlight on critical issues related to innovation in tourism & hospitality. It primarily serves two purposes:

1. To understand innovation in tourism and hospitality with respect to
   a. conditions that support and enable innovation,
   b. meanings, scope and impacts of innovation, and
   c. success factors in the practice of innovation.

2. To kick-start the AIRTHER network in order to attract individuals by becoming
   a. the home for researchers and scholars for intellectual exchanges, and
   b. the go-to place for practitioners for ideas, experiences, and new tools.

TOPICS (ACADEMICS & PRACTITIONERS)
- Business models –How to foster and support business model innovation?
- Human resources – Which settings enable innovation?
- Experience design – How can design contribute to innovation success?
- Public administration – Which actors and which roles enable innovation?
- Leadership – What characterizes innovation champions?
- Productivity & scalability – How to effectively and efficiently deliver innovation?
- Operations – Which service operation aspects facilitate innovation?
- Innovation science – How can innovation be best described, classified and defined to move towards a common language of innovation in tourism & hospitality?
- Relationship management – Which relationships best support innovation?
- Open platforms for innovation – How can open systems support and enable innovation?

http://www.encuentros.si
Notes for practitioners:
We encourage submissions of case studies, best practices and “lessons learned”, particularly related to:

- Challenges in an innovation project and how they were overcome.
- How to measure success and failure of innovation projects?
- How to communicate with stakeholders and secure their continued support?

Notes for academics:
We invite scholars to submit abstracts relating to one of the above-listed sub-streams/topics.

- Both empirical and conceptual studies are welcome.
- Reviews, empirical studies of innovation projects and behavioral work are particularly welcome.

VENUE, ORGANIZER & HOST CITIES
Faculty of Tourism Studies, University of Primorska, Portorož, Slovenia organizes the 6th Encuentros conference with AIRTH in Encuentros Center. Portorož and neighboring Piran are picturesque coastal towns within 90 minutes from Ljubljana Airport (LJU) and 2h from Venice Airport (VCE).

AWARDS
- Best academic presentation
- Best practitioner presentation

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
- All abstracts must be submitted ONLY through the website.
- The committee selects abstracts on a competitive basis.
- At least one author has to register for the conference.
- Authors keep the copyright and have the option to publish abstracts on the AIRTH website.
  All accepted abstracts are published in a printed conference program.
- Keep abstracts to max 1 page single-spaced, 12pt including up to five (5) references. ONLY use these templates:
  - Academic abstract template
  - Practitioner abstract template

Submission timeline

COMMITTEE
- Co-Chair Dejan Križaj, University of Primorska, Slovenia
- Co-Chair Florian Zach, Washington State University, USA
- Gunnar Þór Jóhannesson, University of Iceland, Iceland
- Juan Luis Nicolau, University of Alicante, Spain
- Stephan Reinhold, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland
- Carina Ren, Aalborg University, Denmark
- Vinod Sasidharan, San Diego State University, USA
- Iis Tussyadiah, Washington State University, USA
- Zheng Xiang, Virginia Tech, USA

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