



Welcome to the 2nd International e-Social Science Conference



NCeSS mission

- To help social scientists make the best use of e-science technologies to address key social science research challenges.
- To stimulate the uptake of Grid-enabled computing, data infrastructure and collaboration in social science research
- To provide information, training, advice, support and online resources.
- To advise on the future strategic direction of e-social science.

NCeSS structure and organisation

- Unified Centre with distributed structure
 - Co-ordinating Hub: Manchester / UKDA
 - Seven research Nodes: across the UK
 - Twelve small grant projects
 - Eight Access Grid Nodes

Role of NCeSS Hub

- One-stop shop:
 - Expertise, training, technical support, data resources
 - Website – a single ‘front door’
- Disseminate success:
 - Demonstrator projects
 - Training materials
 - Working papers, seminars, SIGs, conferences, training schools, fellowships
- Foster collaboration:
 - Between e-social science and e-science
 - Between social scientists and Grid developers
 - Between node research teams

The research Nodes

- Collaboration for Quantitative eSS Statistics
 - Rob Crouchley, Lancaster
- Modelling and Simulation for eSS
 - Mark Birkin, Leeds
- New Forms of Digital Record for eSS
 - Tom Rodden, Nottingham
- Mixed Media Grid
 - Mike Fraser, Bristol
- Geographical Urban Environments
 - Mike Batty, UCL
- Policy Grid: Rural Policy Appraisal
 - Pete Edwards, Aberdeen
- Oxford e-Social Science Project
 - Bill Dutton, Oxford

Small grant projects

- **Headtalk**
 - R Carter, Nottingham
- **Spatial Decision-Making in Distributed Environments**
 - A Beradi, OU
- **Learning Disabilities Data Infrastructure**
 - Simon Musgrave, Essex
- **Knowledge and Community Making in eSS**
 - Ben Anderson, Essex
- **Use of Grid in Disclosure Risk Assessment**
 - Mark Elliot, Manchester
- **Using AGNs in Field Research**
 - Nigel Fielding, Surrey

Small grant projects continued

- Data Chronicles
 - Karen Clarke, Manchester
- Grid-enabled Occupational Data
 - Dr Lambert, Stirling
- Data-driven Simulation for Policy Decision
 - G Theodoropolous, Birmingham
- Semantic annotation in skills-based learning
 - David De Roure, Southampton
- Integrating Data in Visualisation
 - M Chalmers, Glasgow
- Grid-enabled Spatial Regression Models
 - R Harris, Bristol

Access Grid Nodes

- Aberdeen
- Bristol
- Essex
- Hull
- Lancaster
- Leeds
- Surrey
- Sussex

Research Strands

- Applications:
 - To substantive social science research problems
 - Enhance existing areas of research and define new ones
- Social shaping:
 - Influences on the design, development, uptake and use of Grid technologies
 - Emergence of standards
 - Socio-economic impact

The Conference

- Four workshops yesterday
- Three keynote addresses
- Four panel sessions
- Forty papers
- Posters
- Exhibition stands
- and a social programme to promote lots of networking