

Academic Symposium 2026: Call for Papers

“Contracting in an Age of Uncertainty and Intelligence”

Date: 1st December – 3rd December 2026

Organized by: Commerce & Contract Management Institute (CCM Institute)

The Commerce & Contract Management Institute (CCM Institute) invites submissions for the upcoming Academic Symposium 2026, a platform dedicated to exploring the dynamic interplay between contracts and supply chain networks. This event aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry, fostering a collaborative environment where scholars and practitioners can share insights and identify new research opportunities.

Why this theme?

Contracting today operates in an environment shaped by rapid technological advancement, uncertainty and increasingly complex global supply chains. Traditional approaches built on short-term thinking, rigid risk transfer and low-trust relationships are proving fragile when faced with economic volatility, political disruption and supply chain shocks. The title “*Contracting in an Age of Uncertainty and Intelligence*” reflects this critical moment of transition. It recognises the need for contracts and commercial models to evolve – embracing collaboration, transparency and adaptability while also leveraging new forms of intelligence such as data analytics and AI. In this context, contracting is no longer merely a legal safeguard but a strategic tool for building resilient, responsive and trusted supply networks that can thrive amid uncertainty.

Key areas for exploration

- Judgment, Power, and the Limits of Automation
- Governing Value in Uncertain Ecosystems
- Designing and Proving Better CCM Operating Models
- Contracts as Systems of Intelligence

Call for Papers, Essays, or Oral-only Presentations

We welcome the latest research insights from around the world and submissions from practitioners working on the ground. The key to this Symposium is to combine valuable expertise from the field and academia, creating an opportunity for those in the public, private, and voluntary sectors to share and build on existing knowledge. Therefore, alongside academic papers, we also encourage input from practitioners in the form of essays or oral presentations without formal writing.

Please submit a 250-word abstract describing your proposed presentation no later than **15th of August 2026**, to Carmella at **c.kavanagh@ccm.institute**

Accepted abstracts will be made available online to the conference delegates, and the authors will be invited to provide a high-level summary of their paper or thoughts on Day One (1st of December 2026) of our Academic Symposium, where presentations will receive feedback.

Selected authors will be invited to submit their contribution for consideration in a special issue/section of the International Journal of Commerce & Contracting. All submissions will undergo the journal's usual peer review process and must meet the standards set out in the submission guidelines available here: <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/jsc>.

Submission Deadlines for the Symposium

250 WORD ABSTRACTS DUE FRIDAY 15th of August 2026

Abstracts to be sent to Carmella at **c.kavanagh@ccm.institute**

Successful applicants will be notified by 30th September 2026

We encourage submissions from:

- Doctoral students
- Young and experienced professionals
- Future procurement & contracting specialists
- Academics
- Applied researchers
- Other stakeholders in the field of contracting and the law

For more information

Visit: <https://info.worldcc.com/academic-symposium-2026>