

CARN Conference 2025

Digitalization, social justice
and transforming societies



Book of Abstracts

UNIVERSITY OF KLAGENFURT,
AUSTRIA



Welcome!

We warmly welcome you to the CARN Conference 2025 at the University of Klagenfurt. Many colleagues, from about 25 countries and four continents, have followed the call.

Global crises - ecological, social, and economic – are posing challenges to societies and, at the same time, digitalization is transforming our lives by creating both opportunities and challenges. In this context, participative and reflective research is gaining in importance. In which ways can action research help address these challenges? We look forward to lively conversations and the chance to discuss these issues, among others.

The Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) was founded in 1976. Since that time it has grown to become an international network drawing its members from educational, health, social care, commercial, and public services settings. CARN aims to encourage and support action research projects (personal, local, national and international), accessible accounts of action research projects, and contributions to the theory and methodology of action research. We say thank you to the support of the CARN Coordinating Group.

The University of Klagenfurt (AAU) is a young, lively, innovative university located in the Austrian state of Carinthia, a meeting point of three cultures. The University is Carinthia's largest academic institution and a hub for the whole of the Alpe-Adria-Region in terms of knowledge acquisition, exchange and transfer. The university's lively, diverse atmosphere and sense of openness makes it the cultural centre for the region. One of the University of Klagenfurt's key tasks is to push boundaries through the research, teaching and many active co-operation projects taking place in the region. We would like to express our thanks to the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Education for financial support.

Thank you as well to those of our colleagues who have been willing to serve on the Local and International Advisory Board of this year's conference. (You will find their names on the next page).

We wish you a rewarding and satisfying conference.

Franz Rauch, Christine Lechner, Julia Braunecker, Gertraud Benke, Angela Schuster, Markus Messerschmidt, Josef Hoedl, Nicole Irmann

Sincere thanks to the CARN Conference 2025 Advisory Board

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Space to come together

This year the first full day of the CARN Conference will open with a “Space to come together”.

Many CARN regulars will be eager to meet up with their networks and discuss recent action and activities.

There will be rooms available for:

- Local networks
- Networks based on a common working language
- National networks
- Groups working on a theme
- Specific content networks
- A moderated open space for those new to CARN
- More open spaces

Please inform us about plans at the registration on Thursday to ensure that rooms can be organized.

Please welcome new people to your groups, CARN is a welcoming space/place

Bioblitzing in the Digital Age - Are Biologists Losing Their Roots or Gaining New Wings?

It is a common joke that biologists studying different taxonomic groups can be distinguished by their specific behaviors, temporal activity patterns, and postures. A Bioblitz, (also known as "GEO-Day of Biodiversity") provides an excellent opportunity to observe these differences. During a Bioblitz, biologists with various specializations have 24 hours to compile a comprehensive inventory of species in a given area. Due to its active and interventionist approach, a Bioblitz can certainly be classified as action research.

In this study, we observe and discuss how the behavior of different specialists is or will be influenced or transformed by the use of modern technologies. This is achieved through ethnographic observation and interdisciplinary analysis, using case studies from Bioblitz events conducted in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Nockberge, the Hohe Tauern National Park, and the UNESCO Geopark Karawanken.

By examining the interplay between traditional fieldwork methods and modern technologies, we aim to contribute to a deeper understanding of how scientific practices adapt to technological innovation in the context of recording and monitoring biodiversity.

Keywords

biodiversity, citizen sciences, protected areas, conservation technologies

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