Dear ECA2017 participants,

As we are getting really close to the early bird registration deadline, which is on 28 February 2017, we wanted to let you know about the latest developments regarding the organisation of ECA2017.

1. General programme

There are no changes in the structure of the general programme since the 1st Newsletter, issued last month (see also http://ecargument.org/?page_id=768). Please note that we have organised parallel sessions according to types of contribution in order to avoid ‘hybrid’ parallel sessions, which would complicate participant choices and moving from one room to the other. The programme is thus structured as follows:

- long papers will all be presented in the morning of Wednesday 21 June
- thematic panels will all take place in the afternoon of Thursday 22 June
- regular papers will be presented in the afternoon of Wednesday 21 June and in the mornings of Thursday 22 June and Friday 23 June
- the poster session is scheduled on Friday 23 June around noon

2. News on excursions

While the first excursion (guided city tour in the afternoon of Tuesday 20 June, before conference opening) is still being planned at this point, we can now tell you more about the 2nd excursion, which will take place right after the end of the conference on Friday 23 June. We have planned a visit to the famous chocolate factory Maison Cailler, where you will learn everything there is to know about the chocolate making process, from the cocoa bean to the final product you might get in the duty free at the airport on your way back. Chocolate tasting is included! The price of the excursion, VAT included, is 49.90 CHF. This covers bus transportation to the factory and back (about a half-hour bus ride from the conference venue with buses specifically hired for ECA2017), a guided tour and the entrance fee to the factory. It is one of the highlights of the region and of Switzerland, so if you are staying a bit longer after the conference, don’t miss it!

In order to book it, you need to amend your registration on our platform (https://events.artefact-sa.ch/artefact/8/home) by clicking on ‘Edit registration’ upon login, then on the ‘Edit’ button next to ‘Registration and contact details’ on the next page and then on ‘Proceed’ at the end of the next page. This will take you to the page where you can edit your social events.

3. Registration and deadlines

- Reminder: the early-bird deadline for registration is 28 February 2017 and the final deadline for registration is 15 April 2017.
- The deadline for submission of long papers (except those competing for the van Eemeren prize, who have already been informed), which need to be sent to ecafribourg2017@gmail.com, is also 15 April 2017.
- Our registration platform (https://events.artefact-sa.ch/artefact/8/home) allows you to register for the conference but also to book accommodation, conference dinner and social events. You may amend your registration at a later stage until the final deadline (15 April 2017). An illustrated step-by-step procedure on how to register is available on our website at

- All inquiries regarding registration should be directed to our partner ARTEFACT MANAGEMENT, at the following email address: registration@artefact-sa.ch.

4. Accommodation

We still have available rooms in all price ranges. Again, this is available directly on the registration platform (https://events.artefact-sa.ch/artefact/8/home). All available rooms are guaranteed to be within 20 minutes (either walking or by public transportation) from the conference venue. Booking through the registration platform guarantees room availability and competitive prices.

All accommodation options along with details (locations, prices, access, etc.) are listed on our website: http://ecargument.org/?page_id=948.

5. Uploading your short abstracts

We thank those who have already uploaded their short abstracts on Easychair. For those of you who haven’t done so yet, here is a quick how-to guide for this:

1. Log in on www.easychair.org as an author, with the username and password you used to submit your abstract.
2. Once logged in, the page you see should display the number and title of your submission(s). At the end of the line, click on 'information' (which is underlined). This will allow you to see your submission (title, abstract, reviews, etc.).
3. On the top right corner of the page, click on 'Update information'. This will take you to the page where you can edit your submission.
4. By scrolling down on that page, you’ll see a new field titled 'Short abstract'. In the space that is available there, please paste your short abstract, which should be 75 words max. Please do not add references.
5. Once you are done, click the red button 'Update information' at the bottom, and you are all set!
6. If applicable, repeat the procedure for all your submissions.

We thank you in advance for doing this at your earliest convenience, but please do so before 31 March 2017.

All this information, and much more, is available at www.ecargument.org. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you in Fribourg in June!

All best wishes,

Steve Oswald, for the ECA2017 Organising Committee