

# 2026-05-20 CDIO Leaders Meeting Notes

Secretary Karin Capó Milding from the CDIO Office



## Agenda

### 1. Conference 2026 update

22nd International CDIO Conference, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom  
22–25 June 2026

**Theme:** *Enhancing Student Professional Development: Innovation in Assessment and Feedback*

The conference theme focuses on innovative assessment approaches that support the development of professional engineering competencies, skills, and attitudes.

**Conference website:** <https://www.cdio2026.co.uk/>

### Conference Update – Tony Topping

#### Proceedings

Fredrik Byström has nearly completed the proceedings and they are expected to be published shortly ahead of the conference.

#### Programme

The final draft of the conference program is ready to be submitted to the Program Committee for approval and is expected to be published early next week.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
08:00	Registration Opens			
08:30				
09:00	Conference opening & Keynote 1	Keynote 2		Tours
09:30				
10:00	Morning Coffee	Morning Coffee		Morning Coffee
10:30	Podiums + Workshops + Working Groups	Podiums + Workshops	Podiums + Workshops	Keynote 3 CDIO Academy & Working Groups Presentations Closing Ceremony
11:00				
11:30				
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch + Regional Meetings	
12:30				
13:00	Podiums + Workshops + Working Groups	Roundtables	Podiums + Workshops	Lunch
13:30				
14:00	Afternoon Coffee	Afternoon Coffee	Afternoon Coffee	CDIO Council Meeting
14:30				
15:00	Podiums + Workshops + Working Groups	Podiums + Workshops	Podiums + Workshops	
15:30				
16:00				
16:30	CDIO Council Meeting			
17:00				
17:30				
18:00				
18:30	Welcome Reception and tour of Metropolitan Cathedral & Lutyens Crypt	Conference Diner @ St. Georges Hall		
19:00				
20:00				
21:00				

## Registrations (as of 14 May 2026)

- 134 full delegates confirmed
- 16 CDIO Academy students confirmed

Participants currently represent primarily Europe and Asia, with additional delegates from Australia.

## Session Chairs

Emails will shortly be sent to potential session chairs requesting support during the conference sessions.

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## Final Program Overview

### Papers and Presentations

- Engineering Education Research (EER): 23
- Advances in CDIO: 10
- CDIO Implementation: 42
- Projects in Progress: 6

**Total presentations: 78**

(7 withdrawals after the review process)

### Workshops and Discussions

- 14 workshops (including keynote workshops)
- 4 “Introduction to CDIO” workshops
- 12 roundtable discussions
- 2 working groups

The programme is available on the conference website.

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## Additional Updates

Some travel advisories regarding travel to the UK were discussed. Tony Topping noted that the situation is manageable and should not significantly affect the conference.

Conference registration remains open and additional registrations are expected up until the start of the conference.

The organizers also noted that participants will be asked to indicate whether accompanying spouses or family members will attend the conference dinner. Guests will be welcome to participate at their own expense.

## 2. CDIO introductory workshops in Liverpool

Juha Kontio informed the group that four introductory CDIO workshops will be offered during the conference, with each session lasting 90 minutes.

The overall introductory workshop package has been further developed based on feedback received from the Melbourne conference.

	MONDAY						TUESDAY						WEDNESDAY								
	1A	1B	1C	1D	1E	1F	1G	4A	4B	4C	4D	4E	4F	4G	7A	7B	7C	7D	7E	7F	7G
10:30-12:00	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Workshop	Intro	Podium - Non Engineer?		Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Podium - Non Engineer?			Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Podium - Non Engineer?		
13:00-14:30	Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Intro			2x Round table	2x Round table	2x Round table	2x Round table	2x Round table	2x Round table	2x Round table	Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop			
15:00-16:30	Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Intro			Podium	Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop			Podium	Podium	Workshop	Workshop	Intro		

### Workshop Schedule

- Sessions 1–3 will take place on Monday (Day 1)
- Session 4 will take place on Wednesday (Day 3)

Participants were encouraged to invite colleagues and newcomers to attend the sessions.

The workshops will focus on introducing the CDIO framework, including the aims, structure, and intended learning outcomes of the initiative.

Matt Murphy is currently preparing introductory information sheets for new participants. These materials are intended to support newcomers upon arrival and provide guidance throughout the conference. Further updates will be shared once the materials are finalized.

Session	Aims	Outcomes: Participants will be able to
1 Thomas Mark	<b>Impact and Benefits of CDIO Approach to Engineering Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explain the overarching purpose of CDIO Initiative</li> <li>▪ Explain What it is and what it is not</li> <li>▪ Understand the variety of CDIO resources (Website and CDIO Knowledge Library)</li> <li>▪ Describe how their programme and students might benefit from CDIO (case study of CDIO implementation)</li> </ul>
2 Jens Katerina	<b>Using the CDIO Standards in Educational Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explain the holistic nature of the CDIO Initiative</li> <li>▪ Describe the nature and purpose of the CDIO Standards</li> <li>▪ Interpret and apply the CDIO Standards &amp; Alternative standards</li> <li>▪ Understand to what extent their current practice is similar to the CDIO Approach</li> </ul>
3 Reidar Suzanne	<b>Using the CDIO Syllabus in Educational Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Describe the nature and purpose of the CDIO Syllabus</li> <li>▪ Understand how the CDIO Syllabus is organised and can be applied</li> <li>▪ Use the CDIO Syllabus in practice</li> <li>▪ Connect the Syllabus to their own educational development actions</li> </ul>
4 Juha Nicoleta	<b>CDIO Collaboration and Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A typical sequence of activities in adoption of CDIO in curricular &amp; pedagogic reform</li> <li>▪ Hints and tips for first actions to bring early success</li> <li>▪ Participants will be able to devise a broad timeline for their own adoption of CDIO</li> <li>▪ Describe the nature of collaborative activities in CDIO and the associated benefits</li> <li>▪ Future of CDIO</li> </ul>

### 3. Council election update

Nicoleta Maynard and Mark Nivan provided an update regarding the 2026 CDIO Council elections and confirmed that the nomination deadline has been extended from 24 May to 31 May 2026 following approval from CDIO co-directors.

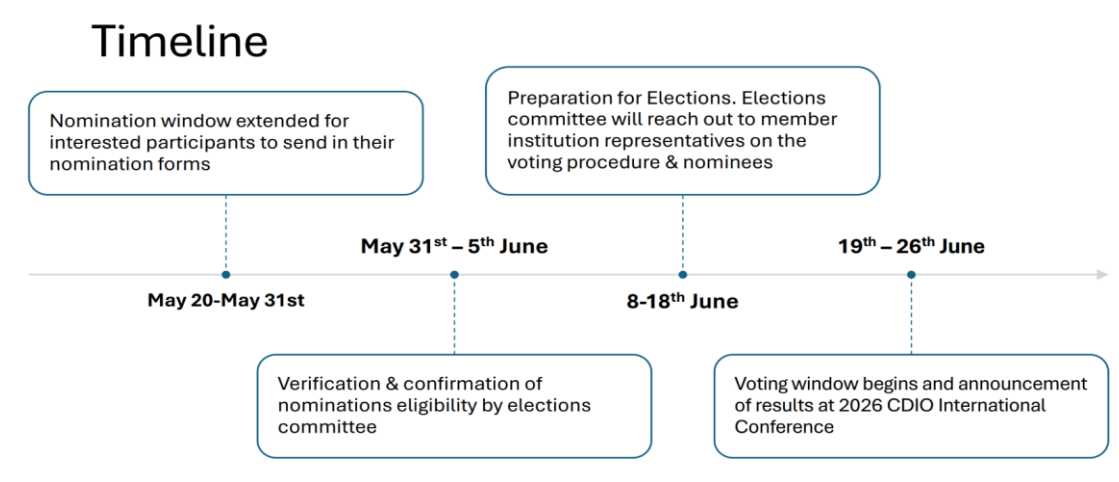
#### Election Committee

The 2026 Election Committee consists of:

- Mark Nivan Singh, Singapore Polytechnic (Asia)
- Cesar Ortega-Sanchez, Curtin University (Australia)
- Gareth Thomson, Aston University (UK & Ireland)

Questions regarding the election process may be directed to: [Mark Nivan Singh@sp.edu.sg](mailto:Mark_Nivan_Singh@sp.edu.sg)

#### Timeline



#### Open Council Positions – 2026

The following positions are open for election:

- 1 Co-director (2026–2028)
- 2 Members-at-large (2026–2029, full term)
- 1 Member-at-large (2026–2027, one-year term)

#### Why Join the CDIO Council?

Serving on the CDIO Council provides an opportunity to:

- Contribute to the future direction of engineering education globally
- Engage with an international community of educators and institutions
- Support the continued development of the CDIO framework and standards
- Contribute to the planning and development of future CDIO events and initiatives

Mark Nivan encouraged all regional leaders to actively promote the nominations process and encourage suitable candidates to apply. Information regarding the election, including nomination materials and a QR code with further details, has been distributed through the CDIO Office.

#### Election Process and Eligibility

Candidates:

- Must be affiliated with a CDIO member institution
- Must submit a letter of intent as part of the application
- Do not need to attend the conference in person to be eligible


Voting procedures will be communicated if an election becomes necessary. In the event of voting, official CDIO contact persons will be contacted directly.

## Request to Regional Leaders

The Election Committee requested support from regional leaders to:

1. Encourage potential candidates to submit nominations
2. Share nomination documents and election information
3. Remind candidates of the extended nomination deadline: **31 May 2026**
4. Ensure candidates receive confirmation of their submitted application
5. Share election updates and voting procedures with regional members

Further information and updates will continue to be distributed through the CDIO Office and regional networks



### Current election rules

Eligibility	Rules Regarding Voting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Candidates must be <b>affiliated with a CDIO member institution</b>; institutional support for candidacy is required</li><li>• Candidates must write some form of personal letter or letter of intent when applying</li><li>• Candidates do not need to be at the conference, and candidates do not need to pay the conference fee to be eligible</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each school will have <b>one vote per open position</b></li><li>• <b>All contact people for CDIO schools will be contacted in the event of an election,</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• asking who would be the person from their school responsible for voting.</li><li>• This person will then receive the voting ballot.</li><li>• If no reply is received from the contact person, the voting ballot will not be shared with that school.</li></ul></li></ul>

DL for nominations 31st May 2026!



https:

[CDIO Elections 2026- Google Drive](#)

## 4. Reminder of the CDIO international working meeting

International Working Meeting in Barcelona October 21-23 2026.

### Preliminary program of the 2026 Meeting at UPC

	Wednesday 21st	Thursday 22nd	Friday 23d
9	Possible workshop	UPC presentation?	
14		Lunch	Lunch
	UPC presentation?		
		Activity + Dinner	



Ramon Bragos presented preliminary information regarding the International CDIO Working Meeting 2026, which will be hosted by Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) in Barcelona.

#### Meeting Details

- **Dates:** 21–23 October 2026
- **Venue:** UPC North Campus, Telecom Engineering School, Barcelona
- The meeting will begin with lunch on Wednesday 21 October, followed by workshop sessions on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 October.

Further details and updates will be shared through the CDIO website and future meeting communications. The final program will be confirmed during the Council meeting in Liverpool.

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#### Organization and Logistics

Due to the relatively small scale of the event, the meeting will be managed internally by UPC administrative services rather than through an external event management company.

UPC has:

- Opened a dedicated account for registration payments and event expenses
- Taken responsibility for issuing registration invoices
- Confirmed that registration payments will be handled via bank transfer only (credit card payments will not be available)
- Waived any fees related to the use of meeting rooms and facilities

A dedicated event webpage is currently under development and will include:

- Event details and program information
- Registration forms
- Invoice and payment information

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#### Registration

Ramon Bragos asked whether registration could remain open until September 2026. The meeting confirmed that this timeline was acceptable.

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## Preliminary Themes and Topics

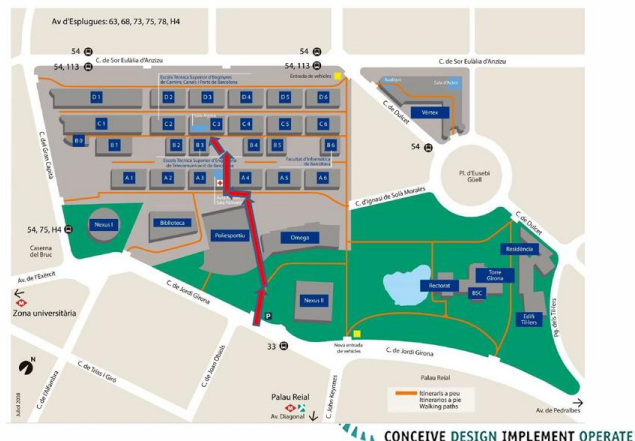
Current preliminary themes for the working meeting include:

- Future of CDIO and standard descriptions
- Assessment
- Faculty development

Additional program discussions and planning will continue during the Liverpool conference.

## Preliminary program of the 2026 Meeting at UPC

- Venue: Barcelona, UPC North Campus. “Flexible Room”



## 5. CDIO conference 2028 candidates

The deadline for submitting proposals to host the 2028 CDIO Conference was 15 May 2026. Four proposals were received, in the following order:

- Singapore Polytechnic, Singapore
- Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland
- SRM Institute of Science and Technology, India
- Universidad Fidélitas, Costa Rica

The final decision regarding the 2028 conference host will be made during the Council meeting in Liverpool on Thursday, 25 June 2026, by the newly elected Council.

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### Presentation Schedule in Liverpool

The meeting discussed the possibility of allocating additional time during the Liverpool conference for the host candidate presentations. It was agreed that the program on Wednesday would conclude at 16:30, allowing an additional one-hour open session for the host presentations.

All conference participants will be welcome to attend the session.

Reidar Lyng suggested that an additional 10 minutes for discussion could be valuable in order to establish a clearer common understanding between proposals, with less emphasis on organizational charts and more focus on the overall vision and conference concept. Reidar volunteered to support the coordination of the session.

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## Preliminary Selection Process for the 2028 Host

### Phase 1 – Open Presentations

- Each candidate institution will have:
    - 10 minutes to present their proposal
    - 5 minutes for questions and discussion
  - Total estimated time: approximately 60 minutes
  - The presentation session is planned as an open session at the end of the conference day on 24 June 2026.
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### Phase 2 – Council Ranking Vote

The Council will discuss the proposals during the Council meeting on Thursday, 25 June 2026.

Voting procedure:

- Anonymous onsite ranking vote (no online voting)
- All four proposals will be ranked from 1–4
  - 1 = highest preference
  - 4 = lowest preference
- The proposal with the lowest combined ranking score will be considered the most preferred

Voting rights:

- Co-directors and Members-at-large: one vote each
  - Regional representatives: one vote per region
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### Phase 3 – Final Vote

- The two proposals receiving the strongest rankings in Phase 2 will proceed to a final voting round
  - Anonymous onsite vote
  - Council members and regional representatives vote for one of the two remaining candidates
  - The proposal receiving the highest number of votes will be selected as host of the 2028 CDIO Conference
  - In the event of a tie, the final decision will be made by drawing lots
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### Phase 4 – Announcement

The selected host institution will be informed immediately following the Council meeting.

## 6. Regional reports

Region	Co-leader elections?	Next regional meeting?
Africa		
Europe	2 positions open (Liverpool)	Discussed in Liverpool
UK/Ireland	1 position open (Liverpool)	Jointly with Europe
Australia/New Zealand	1 position open (Liverpool)	
Asia	1 position open (Asian regional meeting)	23.9.-26.9.2026, Kazakhstan 2027 (June) candidate available
North America		
Latin America		

### Africa

No representative was present.

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### Europe

Two regional leadership positions will become vacant as Susanna and Reidar will step down from their roles. Potential successors have been identified, although no formal nominations have yet been confirmed.

Initial discussions regarding the next European regional meeting are ongoing, with a possible location in Southern Europe being considered.

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### UK & Ireland

One regional leadership position remains open. Communication regarding nominations and recruitment is expected to be distributed within the coming weeks.

Efforts have been made to encourage applications; however, no candidates have yet formally applied. Additional regional positions may also become vacant in the near future.

The UK & Ireland region expressed interest in organizing a joint conference together with the European region in January 2027.

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### Australia & New Zealand

One leadership position remains open within the region.

Nicoleta provided an update regarding ongoing discussions with potential new member institutions and expressed optimism that additional universities may join the CDIO network.

A formal call for nominations to replace Nicoleta is expected to be distributed within the coming weeks.

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### Asia

One regional leadership position remains open.

Samat Baigereyev presented updates regarding the upcoming Asian regional meeting, which will take place in Kazakhstan, 23–26 September 2026.

The meeting program will include cultural activities connected to a national festival taking place during the event, including demonstrations featuring traditional eagle hunters, falcons, and local cultural performances.

Samat welcomed participants to Kazakhstan and highlighted the event as an opportunity to experience both the regional meeting and local culture.

The event website is available at:

- [cdio.ektu.kz](http://cdio.ektu.kz)
- [cdio.org](http://cdio.org)

As part of the event preparations, Samat requested permission to use a white version of the CDIO logo on green event vests. Samat will forward the logo materials, and Karin Capó Milding will coordinate with Fredrik Byström and Johan M regarding approval and branding guidelines.

The region also discussed the possibility of moving future regional meetings from September back to March, as was previously common practice. Some overlap with international CDIO activities was noted.

It was also noted that discussions with a potential member institution in Uzbekistan have unfortunately been discontinued.

Additionally, the region is exploring the possibility of organizing a smaller “CDIO Day” gathering in Japan, where approximately ten CDIO representatives are currently active.

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## **North America**

No representative was present.

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## **Latin America**

No representative was present.

## 7. Other topics

Next activities

- CDIO conference 22 –25 June, 2026
- Autumn leaders online meetings will be decided in Liverpool

## Participants

Name
Kontio Juha
Karin Capó Milding
Fariz Mammadov-AzTU
Mark Nivan SINGH
Niklas Eriksen
Mats Syde
Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Niby
Murphy, Matt
Nicoleta
Topping, Anthony
Ian Lipscomb
SUZUKI Ryoichi
Reidar Lyng
Kirsten From
Andrew Jackson
Marius Birkeland
Samat Baigereyev
Toh Yen Pang
Gareth Thomson
Jens Bennedsen
Ramon Bragos
Ghazal Sheikholeslami
Mette Mo Jakobsen
IGNAT Sorin
Sin Moh CHEAH
Janne Roslöf