

PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Thomas, R. (accepted). The role of hubris in explaining tourism policy failure: some observations and new research directions. **Cornell Hospitality Quarterly**.

Parsons, D. Choi, M. Thomas, R., Glyptou, K & Walsh, K. (2023). The policy responses of tourism agencies to emerging digital skills constraints: a critical assessment of six countries. **International Journal of Tourism Research**. 25(1): 97-108. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jtr.2554>

Thomas, R. (2022). Affective subjectivation or moral ambivalence? Constraints on the promotion of sustainable tourism by academic researchers. **Journal of Sustainable Tourism**. 30(9): 2107-2120. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2020.1770262>

Thomas, R. (2021). Problematizing 'The impact of tourism research': A reply to Brauer, Dymitrow, and Tribe (2021). **Annals of Tourism Research**. 88: 102968 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annals.2020.102968>

Tomassini, L., Font, X. and Thomas, R. (2021). Narrating values-based entrepreneurs in tourism. **Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change**. 19(4): 477-493. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14766825.2020.1793991>

Tomassini, L., Font, X. and Thomas, R. (2021). The case for linguistic narrative analysis, illustrated studying small firms in tourism. **Tourism Geographies**, 23 (1/2): 344-359 <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2019.1619824>

Yeung, E. & Thomas, R. (2020). The 'long tail' of event management research: evidence from the field's main journals. **Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events**. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19407963.2020.1862855>

Kornilaki, M., Thomas, R. & Font, X (2019) The sustainability behaviour of small firms in tourism: the role of self-efficacy and contextual constraints. **Journal of Sustainable Tourism**, 27(1): 97-117.

Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2017) The (almost) imperceptible impact of tourism research on policy and practice. **Tourism Management**, 62: 379 – 389.

Li, Y., Wood, E. and Thomas, R. (2017). Innovation implementation: harmony and conflict in Chinese modern music festivals. **Tourism Management**, 63: 87-99.

Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2017) Founts of knowledge or delusions of grandeur? Limits and illusions of tourism research impact: a reply to Wood. **Tourism Management**, 62: 394 – 395.

Thomas, R. (2017). A remarkable absence of women: A comment on the formation of the new Event Industry Board. **Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events**, 9(2): 201 – 204.

Li, S., Cang, S., Thomas, R. and Hyun, S.(2017). Residents' Perceptions of Convention Centres: A Distance Decay Analysis. **Event Management**, 21(6): 729 – 746.

Koens, K. and Thomas, R. (2016). “You know that’s a rip-off”: Policies and practices surrounding micro-enterprises and poverty alleviation in South African township tourism. **Journal of Sustainable Tourism**, 24(12): 1641 – 1654.

Kosmaczewska, J., Thomas, R. and Dias, F. (2016). Residents’ perceptions of tourism and their implications for policy development: Evidence from rural Poland. **Community Development**, 47(1): 136-151.

Thomas, R. and Wood, E. (2015). The absorptive capacity of tourism organisations. **Annals of Tourism Research**, 54, 84-99.

Koens, K. and Thomas, R. (2015). Is small beautiful? Understanding the contribution of small businesses in township tourism to economic development. **Development Southern Africa**, 32(3): 320-332.

Thomas, R and Wood, E (2014) Innovation in tourism: Re-conceptualising and measuring the absorptive capacity of the hotel sector. **Tourism Management** 45: 39-48.

Thomas, R and Thomas, H (2014) ‘Hollow from the start?’ Professional associations and the professionalization of tourism in the UK. **The Service Industries Journal**, 34(1): 38 – 55.

Fu, Y., Long, P. and Thomas, R. (2014) Guanxi and the organisation of Chinese New Year festivals in England. **Event Management**, 18(3): 247 – 263.

Thomas, R and Thomas, H (2013). What are the prospects for professionalizing events management in the UK? **Tourism Management Perspectives**, 6: 8 – 14.

Li, S, Blake, A and Thomas, R (2013) Modelling the economic impact of sports events: The case of the Beijing Olympics. **Economic Modelling**, 30 (1): 235 – 244.

Thomas, R (2013). Research and scholarship with impact: A British perspective. **Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes**, 5(3): 277-282.

Thomas, R (2013) Views from outside the academy An interview with Dr Leo Jago, Chief Economist of Tourism and General Manager of Tourism Research Australia. . **Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes**, 5(3): 296- 300.

Thomas, R, Mulligan, J and Li, S (2013) Futures research and the events industry. **Tourism Tribune** 28(6): 3 - 6

Thomas, R (2012) Business elites, universities and knowledge transfer in tourism. **Tourism Management**. 33(3): 553-561.

Sampaio, A. Thomas, R and Font, X (2012) Small business management and environmental engagement. **Journal of Sustainable Tourism**, 20(2): 179 – 193.

Sampaio, A. Thomas, R., Font, X (2012) Why are some engaged and not others? Explaining environmental engagement among small firms in tourism. **International Journal of Tourism Research**, 14(3): 235-249.

Walmsley, A, Thomas, R and Jameson, S (2012) Internships in SMEs and Career Intentions, **Journal of Education and Work**, 185-204.

Thomas, R and Bowdin, G (2012) Events management research: State of the art. **Event Management** .16(2): 103 – 106.

Thomas, R, Shaw, G and Page, S J (2011) Understanding small firms in tourism: A perspective on research trends and challenges, **Tourism Management**, 32 (5): 963-976.

Thomas, R (2011) Academics as policy-makers: (Not) researching tourism and events policy from the inside. **Current Issues in Tourism**, 14(6): 493-506.

Liang Wei, Xu Honggang and Thomas, Rhodri (2011) Study on the Motivations and Objectives of Life-styled Tourism Businesses in Dali Ancient City. **Tourism Tribune**. 2: 47-53. (大理古城生活方式型旅游企业的动机和目标研究)

Thomas, R and Hind, D (2007) The self-catering accommodation sector in Yorkshire, England. **International Journal of Hospitality Management**. 26 (2):328-335.

Thomas, R (2007) Tourism partnerships and small firms: power, participation and partition. **International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Innovation**. 8(1): 37 – 44.

Thomas, R, Parsons, D, Barry, J, Rowe, V and Walsh, K (2007) Employer co-funded training in the UK: Current practice and policy considerations. **Education and Training**. 49 (2): 112 – 125.

Wood, E.and Thomas,R.(2006) Measuring cultural values: the case of residents' attitudes to the Saltaire festival. **Tourism Economics**. 12 (1): 137 -146.

Thomas, R and Thomas, H (2006) Micro-politics and micro-firms: a case study of tourism policy formation and change. **Journal of Small Business and Enterprise Development**. 13 (1): 100 - 114.

Walmsley, A., Thomas, R and Jameson, S (2006) Surprise and sense-making: placement experiences in SMEs. **Education and Training**. 48 (5): 360-372.

Thomas,R. and Thomas,H.(2005) Understanding tourism policy-making in urban

areas, with particular reference to small firms. **Tourism Geographies**, 7(2):121-137.

Dewhurst, H. and Thomas, R. (2003) Encouraging sustainable business practices in a non-regulatory environment: a case study of small firms in a UK national park. **Journal of Sustainable Tourism**. 11(5):383-403

Thomas, R. and Wood, E. (2003) Events-based tourism: a survey of local authority strategies in the UK. **Local Governance**. 29(2):127-136

Thomas, R. and Long, J. (2001) Tourism and economic regeneration: the role of skills development. **International Journal of Tourism Research**. 3(3):229-240

Thomas, R. and Harris, V. (2001) Exploring connections between teaching and research in hospitality management. **International Journal of Hospitality Management**. 20(3):245-257

Thomas, R. (2000) Small firms in the tourism industry: some conceptual issues. **International Journal of Tourism Research**. 2(6): 1-9

Thomas, R. and Long, J. (2000) Improving Competitiveness: critical success factors for tourism development. **Local Economy**. 14 (4): 25-40

Eaglen, A., Lashley, C. and Thomas, R. (2000) Modelling the benefits of training to business performance in leisure retailing. **Strategic Change**. 9 (5) : 311-325

Thomas, R. and Harris, V. (2000) Teaching quality and staff research: are there connections? **Quality Assurance in Education**. 8 (3):139-146

Eaglen, A., Lashley, C. and Thomas, R. (2000) The benefits of training in leisure retailing: a case study at McDonald's restaurants. **Strategic Change**. 9(6):333-345

Morrison, A. and Thomas, R. (1999) The future of small firms in the hospitality industry. **International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management**, Vol 11, No 4: 148 - 154

Thomas, H. and Thomas, R. (1998) The Implications for Tourism of Shifts in British Local Governance. **Progress in Tourism and Hospitality Research**. Vol 4, no 4: 295-306

Thomas, R. (1995) Public Policy and Small Hospitality Firms. **International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management**, Vol 7, No 2/3.

Holmes, G., McElwee, G., and Thomas, R. (1995) Environmental Scanning and the Information Gathering Behaviour of Headteachers. **International Journal of Educational Management**, Vol 9, No 5.

Thomas, R. and Thomas, H. (1994) The Informal Economy and Local Economic Development Policy. **Local Government Studies**, Vol 20, No 3.

Thomas, R. (1994) European Union Enterprise Policy and the Hospitality Industry.

International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management, Vol 6, No 4.

Thomas, R. (1992) 1992 and the Hospitality Industry: a Review of Information Provision. **International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management**, Vol 4, No 2.

Thomas, R. and Thomas, H. (1992) State regulation and the hospitality industry: the case of hot food take-aways. **International Journal of Hospitality Management**, Vol 11, No 3.

Thomas, R. (1992) 1992 and the Hospitality Industry: A Review of Information Provision. **European Business Review**, Vol 92, Number 2.

Thomas, R. and Thomas, H. (1991) Local planning policies, the Use Classes Order and hot food take-aways. **Journal of Planning and Environment Law**, August.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Best Article Award

Thomas R (1994) European Union enterprise policy and the hospitality industry. **International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management** 6(4): 10-15

Best Article Award

Thomas, R and Harris, V (2000) Teaching quality and staff research: are there connections? **Quality Assurance in Education**.8 (3) 139-146

Highly Commended Paper Award

Walmsley, A., Thomas, R and Jameson, S (2006) Surprise and sense-making: placement experiences in SMEs. **Education and Training**. 48 (5): 360-372.

AUTHORED BOOKS

Thomas, R. (2018). **Questioning the Assessment of Research Impact Illusions, Myths and Marginal Sectors**. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Boer, A., Thomas, R. and Webster, M. (1997) **Small Business Management: A Resource Based Approach**. London: Cassell.

EDITED BOOKS

Thomas, R (Ed) (2009) **Managing Regional Tourism: A Case Study of Yorkshire, England**. Ilkley: Great Northern Books.

Thomas, R. and Augustyn, M.(Eds) (2007) **Tourism in the New Europe: Perspectives on SME Policies and Practices**. Advances in Tourism Research Series, Oxford: Elsevier.

Thomas, R.(Ed)(2004) **Small Firms in Tourism: International Perspectives.** Advances in Tourism Research Series. Oxford: Elsevier.

Morrison, A. and Thomas ,R.(Eds)(2004) **SMEs in Tourism: An International Review.** Arnhem: ATLAS

Thomas, R. (Ed) (1998) **The Management of Small Tourism and Hospitality Firms.** London: Cassell

Thomas, R. (Ed) (1996) **The Hospitality Industry, Tourism and Europe: Perspectives on Policies.** London: Cassell.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2018) Small business and entrepreneurship research in tourism: a review and comment. In Cooper, C., Gartner, B. Scott, S. and Volo, S. (Eds.) **The Sage Handbook of Tourism Management.** London: Sage, pp 240-253.

McTiernan, C., Thomas, R. and Jameson, S. (2017) Focusing on knowledge exchange: The role of trust in tourism networks. In Fayos-Sola, E. and Cooper, C. (Eds.) **The future of tourism: Innovation and sustainability.** London: Springer.

Fu, Y., Long. P. and Thomas, R. (2015). Guanxi and the organisation of Chinese New Year festivals in England. In Knerr, B. and Jieping, F. (Eds.) Chinese diaporas in Europe: History, challenges and prospects. Kassel: Kassel University Press, 181-211.

Thomas, R (2015) Small firms and sustainable tourism policy: Exploring moral framing. In Gössling, S., Hall, C.M. and Scott, D (Eds) The Routledge handbook of tourism and sustainability. London: Routledge, 397 – 406.

Fu, Y., Long, P. and Thomas, R. (2015) Diaspora community festivals and tourism. In Newbold, C., Maughan, C., Jordan, J. and Bianchini, F. (Eds) Focus on festivals: Contemporary European case studies and perspectives. Oxford: Goodfellow Publishers, 201-213.

Thomas, R and Morpeth, N (2009) Who does what? Tourism governance in Yorkshire. In Thomas, R (ed) Managing Regional Tourism: A Case Study of Yorkshire, England. Ilkley: Great Northern Books. 78 – 91.

Walmlsey, A and Thomas, R (2009) Understanding and influencing the entrepreneurial intentions of tourism students. In Atelejevic, J and Page, S (Eds) Progress in Tourism Entrepreneurship. Advances in Tourism Research Series. Oxford: Elsevier, 333 – 342.

Wood, E and Thomas, R (2008) Festivals and tourism in rural economies. In J Ali-McKnight, M Robertson, A Fyall and A Lakin (Eds) International Perspectives of

Festivals and Events: paradigms of Analysis. Oxford: Butterworth- Heinemann.

Wood, E, Robinson, L and Thomas, R (2006) Evaluating the social impacts of community and local government events: A practical overview of research methods and measurement tools. In Fleming, S and Jordan, F (Eds) Beyond Economic Impacts of Events. LSA: London., 81-92.

Thomas, R (2005) Engaging tourism SMEs. In Sillence, G (2005) Handbook for Learning Areas in the European Tourism Industry. Brussels: European Commission.

Thomas,R.(2004) International perspectives on small firms in tourism: a synthesis. In Thomas, R.(ed) Small firms in tourism: International perspectives. Oxford: Elsevier

Jones,E.,Botterill,D.,Lynch,P.and Thomas,R.(2004) United Kingdom. In Morrison,A.and Thomas,R.(Eds) SMEs in Tourism: An International Review. Arnhem: ATLAS

Thomas,R.,Parsons,D.,Long,J.and Jameson,S.(2002) Old skills in new heritage: an analysis of skills supply, demand and utilisation in the UK's heritage sector. In Andrews,N.,Flanagan,S.and Ruddy,J.(eds) Tourism destination planning. Dublin: DIT 3-23

Thomas,R.(2001) Reliability,validity,snowball sampling. In Brotherton,B.and Wood,R.(eds) Encyclopedia of Hospitality Management. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann.

Thomas, R. (2000) The impact of European integration on the hotel industry. In Kamra, K. (ed) Hospitality operations and management. Wheeler Publishing, New Delhi.

Thomas,R., Jameson,S. and Friel,M. (1999). Small Business Management. In Brotherton,R.(ed). Contemporary Hospitality Management Research, Wiley, Chichester.

Thomas, R. (1998) Small Firms and the State. In Thomas, R. (Ed) The Management of Small Tourism and Hospitality Firms, Cassell, London.

Thomas,R.(1998). An introduction to the study of small tourism and hospitality firms. In Thomas,R.(ed). The Management of Small Tourism and Hospitality Firms, Cassell, London.

Thomas,R. (1997) The structure of the European Hospitality Industry; The European Union and the Hospitality Industry; The legal and regulatory context of the European hospitality industry. In Harris, V.(Ed) An Introduction to the European Hospitality Industry, Open Learning Foundation, London (translated into French and German).

Thomas, R. (1996) The Hospitality Industry, Tourism and European Integration: An Overview. In Thomas R, (Ed) The Hospitality Industry, Tourism and Europe: Perspectives on Policies, Cassell, London.

Thomas, R. (1996) Enterprise Policy. In Thomas, R (Ed) The Hospitality Industry, Tourism and Europe: Perspectives on Policies, Cassell, London.

Smith, H and Thomas, R. (1996) Undertaking Further Research: Sources of Official Information. In Thomas, R (Ed) The Hospitality Industry, Tourism and Europe: Perspectives on Policies, Cassell, London

Williams, C. and Thomas, R. (1996) Paid Informal Work in the Leeds Hospitality Industry: Unregulated or Regulated Work? In Haughton, G, and Williams, C. (Eds) Corporate Cities: Participation, Partition and Partnership in Leeds, Avebury, Aldershot.

Thomas, R. (1996) Assessing and influencing the policies of the European Union. In Kotas, R., Teare, R., Logie, J., and Jaywardena, C. (Eds), The International Hospitality Business, Cassell, London.

INVITED/ KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Thomas, R. (2019). Just telling tales? REF and illusions of impact. Advances in Management and Innovation - Research Conference. Conference Theme – The future of knowledge transfer. Cardiff School of Management, Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Thomas, R. (2017). Making sense of our business engagement: illusions, aspirations and achievements. 4th International Conference on Events (ICE), University of Central Florida, USA, December.

Thomas, R. (2017). New spaces in cultural tourism: universities and innovation. New Spaces in Cultural Tourism, Novi Sad University, Serbia, September.

Thomas, R. (2017). Absorptive capacity and innovation in the association events sector. ABPCO Round Table. Leeds, April.

Thomas, R. (2015) What's new? Absorptive capacity in the meetings industry. 54th International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) international conference. Buenos Aires, Argentina, November.

Thomas, R (2014) Working with the leisure sector: Challenges for academics and universities. The 12th China International Leisure Development Forum, 2014. World Leisure Organisation and Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, October.

Thomas, R. (2014) Absorptive capacity and the sustainability practices of events and tourism businesses: Implications for university research centres. The International Conference on Sustainable Tourism and Events Planning and Policy, Sino-UK Centre for Research in Events and Tourism, Kunming, Yunnan, October.

R. Thomas (2014) Small business research in tourism: progress and possibilities. Inaugural (visiting) professorial lecture, Yunnan Normal University, Kunming, China, October.

Thomas, R (2013) Being entrepreneurial: What does research suggest that small businesses in tourism should do? Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO) international conference, Malta, December.

Thomas, R (2013) Professionalising professional conference organisers. Association of British professional conference Organisers (ABPCO) Annual Chairman's lunch, November.

Thomas, R (2013) Understanding the economic impact of planned events in city economies. Best Cities Global Alliance, Shanghai, China, November.

Thomas, R (2013) The professionalization of event management: a critique. Making Waves: An International Conference of Events and 10th AEME Forum, Bournemouth, June.

Thomas, R (2013) Knowledge exchange in tourism: strengthening the links between academic research and practice. Keynote presentation to the III International Conference on Tourism Recreation (ITCR'13), Tourism Research Unit (GITUR) of the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, Peniche, Portugal, May.

Thomas, R (2013) SMEs and the tourism growth agenda: networks, learning and innovation. Keynote address to the OECD Tourism Committee and Secretariat, OECD, Paris. February.

Thomas, R (2011) Event evaluation and innovation in difficult times. Keynote presentation to Evaluating the Impact of Events: Directions for Research conference. London Metropolitan University, September.

Thomas, R (2009) Major events and the politics of regional tourism policy-making. . Keynote presentation to the European Cities Marketing Conference. University of Göteborg, Sweden, June.

Thomas, R (2009) Making an impact: PhD research and 'stakeholder' engagement. Opening Keynote speaker 3rd National Tourism PhD Networking Conference. University of Nottingham, July.

Thomas, R (2009) Moving and Shaking: Urban Tourism and Events Policy Formation. . Keynote presentation to the Regional Studies Association Tourism Conference. University of Warsaw, Poland, September.

Thomas, R (2009) Reflections on being an ESRC Business Placement Fellow. Institute of Knowledge Transfer (IKT)/ Economic and Social Research Council Workshop (ESRC). University of Sheffield. November.

Thomas, R (2009) Harnessing events and festivals for tourism: some lessons from recent research. . Keynote presentation to the Harnessing events and festivals for tourism conference. Leeds Metropolitan University. November.

Panel member and mentor for Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC): Engaging with the Private Sector - PhD Students, Leeds, 22nd-23rd January.

Thomas, R (2008) Reflections on tourism policy and policy-making in Yorkshire. Inaugural Professorial lecture. Gandhi Hall, Leeds Metropolitan University. May.

Thomas, R (2008) Evidence, emotions and expediency: The case for clarity and rigour in events tourism policy formation and evaluation. Opening keynote presentation at the Events, Business Travel and Tourism conference. Sun Yat-Sen University, China (in collaboration with University of Queensland, Australia). November.

Thomas, R (2008) Small firms and destination competitiveness. . Keynote presentation to the Regional Studies Association Tourism Conference. Aalborg University, Denmark. November.

Thomas, R (2007) Professionalism in the festivals and events sector. Keynote presentation at IFEA Europe Annual Conference: The Art of growing - Lifecycles of festivals and events. Athens, Greece. February.

Thomas, R (2007) Professionalism, professionalisation and the travel industry. Keynote presentation at the ITT 2007 International annual conference. Gran Canaria. June.

Thomas, R (2007) The politics of local events and festivals policy: what role for small firms? Keynote presentation at: Using events and festivals to develop tourism conference (Association of Spanish and Czech Academics). University of Seville, Spain. October.

Thomas, R (2007) Lead panel presenter: Professionalism and professionalisation: A model of failure? 25th EuroCHRIE Annual Conference. Leeds. October.

Thomas, R (2007) The placement. Tourism academics and employers conference. The first co-hosted event by ABTA, the ITT, and Tourism Society. London. November.

Thomas, R.(2005) Understanding micro firms in tourism: a review of theory, evidence and European policy. Keynote presentation at Developing regions through family businesses and tourism conference (Association of Spanish and Czech Academics), University of Seville, Spain. October.

Thomas,R.(2004) Bright ideas, under-developed concepts and insufficient evidence? An assessment of European public policy towards small firms in tourism. Keynote presentation to the Borderless Frontiers Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus. 10-11 December.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Palferman, A., Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2018). Innovation and Knowledge in Events: Understanding the processes of absorptive capacity in events organisations. THE INC 2018: Tourism, Hospitality and Events in a Changing World 26th -28th June 2018, University of Derby, Buxton, UK.

Palferman, A., Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2018). Innovation and knowledge in events: understanding the processes of absorptive capacity in events organizations. 3rd Tourism Research Network PhD/ECR Symposium, Sheffield Hallam University. April.

Palferman, A., Thomas, R. and Ormerod, N. (2017). The Absorptive Capacity of the Events Industry: A Qualitative Investigation of Internal Processes. 2nd Tourism Research Network PhD/ECR Symposium, University of Lincoln. April.

Palferman, A., Thomas, R. and Li, S. (2016). The processes of absorptive capacity in the events industry: A qualitative investigation. Making an Impact: Creating Constructive Conversations, University of Surrey, July, 2016.

Li, S, Blake, A and Thomas, R (2013) Modelling the economic impact of sports events: The case of the Beijing Olympics. Annual conference of the International Association for Tourism Economics (IATE), Ljubljana, Slovenia, July.

Thomas, R and Thomas, H (2012) Professionalism and the professionalisation of events management in the UK. Global Events Congress V, University of Stavanger, Norway, June.

Thomas, R (2011) Engaging business elites. Association of Tourism in Higher Education (ATHE) annual conference, St Anne's College, Oxford. December.

Thomas, R (2011) Business elites, universities and knowledge exchange in travel. ESRC Seminar: Innovation in travel and tourism. Imperial College, London, February.

Thomas, R (2010) Events strategies, local governance and universities, Global Events Congress IV, Leeds Metropolitan University, July.

Walmsley, A, Jameson, S and Thomas, R (2009) Placement students' adaptation to new organisational setting. CHME Conference. University of Brighton, May.

Walmsley, A, Jameson, S and Thomas, R (2009) Employment experiences in SMEs. EuroCHRIE Annual Conference 2009. Helsinki, Finland, October 2009.

Wood, E, Smith, B and Thomas, R (2009) Linking community festivals to social change: Trial and tribulation. The International Event Summit, Incorporating The Australian Centre for Event Management 5th International Event Management Research Conference and The 3rd Event Education and Research Network Australia (EERNA) Symposium, Australia, July 2009

Thomas, R., Bowdin, McElhinney, S and Bell, S (2009) Professionalism and professionalisation in the events and festivals sector. 7th AEME Events Management Educators Forum, University of Huddersfield

Sampaio, A, Thomas R and Font,X (2008) Beliefs and preferences for adopting environmental practices in accommodation smaller firms. IASK (international Association for scientific Knowledge)International Conference: Advances in Tourism Research. Aveiro, Portugal. May.

Bowdin, G, Thomas R, Wood, E and Robinson, L (2007) An investigation into the contribution of community festivals and events in Wales. Event Tourism: Enhancing Destinations and the Visitor Economy. Bournemouth University. January.

Thomas, R (2007) Local politics and events tourism policy: Why and how the 'Bollywood Oscars' came to Yorkshire. Event Tourism: Enhancing Destinations and the Visitor Economy. Bournemouth University. January.

Thomas, R (2007) Festival and event evaluation. IFEA Europe Annual Conference: The Art of growing - Lifecycles of festivals and events. Athens, Greece. February.

Lashley, C and Thomas, R (2007) Asking the wrong questions? Observations on skill development and training in the hospitality, leisure and tourism sector. CHME Research Conference. May.

Walmsley, A, Thomas, R and Jameson, S (2007) With a bit of luckthe role of happenstance in tourism students' early career development. EuroCHRIE Conference, Leeds Metropolitan University. October.

Kornilaki, M., Thomas, R., Font, X. (2006) Factors that influence small family tourism firms in Crete. International Conference of Trends, Impacts and Policies on Tourism Development, Greek Open University, Heraklion, Crete, Greece, 15-18 June.

Sampaio,A.,Thomas,R. and Font, X.(2006) Learning to adopt sustainable business practices: networking, accommodation SMEs and learning organisations. Cutting Edge Research in Tourism, University of Surrey, June.

Kornilaki, M, Thomas, R and Font, X (2006) Understanding the behaviour of small family tourism firms in Crete. Cutting Edge Research in Tourism, University of Surrey, June.

Kornilaki, M., Thomas, R., Font, X. (2006) Understanding the behaviour of a small family tourism firm in Crete: a grounded theory approach. Progressing Tourism Research, Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Exeter, Exeter, UK, March

Kornilaki, M., Thomas, R., Font, X. (2006) Using Grounded Theory to understand the behaviour of a small family tourism firm in Crete, Postgraduate Conference, Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds, UK, May.

Lynch,P., Morrison,A. and Thomas,R.(2005) Lifestyle labels and concepts. ATLAS Annual Conference, Barcelona, Catalonia, November.

Walmsley,A, Jameson,S. and Thomas, R.(2005) Surprise and sense-making: placement experiences in tourism SMEs. ATLAS Annual Conference, Barcelona, Catalonia, November.

Wood,E, Thomas,R, Robinson, L and Bowdin, G (2005) Measuring the contribution of community festivals to tourism: an assessment of the impacts of rural events in Wales. International conference: Assessing the impacts of tourist events, University of Nice, France, December.

Thomas,R. and Thomas,H.(2004) Small firms and tourism policy-making: Partnership or partition? ATLAS International conference 2004: Networking and partnerships in destination development and management. Naples, Italy.April.

Thomas,R. and Thomas,H.(2004) Very small firms, urban politics and the development of tourism in Saltaire, England. Tourism: State of the Art II.University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. June.

Wood,E. and Thomas,R.(2004) An evaluation of the social and economic impacts of Preston Mela. Leeds Metropolitan University Research Conference, September.

Wood,E. and Thomas,R.(2003) UK local authority events: current use in tourism marketing strategies. Event Tourism and Destination Management: An International Conference. Yichang/Three Gorges, China, November 2004

Piso,A., Thomas,R., Uwamungu,B. and Johnson,C.(2002) Informal employment in small firms: a comparative study of the tourism sectors in Switzerland and the United Kingdom. International Conference:Small Firms in the Tourism and Hospitality sectors. Leeds, September.

Thomas,R., Long,J., Parsons,D. and Jameson,S.(2001) Old skills in new heritage: an analysis of skills supply,demand and utilisation in the UK's heritage sector. 10th Anniversary International Conference. ATLAS European Association of Leisure and Tourism Education. Dublin. Ireland.October.

Thomas, R. (1999) Improving local competitiveness through training and development. Invited paper: The impact of training on hospitality business performance. Greater Nottingham Training and Enterprise Council. June

Thomas,R, Eaglen, A, Jameson, S. and Lincoln,G. (1999) Sector development: small firms in the tourism and hospitality industries.22nd ISBA National Small Firms Conference, Leeds.

Thomas, R. (1998) The impact of the Millennium Exhibition on tourism development in East London. National Outdoor Events Association Conference. Leeds.

Morrison, A. and Thomas, R. (1998) The future of small firms in the hospitality industry. Lead paper: Millennium Internet Conference, MCB University Press.

THOMAS, R. (1996) State Support for Management Training in Small Firms: Issues for Hospitality and Tourism Research. CHME Research Conference, Nottingham.3

Vance, P., Thomas, R and Margerison, J. (1996) The Impact of Subsidised Consultancy Schemes on the Business Performance of Small Hospitality Firms: A Framework for Research. IAHMS Conference, Leeds.

Danvers, H. and Thomas, R. (1995) Small Firms and Sustainable Tourism. CHME Research Conference, Norwich.

Thomas, R. (1995) Public Policy and Small Hospitality Firms. CHME Research Conference, Norwich.

Thomas, R., (1995) The Implications of European Integration for the Hospitality Management Curriculum. IAHMS Conference, Goteborg, Sweden.

Thomas, R. (1994) Informalisation and the Hospitality Industry: Some Methodological Issues. CHME Research Conference, Edinburgh

Thomas, R. (1993) Supporting Small Business Development through Information Provision: A Case Study of EICs and the Hotel and Catering Industry. Paper for Small Businesses and Small Business Development Conference, University of Leicester.

Thomas, R. and Lashley, C. (1991) Preparing for 1992: a survey of small independent hotel and restaurant firms. IAHMS conference, Brighton