



School of Social Sciences

Emergency Management: Themes in Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery

ESRU members initiated the inaugural *Emergency Management: Themes in Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery* which took place at Nottingham Conference Centre. The conference brought together academics and practitioners in order to share cutting-edge research findings and learn about the latest developments in both research and practice.

The day consisted of two keynote sessions; in the morning Dr Anne Eyre spoke of the changing landscape within contemporary emergency management. Her talk covered historical perspectives through to current practice highlighting both similarities and differences and covering issues of preparedness, response and recovery. In the afternoon Lucy Easthope and Genevieve Goatcher, who have worked together on a number of pieces of practice relevant research, shared the keynote session. They presented findings from recent partnership work conducted with those who had experienced major emergencies. They also offered guidance on how policy makers can work with, rather than against, communities who are experiencing loss.

In addition to the keynote presentations, more than thirty other researchers presented their work. The presentations covered a wide variety of topics which included, among other things, a focus on issues such as earthquake mortality patterns, the natural hazards partnership, long-term tsunami recovery, evacuation simulation, CBRN terrorism, health emergency planning, transport infrastructure, risk profiling and prevention, decision making and communication, post-disaster recovery and international disaster aid.

A major new research award was presented at the conference. This award will be presented biannually to someone who has made a significant contribution to emergencies and disaster related research. The inaugural recipient for this award was the conference's keynote speaker Dr Anne Eyre and it was also announced that the award is being named in her honour - *The Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research*. Dr Eyre received the award because of her sustained excellent contributions in areas such as the rights of survivors and the bereaved; humanitarian assistance post-disaster; planning and training within the emergency services, particularly in relation to traumatic exposure; and disaster memorialisation. As well as the importance of her research and the impact it has made to policy and practice, Dr Eyre has made contributions in many other ways; for example, establishing courses in emergency management, teaching at the Emergency Planning College and UK Fire Services College, conducting Government commissioned work, and serving on organisations such as the Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists and Disaster Action. Dr Eyre's contribution to the field of emergencies related research and practice cannot be measured and it is fitting that she is not only the first recipient but that the award will bear her name. Nominations for the next award are now being taken and if you wish to make a nomination please use the form included below.



Head of ESRU Viv Brunsdon presents Dr Anne Eyre with her well deserved award

A number of other research prizes were presented at the conference. The International Journal of Emergency Services Award for Best Paper was presented to Dr Chris Cocking (Brighton University) for a paper entitled *Collective resilience versus collective vulnerability after disasters: a social psychological perspective*. His fascinating work exploded many of the myths surrounding public reactions and survivor behaviours during emergency events.



Chris Cocking with his certificate for Best Paper awarded by International Journal of Emergency Services

A key intention of the conference was to support newly emerging researchers alongside the more established academic and practitioner researchers. To this purpose the Emergency Planning Society sponsored a prize for the Best Student Paper. All papers given by students were included as nominees and the awarding panel was made up of members of the EPS' Education Committee. The decision was a difficult one but a well-deserved winner was found in Abigail Mottershaw for her paper *Ambiguous loss: work- family relations in the emergency services*. This research considered the impact of emergency services working on personnel's families. Specifically, it explored the situation where their loved one is physically present but psychologically absent because of their occupational experiences.



On behalf of the Emergency Planning Society Lucy Easthope presents Abigail Mottershaw with her Best Student Paper Award

Student research was also the focus of an Emergency Services Research Unit Award for Best Student Poster. This was awarded to Lisa Sanderson for a poster entitled Evaluating a Telephone Trauma Support Service. This reflected work conducted while Lisa was a postgraduate student conducted in partnership with the organisations Rethink and Combat Stress.



Jeff Goatcher presents Lisa Sanderson with her Best Student Poster Award

Lead conference organiser, Viv Brunsden, said: "The conference was a brilliant success. Not only were the presentations fascinating but there were plenty of opportunities for networking to collaboratively build new research partnerships. It is vital that researchers and practitioners have opportunities like this to come together; not only in order for research to influence practice but perhaps even more importantly to ensure practitioners have the chance to influence the focus and direction of future research. We are already planning the next event which will run in 2014."

Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research

The Emergency Services Research Unit at Nottingham Trent University is proud to announce the creation of the **Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research**. The award honours Dr Anne Eyre because of her sustained excellent contributions in areas such as the rights of survivors and the bereaved; humanitarian assistance post-disaster; planning and training within the emergency services, particularly in relation to traumatic exposure; and disaster memorialisation. As well as the importance of her research and the impact it has made to policy and practice, Dr Eyre has made contributions to the emergency services and related organisations in many other ways; for example, establishing courses in emergency management, teaching at the Emergency Planning College and UK Fire Services College, conducting Government commissioned work, and serving on organisations such as the Association of Traumatic Stress Specialists and Disaster Action. Dr Eyre's contribution to the field of emergencies related research and practice cannot be measured and it is fitting that she was not only the first recipient of this award but that the award should be named in her honour

The recipient of the Eyre Award will be invited to present the Keynote Address at the biannual conference *Emergency Management: Themes in Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery* where the award will be presented. The Emergency Services Research Unit is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research

The nominee should have made a significant contribution to emergencies related research through their scholarly writing, as well as their wider research activities and emergency services contributions.

The Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research is not necessarily a life-time achievement award, although such individuals certainly should be in a prominent position to be nominated. The nominee can be a person who, although early in their career as a practitioner/scholar or academic, has made a seminal contribution to emergencies related research

The closing date for nominations for the 2014 Eyre Award is **1st April 2014**.

To nominate an individual for the award please submit :

1. this form (or a copy of it), fully completed
2. no more than a one-page single-spaced letter explaining why you believe the person is deserving of the award
3. a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae.

Send the nomination materials to: Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research, Viv Brunsden, Head of the Emergency Services Research Unit, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, NG1 4BU.

I hereby nominate _____ for the Eyre Award for Excellence in Emergencies Related Research.

To support the nomination, I have included a letter of recommendation and a curriculum vitae (CV) of the nominee. (A nomination is not accepted without the supporting letter and resume/CV.)

Nominator Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email: