

• Unscheduled Events

International Research Committee on Disasters
International Sociological Association



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- * Welcome Note from the Editors
- * ISA World Congress in Japan
- * Annual Research Meeting in Colorado
- * Charles E. Fritz Award Winner
- * In Memoriam: William Anderson
- * William Averette Anderson Fund
- * New Publications
- * Other Announcements

• Welcome

A very warm welcome to this latest edition of *Unscheduled Events*, the official newsletter of the International Sociological Association's International Research Committee on Disasters (RC39). After being defunct for a number of years, we are reviving *Unscheduled Events*, complete with a brand new look. Our goal is to keep all of our members informed about upcoming events and new research as well as to share information regarding awards and other opportunities concerning the disaster research community. Thanks for taking the time to read this, and please contact us if you have questions, comments, concerns, or future contributions!

Elke Weesjes and Lori Peek, Editors

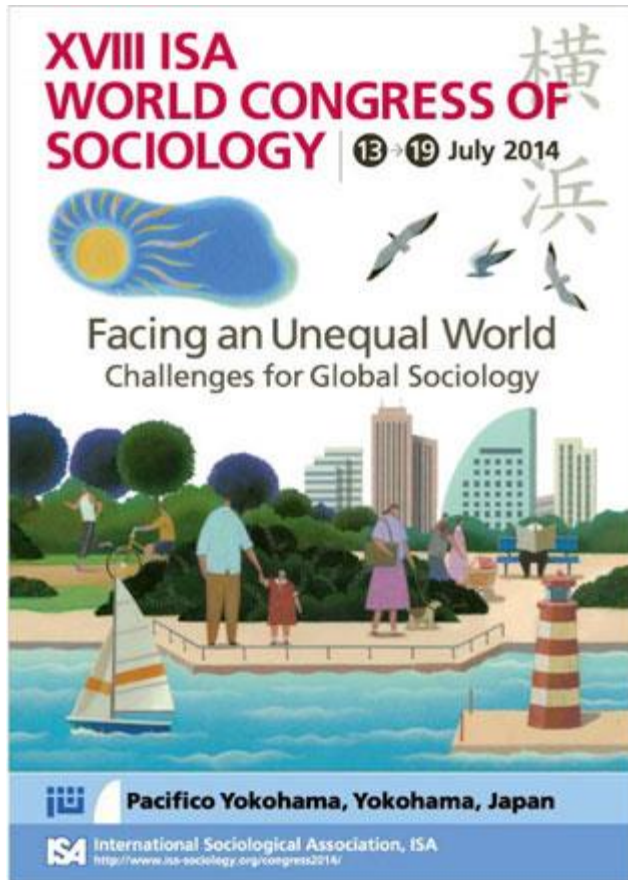
emweesjes@gmail.com / Lori.Peek@colostate.edu

• XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology, Yokohama Japan 13-19 July 2014.

By Lori Peek and Sudha Arlikatti

This summer, the 18th ISA World Congress of Sociology was held in Yokohama, Japan. Over a period of seven days, conference attendees from around the world presented papers, discussed challenges and achievements, and shared ideas and strategies with a large and diverse audience.

RC39 hosted 17 sessions in total, four of which were joint sessions (two of those joint sessions were hosted with the RC06, Family Research; one with RC17, Sociology of Organization; and one with RC32, Women in Society). The program was organized this year by Lori Peek and Sudha Arlikatti, and the specific sessions hosted and co-hosted by RC39 were organized by disaster scholars from the United



States, India, Colombia, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, and Sweden. In total, 90 exciting and innovative papers were presented by scholars from all over the world.

RC39 also held a business meeting which was chaired by the current President, Walter Gillis Peacock. After some brief welcoming remarks, each person in attendance introduced him or herself. Then Dr. Peacock provided an overview of the status of the Research Committee. His report was followed by a 2014 ISA RC39 Program Coordinator's report from Lori Peek and Sudha Arlikatti. Also during the meeting, a report on the *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* was presented on behalf of outgoing editor, Michael Lindell. Bill Lovekamp, who is the appointed Secretary-Treasurer for the RC39, provided a thorough report of activities and finances of the committee. Dr. Peacock closed the meeting with a call for announcements.

Note from the Program Coordinators, Dr. Peek and Dr. Arlikatti: As program coordinators of the RC39

sessions, our experience in Yokohama was absolutely extraordinary. While absorbing all that the ISA has to offer, we were reminded of exactly how important it is to participate in international meetings. The ISA provides the best venue for learning about research around the world focused on issues of profound interest to us as social scientists. We were deeply moved watching presenters share their work, often in a language that was not their native tongue. We learned from these scholars about projects and studies that we otherwise would have no opportunity to know about. We also forged friendships and made new scholarly connections.

We are especially grateful to Joe Scanlon, who has dedicated countless hours to organizing many prior World Congress programs for the ISA and the RC39. We have benefitted immensely from his generosity and ongoing mentorship. Ron Perry, former president of the RC39, also continues to play a pivotal role as a mentor and guide.

We cannot wait for the next ISA World Congress of Sociology to be held in 2018 in Toronto, Canada. Sudha Arlikatti and Bill Lovekamp will be responsible for the coordination of the RC39 program. In the meantime, the Third ISA Forum of Sociology will take place in Vienna, Austria, July 10-14, 2014. This Forum will be organized by Mark Schulz, current Vice-President Research, in collaboration with the ISA Research Coordinating Committee and the Austrian Local Organizing Committee chaired by Rudolf Richter, University of Vienna.

With all best wishes, and many thanks to those who traveled from near and far to make the meetings such a success!

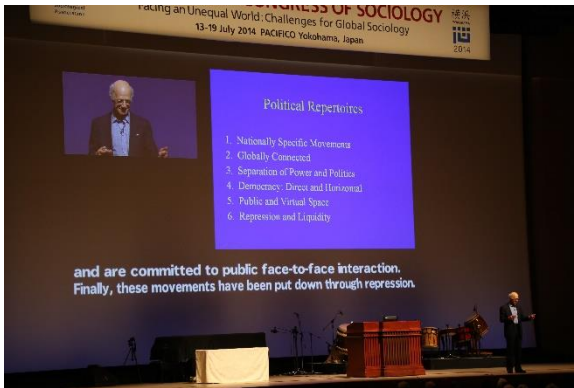


Figure 1 Opening Ceremony Presidential Address, and Reception



Figure 2 Children, Youth, and Families in Disaster

XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology,
Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology,
Yokohama, Japan 13-19 July 2014
Photos by: Walter Gillis Peacock



Figure 3 Disaster Governance for Resilience: From Concrete Ingredients Towards General Menus: A Post-Earthquake Christchurch Case-Study



Figure 4 Where My Peoples At? New Orleans' Bounce Rap and Experiencing Disaster



Figure 5 RC39 Business Meeting



Figure 6 Let Go and Remember. Collective Memories and Narratives of Mass Violence in Finland

- **Fifth International Research Committee on Disasters Researchers Meeting, Broomfield, Colorado, 25-26 June**

By Joseph Trainor

This June marked the 5th annual RC39 Researchers Meeting in Broomfield, CO. For those who may not know about the meeting, it is a standing partnership between the Natural Hazards Center and the RC39. The event is held each year in conjunction with the Natural Hazards Workshop and provides an opportunity for students and faculty to present research findings to and with disaster research colleagues. It is a great opportunity to discuss ideas, present new findings, and learn from others. We encourage submissions from all disciplines and look forward to novel theoretical and/or methodological approaches.

Among other highlights, RC39 President Walter Peacock presented the E.L. Quarantelli Award for Social Science Disaster Theory to Michael K. Lindell. Dr. Lindell provided an interesting keynote presentation on the theoretical and empirical evolution of the Protective Action Decision Model (PADM).

After the keynote, participants attended ten sessions on topics including: Warnings and Protective Action, Public Perception, Diversity and Disasters, Housing Recovery, Vulnerability and Resilience, Emergency Management, Estimating Death and Disruption, Community Empowerment, and Planning.

This year also marks an important transition for the IRCD meetings. After five years as meeting co-organizers, Dr. Bill Lovekamp and Joe Trainor have passed the baton to Dr. Michelle Meyer and Dr. John Cooper who will surely take the meetings to the next level.

We hope to see you all there next year in Colorado, July 22-23, 2015!



Figure 7 Dr. Michael K. Lindell



Figure 8 Dr. Walter Peacock

2014 Charles E. Fritz Award Winner – Kathleen Tierney

By: T. JOSEPH SCANLON

Kathleen Tierney was named the 2014 recipient of the Charles E. Fritz Award. She is one of the world's leading scholars in the disaster field and an outspoken advocate of the importance of disaster research in helping to form public policy. A student at the DRC when it was at Ohio State, she went on to become first Director of the DRC after it moved to the University of Delaware and then Director of the Natural Hazards Center at University of Colorado, Boulder. She is the first woman to receive the Fritz award.

This short piece tells the story of how Kathleen was selected for the award and how the award was delivered to her.

At the opening session of the 39th Annual Natural Hazards Workshop in Colorado, Lori Peek – on the platform for another reason – asked the chair of the workshop, Kathleen Tierney, if she could take an extra couple of minutes. After a brief introduction, Lori produced the award plaque and handed it to Kathleen telling her that Bill Anderson, Henry Quarantelli, and Joe had unanimously agreed she deserved the award. Tierney was caught completely by surprise and was overwhelmed when the entire audience rose and gave her a standing ovation. She said later she had difficulty speaking.

She wasn't the only one caught by surprise.

The decision to make her the Fritz Award winner was known to only a handful of people – and all had kept the secret – so no one else among the hundreds of people at the workshop knew. In fact, besides the committee members and Lori, just two other people were informed.

CHARLES E. FRITZ AWARD A SHORT HISTORY

Every four years the International Research Committee on Disasters presents the Charles E. Fritz Award to someone who has made a lifetime contribution in the area of disaster research. The award is named after one of the earliest pioneers in social science disaster studies, Charles E. Fritz, who is probably best known for the seminal work on convergence behavior in disasters. Fritz was a sociologist and authority in human and organizational behavior in times of disasters and worked as a staff scientist with the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC from 1954 to 1959 and again from 1971 to 1982. During those years he worked on projects involving emergency planning and disaster response issues. He passed away in May of 2000 at the age of 79.

Between 1995 and 1999, Fritz chaired the awards committee and personally approved all the winners, including Henry Quarantelli, Russel Dynes, Joseph Scanlon, William (Bill) Anderson, and Burk Stannard. The latter received his award posthumously. Except for Stannard, all winners served on the awards committee.

There is one restriction tied to the award. It can't be presented to a serving member of the executive. That was put in to make sure it did not become a "presidential" award, given to someone for service to the Research Committee rather than for a lifelong contribution to disaster scholarship.

The committee which chose the 2014 award winner, Kathleen Tierney, was chaired by the late Bill Anderson, and approved by Henry Quarantelli as well as two committee members Russel Dynes and Joe Scanlon.

First to know was Pat Young, the librarian at the Disaster Research Center (DRC). She was the contact person between Bill and I and Henry and Russ.

Next to know was Victoria Becker assistant to the Director at DRC. She arranged to have the plaque made ready for the presentation. The DRC has made all the plaques since the award was created.

And that, almost, was it.

The president of the Committee, Walt Peacock, was told by Bill Anderson that a decision had been made, but did not reveal the name of the winner.

The treasurer of the Research Committee was asked to pay for the plaque but not told who would be receiving it.

The Director of the DRC Jim Kendra was not informed what his staff had done. (I apologized to Jim later and told him that Bill and I felt it was critical if it was to be a total surprise that the fewest possible people know.)



*Kathleen Thierney
2014 Winner of the Fritz Award*

But someone had to present it; so Bill and I agreed to ask Lori. Knowing that she would be on the platform at the opening session of the Hazards Workshop, we thought it would be most appropriate, if she would present it.

It was a highly successful secretive operation with just one slip-up. Bill Lovekamp was accidentally copied on one email. He told no one else.

As the most recent winner, she is now responsible for chairing the committee which will decide who gets the award in 2018.

• In Memoriam – William “Bill” Averette Anderson (1937 – 2013)¹

Bill Anderson, gifted writer, groundbreaking researcher, and passionate teacher, passed away on December 29, 2013 on the Hawaiian island of Kauai. He was 76 years old and is survived by his wife of 45 years, Norma Doneghey Anderson and their daughter, Candice Anderson.

Bill Anderson, who was born on May 28, 1937, grew up in Akron Ohio, a town about an hour’s drive south from Cleveland. When his parents separated, a very young Bill and his sister Janice went to live with his maternal grandparents, George and Roxie Browner. The Browners had come to Ohio some years before, during the Great Migration, looking for jobs, greater freedom, and a better quality of life. In addition to

¹ Based on Robert Reitherman’s interview with Bill Anderson in: EERI Oral History Series, vol. 19, William A. Anderson. Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (2011) p. 1-112.

raising Bill and Janine, George and Roxie also raised three other grandchildren. The five children grew up together as siblings.

Bill was a bright and hardworking student, but since his grandparents never finished high school, he wasn't raised with a clear understanding of the value of academics. A family friend and successful businessman in Akron, Sam Barner, took Bill under his wing and encouraged him to do well in school and pursue a college degree.



With the blessing of his grandmother who wholly supported his educational aspirations, Bill started saving up money to go to college. He worked as a janitor, silkscreen printer, and held a number of odd jobs, in order to save enough money to pay tuition and to contribute to his family's income. With the help of a loan from his sister he was able to start at the University of Akron in the fall of 1956.

Bill was initially majoring in psychology, but after taking a sociology class – his first exposure to sociology - he decided to switch majors. Throughout college Bill worked 20 hours a week as a janitor for the University and since he knew all the janitors on the campus, he interviewed them about their occupation and their attitudes towards their work. Based on this data he wrote his senior thesis.

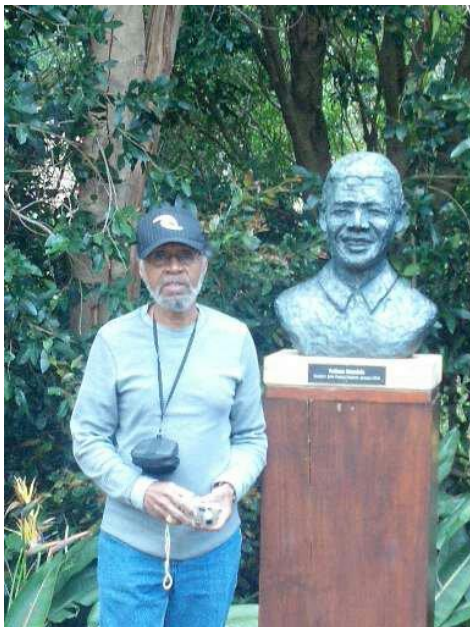
Bill obtained his bachelor's degree in 1960 and went on to get a master's degree in sociology at Kent State University. At Kent State the sociology department approached Bill and asked if he would be willing to teach a course on the sociology of community and Bill, who was frightened to death, said yes. Following the completion of his master thesis – which was a case study of the Black Muslim movement when Malcolm X was a prominent figure - Bill continued to teach for another year. The head of the department at Kent State encouraged Bill to apply to a doctoral program and Bill was consequently accepted by Ohio State University which also offered him a teaching assistantship. Here he took a course on large organizations and criminology which was taught by J. Eugene Haas. At the end of the course, Haas told Bill that he and a couple of other faculty members – Henry Quarantelli and Russel Dynes - had developed a proposal to set up a center to study disasters. Against all odds, the proposal's investigators obtained the money needed and recruited Bill to work at the Disaster Research Center (DRC).

Bill was appointed as a research assistant at the DRC and participated as a member of the research team in the collection of field data, carrying out analyses, and preparing reports. His first two field trips – to Norwalk, Ohio where a nursing home had burned down and to Los Angeles where the Baldwin Hills Dam had failed – were primarily undertaken to practice techniques and to train the DRC staff members. By the time that the Alaska earthquake occurred (March 27, 1964), the DRC had established interview protocols, a library, a nice-size team of graduate student field workers, three co-principal investigators, and a pool of people to transcribe the interview tapes. Bill was on the first commercial flight into Anchorage after the earthquake. Based on his research, he wrote an article on organizational change induced by the earthquake. This was also the topic of his dissertation, which he completed in 1966 and focused on lessons learned by a sample of Anchorage organizations for coping with the threat of future disasters.

After receiving his Ph.D., Bill became the DRC field director and served in that role through 1969. He embarked on a number of research projects – including studies of the 1965 earthquake in El Salvador and the 1967 Fairbanks, Alaska Flood.

At the time, the DRC also studied urban unrest – the riots with racial overtones that affected several U.S. cities. These studies of urban riots were intended to identify the consequences of these forms of collective action and to highlight the similarities and difference in the way groups and organizations respond to them in comparison with natural and technological disasters.

In 1969 Bill was offered a position of professor of sociology at Arizona State University. But before starting his new career, Bill met his future wife Norma Jeanne Doneghy. A mutual friend at Ohio State set up a (very successful) blind date, which was technically speaking not a ‘blind’ date since the pair had seen each other around campus. Upon completion of her bachelor’s degree in education, Norma and Bill got married in 1968. A year later, the newlyweds moved to Phoenix. Three years later, their daughter Candice was born.



While continuing his close collaboration with DRC, Bill taught courses that grew out of his experiences at Ohio State and were related to his interest in both non-routine and routine group and organizational behavior and included courses on collective behavior and social movements, social problems, and complex organizations. In the mid-seventies, Bill took a year off from Arizona State to become director of the Minority Fellowship Program at the American Sociological Association (ASA). Over the years, Bill had been concerned about the need for developing minority talent and by taking this position he had the chance to not only say something about it, but do something about it. The program funded doctoral students from groups underrepresented in the social sciences, including Hispanics, Blacks, and Native Americans.

With encouragement from Henry Quarantelli, Russel Dynes, and Charles Thiel who was a division director at the National Science Foundation (NSF), Bill applied for a program position in Thiel’s division in 1976. He was offered the job and ended up staying over twenty years in positions that included program director, section head, and acting division director. For much of his time at NSF, Bill directed the agency’s funding to and provided oversight for the Learning from Earthquakes Program (LFE), which was and still is a signature activity of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI). With his background in disaster field research, Bill was keenly interested in LFE and delighted to work with EERI on this important program, which during his tenure involved many earthquake events. EERI’s efforts related to the 1985 Mexico earthquake, the 1989 Loma Prieta and 1994 Northridge earthquakes in the US, and the 1995 Kobe, Japan earthquake, helped set the stage for crucial complementary follow-up research supported by or carried out by NSF, the other National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program agencies and the research community, which significantly advanced both knowledge and practice.

The next chapter in Bill’s career was his position at the World Bank. Keen to do something in the area of disasters and developing nations, Bill requested to spend a year at the World Bank. His request was

approved and Bill started working at the World Bank in 1999 as senior advisor at the Disaster Management Facility (DMF). In this capacity, he traveled to Cape Town in South Africa where he met with a large number of Saharan African professors, researchers, and officials to talk about disaster reduction. After the Kobe, Japan earthquake, Hiro Kameda, a geotechnical engineer at Kyoto University, approached the Japanese government about funding a multidisciplinary effort to deal primarily with natural hazards in developing and other countries in the Asia/Pacific region. This became the program known as the Development of Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation Technologies and Its Integration for the Asia-Pacific Region (EQTAP). Funds for the program were provided by the World Bank and Bill was appointed to the program's international advisory committee.

After a two-year stint at the World Bank, Bill was appointed as associate executive director at the National Research Council's Division on Earth and Life Studies. Bill headed the Disasters Roundtable, the purpose of which was to bring together stakeholders from the research, policy, and practitioner communities to discuss and consider issues related to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. As such, he organized three workshops a year where these three communities were convened to discuss important issues of the day. As associate executive director, Bill was also responsible for running an internship program at the National Academies for minority high school students who envisioned careers in science, engineering, and medicine. At the National Academies, Bill continued his involvement with various international activities. He helped with organizing the African Science Academy Development Initiative (ASADI) annual meeting which took place in Senegal. The purpose of the annual meeting was to encourage collaboration among the participating African academies and provide them with a learning forum. The 2008 meeting focused on public health and Bill's role was to show the relationship between public health and disasters, help identify and bring in appropriate speakers and other participants, and provide an overview perspective at the conference in Senegal. Furthermore Bill – with the Policy and Global Affairs Division, Bill helped organize meetings that took place in Iran. This was part of an effort to initiate collaboration with the Iranians in the field of earthquake hazard reduction. The two-day conference on seismic performance of adobe and masonry structures, was hugely successful and Bill has described his trip to Iran as one of the most memorable of his long and amazing career. Bill retired a year later in 2008.

In 2007, EERI awarded Bill with the first Special Recognition Award for his role in the Learning from Earthquakes Program and his activities in the NSF. Three years later, he was given the 2010 Charles E. Fritz Award for Lifetime Career Achievements.

After his unexpected passing on December 29, 2013, Norma, determined to keep her husband's legacy alive, founded the William Averette Anderson Fund for Hazard and Disaster Mitigation Education Research. Norma and Candice serve as board members.

• The William Averette Anderson Fund

Expanding inclusive hazards and disaster planning for communities of color

The William Averette Anderson Fund was created to expand advanced studies in the field of hazards and disaster research and mitigation within minority communities with the initial focus on increasing the number of African American scientists, practitioners, and policymakers.

Hazards and disaster mitigation is designed to make communities in the U.S. and around the world safer in the face of hazards and disasters of all kinds, from naturally-occurring events like Hurricane Sandy to accidents involving technology, like the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The Fund seeks to ensure that these activities, which aim to reduce the impacts of future disasters and preparing for, responding to, and recovering from these kinds of events, take into account the needs of communities of color, women and children.



Advisory Councils

The fund features the following councils:

1. Fundraising Council - Individuals who are vested in the mission of the Fund and see their role as helping to generate funding to support it.
2. Program Council – This council is a two part group with a board member serving as the lead to both councils.
 - a. Feeder Council – Individuals within the hazard and disaster mitigation field who are aware of the areas in which researchers, educators, and practitioners of color are underrepresented. They work to identify sources of undergraduate students who would be interested or whose interest may be developed with the purpose that they move forward to graduate studies or professional careers in the area of hazard and disaster mitigation.
 - b. Receiver Council – Individuals within the hazard and disaster mitigation field that are organizational/institutional decision makers and or influencers who can identify graduate level programs and professional organizations to receive students from the Feeder Council.
3. Distinguished Leaders Council – Esteemed friends in the hazard and disaster mitigation field who are vested in the mission and want to lend their names as supporters of the effort they admire. They will have no obligation other than lending their names.
4. Student Advisory Council – Students in the fields of hazard and disaster research who would provide input about how best to assist them in achieving their goals of completing their degrees, searching for funding, developing mentoring relationships, and providing links to career opportunities.

For more information about the fund, please see:

Website: www.BillAndersonFund.org Linked In: <http://bit.ly/billandersonfund>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/billandersonfund> Contact: Norma@BillAndersonFund.org

• Publications

Disaster's Impact on Livelihood and Cultural Survival: Losses, Opportunities, and Mitigation, edited by Michèle Companion, an associate professor of sociology at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

This edited volume offers a broad forum to discuss the impacts of large-scale disaster events on communities.

Chapters explore both losses and opportunities for cultural and livelihood adaptation, change, and disaster impact mitigation. The contributing authors, who include academics, policy makers, community leaders, urban planners, and emergency practitioners, look at different dimensions of livelihood challenges and cultural survival in the wake of disasters in 18 countries around the world.

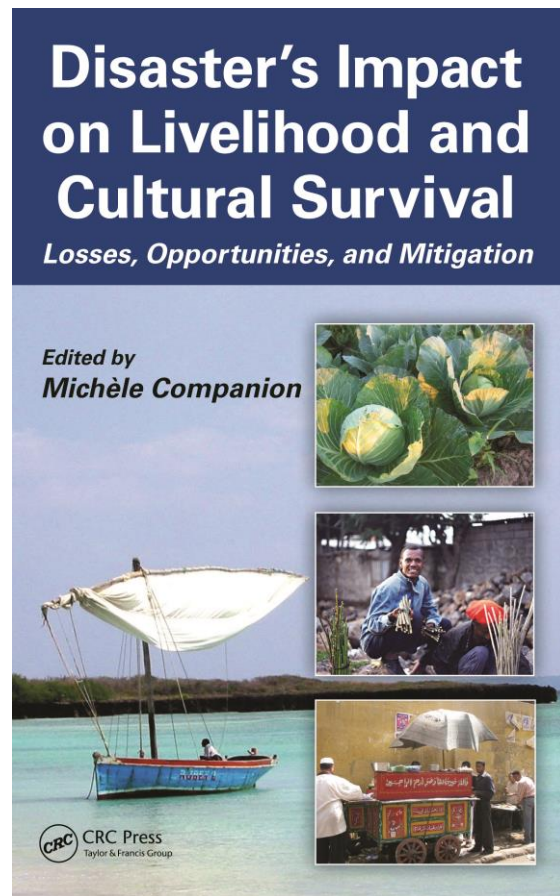
Some chapters focus on developing “best practices” to enhance future event response, while others seek to assess new instruments or methodologies for better planning and assessment of disaster impacts. Multiple forms of disasters (drought, hurricanes, earthquakes, technological, conflict, climate change) are introduced to provide a comprehensive examination of the topic and the myriad long-term impacts disasters can have on communities. A section highlights indigenous populations: their concerns, their perspectives and voice, and their strategic plans.

Some key features of the volume include: analysis of the political relationships between threatened or damaged communities, highlighting indigenous communities, and public authorities, and discussions of human activity in regard to its impact on climate change, environmental conditions, and to an increase in sea level and disaster frequency and scope.

This book is ideal for practitioners, scholars, and text book adoption for graduate and undergraduate courses.

Disaster's Impact on Livelihood and Cultural Survival – Losses, Opportunities, and Mitigation
Available: March 6, 2015 by CRC Press.

Preorder your copy here: <http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781482248432>



ANNOUNCEMENTS



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<https://www.facebook.com/unscheduledevents>



IJMED

Dr. Douglas Paton has been appointed as the new editor of the *International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters*



40th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop

The workshop will take place on Sunday, July 19 through Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at Omni Interlocken Resort in Broomfield Colorado.

Submission window will close on December 15

<http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/workshop/>

NOTE: *The International Research Committee on Disasters Researchers Meeting and the Natural Hazard Mitigation Association Practitioners Meeting will immediately follow the main Workshop on Thursday, July 23.*

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Call for contributions!

We invite you to submit contributions, suggestions, announcements, etc. to the next issue of Unscheduled Events. Please contact us at emweesjes@gmail.com or Lori.Peek@colostate.edu.