



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Call for Abstracts – Closing date 5 February 2010 NCCARF International Adaptation Conference 2010

**Climate Adaptation Futures –
Preparing for the unavoidable
impacts of Climate Change
29 June – 1 July 2010**

The call for abstracts and registrations for the NCCARF 2010 International Climate Change Adaptation Conference is now open.

Abstracts are invited for conference sessions focussing on climate change adaptation in a number of areas including, Climate extremes and disaster management, Human Security, Risk communication and behavioural change. Details are available on the conference website: www.nccarf.edu.au/conference2010 along with instructions on how to submit an abstract.

The closing date for submission of abstracts is Friday 5th February, 2010. Registrations can also be made on-line at www.nccarf.edu.au/conference2010, participant numbers are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Some support for this Conference may be available for students and early career researchers who are members of the Network and who do not have alternative sources of funding. Those interested in receiving support should write a letter to Frank Yardley at frank.yardley@rmit.edu.au setting out a case for the support they need and why they need it. The deadline for these applications is 1 March 2010.



Image: Lan Nguyen

Bushfire CRC Post-graduate Research Scholarships

The Bushfire CRC is offering full postgraduate scholarships valued at up to \$28,000 per annum and top-up scholarships for up to \$10,000 per annum for those eligible for other awards. The Scholarships are available for a number of Australian universities. The program is multi-disciplinary with applications from students from a wide range of disciplines being invited.

Students are expected to work closely with 'end users' such fire authorities and land management agencies.

Students should submit an Expression of Interest including a one page outline of their proposed research with name of intended supervisor and university.

Further information is available at the Education page of the Bushfire CRC www.bushfirecrc.com

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NCCARF Visiting Fellowships

The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) invites applications from within Australia and internationally, for up to three visiting research fellowships in 2010.

These should be in the general area of climate change adaptation and should take into account the research interests of NCCARF (see www.nccarf.edu.au) and the specific requirements of Australia in the area of climate change adaptation, for example water resource management and coastal management in areas of rapid urban growth.

Successful applicants for the Visiting Fellowships should:

- Be active researchers in the area of climate change adaptation with a recent peer-reviewed publication record;

- Normally take up residence for between 2 and 6 months at Griffith University Gold Coast campus, Queensland;
- Be willing to interact with Australian researchers with a view to developing longer-term linkages, and including undertaking a program of visits to other (Australia-wide) institutions in the NCCARF consortium.
- Have a clear identified research topic to be addressed during the period of residence, which will lead to at least one peer-reviewed publication.
- Be prepared to make science input to the program of synthesis and integrative research currently being undertaken by NCCARF.

These positions are suitable for researchers and decision-makers seeking a stimulating environment for a sabbatical, and the opportunity to participate in adaptation activities at the science-policy interface. Further information and application details can be obtained from the NCCARF webpage: www.nccarf.edu.au.

Potential applicants are encouraged in the first instance to contact the NCCARF Director, Professor Jean Palutikof at j.palutikof@griffith.edu.au, +61 (0)7 5552 7333. Final applications should be sent to Jenny Watson at j.watson@griffith.edu.au, +61 (0)7 5552 7239

The closing date for the first round of applications is 19 February, 2010.



Image: Tyson A.

Climate Change Adaptation Research Grants - Emergency Management - Update

As previously advised the release of the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Plan (NARP) for Emergency Management, was accompanied by the launch of a research grants program to start to address the priorities identified by the Plan. Funds for the research are available through the Department of Climate Change Adaptation Research Grants Program

The first stage of the process was a call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) to be followed by an invitation for shortlisted applicants to prepare full proposals.

There was a very strong response to the call with 103 EOI. This shows the high level of interest in research and we thank all those involved.

We have had no involvement with the assessment process which is handled entirely by NCCARF. However, we have been advised that eleven EOI's which represent a wide range of topic areas and approaches have been asked to develop detailed proposals. At the request of some of those short listed, we have provided assistance with preparation of final proposals.

WA Emerging Node Symposium

Emergency Management Network representatives Russell Stevens and Ralph Smith of FESA, (Fire and Services Authority, WA), and Bryan Boruff, University of Western Australia, presented a West Australian perspective of Emergency Management issues at the Murdoch University NCCARF Symposium in Perth on the 8th December 2009.

In addition to the broad Network priorities in terms of research and activity, the presentation covered the particular climate change impacts

and implications for WA, which encompasses one third of the Australian landmass.

The presentation highlighted the weather impacts, storms, cyclones and prolonged fire season and explored the issues of understanding and measuring risk and vulnerabilities. Adaptive strategies and community resilience were also discussed; with the conclusion that a WA Emergency Management Network node may well be a mechanism to promote research to the particular issues of the region.



Image: Gordon Stubbs

Core Network Partners at time of Network Formation

- RMIT, Global Cities Institute, Centre for Risk and Community Safety, School of Mathematics and Geospatial Science.
- James Cook University, Centre for Disaster Studies and the Cyclone Testing Station.
- Macquarie University, Risk Frontiers.
- ANU, Fenner School for Environment and Society.
- Monash University, Climate Centre.
- University of Western Australia (UWA), School of Earth and Environment.
- AFAC (Australasian Fire and Emergency services Authorities Council).
- NSW State Emergency Service.
- (FESA) Fire and Emergency Services, Authority of WA.
- NSW Rural Fire Service.
- Planning Institute of Australia.

Upcoming Events

April 2010 Half day seminars Perth and Melbourne

These seminar/workshops would be run in conjunction with FESA and UWA in Perth and AFAC and other Victorian partners in Melbourne. They will take advantage of the visit of Dr Lisa Schipper of the Stockholm Environment Institute. The details of the topics to be covered are being developed with FESA, UWA and other network partners. Details will be announced early 2010.

7 September 2010 One day Workshop - Darwin

This workshop will be run in conjunction with the annual AFAC/Bushfire CRC Conference planned for Darwin in September 2010. This workshop will examine the regional implications for emergency management of climate change as well as other topics under discussion with our partners. Details will be announced in early 2010.

General Membership

The Network is open to all interested. Please contact Frank Yardley (Network administrator), frank.yardley@rmit.edu.au or John Handmer (Network convenor) john.handmer@rmit.edu.au with your details including your area of interest or expertise and we will add you to the database to be included in all notifications of Network opportunities and activities.

Links, Comments and Contributions

The Network welcomes comments, links and contributions. If you wish to comment or contribute in any way please use the contact details listed above.

Seasons Greetings



We wish you and your families the very best for a quiet summer in terms of cyclones, storms, floods and fires.

