

IRSPM 2019, 16-18 April, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Panel Title: Critical Perspectives in Emergency Services Management

Panel Chairs:

Prof. Paresh Wankhade, Edge Hill University UK and Editor-In-Chief, International Journal of Emergency Services (Paresh.Wankhade@edgehill.ac.uk); Prof. Peter Murphy, Nottingham Trent University, UK & Dr Lucia Velotti, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, USA.

Management research in emergency services is an evolving phenomenon and the current state of emergency management research is unfortunately characterised by a continuing theory-practice divide resulting in an overly 'silo' approach to the development of academic and professional expertise. This is despite the fact that the provision of emergency services is a worldwide phenomenon and there is a growing international appetite for exploring the links between academia and organisations providing an emergency response.

This year's IRSPM conference seeks to focus on stewardship, innovation and impact in renewing public management. While this is particularly important in the case of emergency services in the mitigation, preparedness and recovery stages since they set the tone for response and make communities more resilient, it is not always clear how innovation and impact is driven by strong leadership and stewardship against the backdrop of budgetary cuts. In particular, the panel seeks to expand upon the current framework of stewardship and building impact through innovation and link this framework to the field of emergency management.

The panel will provide an inter-disciplinary platform to debate and discuss the issues which are relevant to the emergency management communities and research groups at IRSPM. The proposed panel will provide a forum for an engaged and critical analysis of the emergency services amidst mounting calls for professionalization in these organizations along with the growing interest and capacity of the professionals and practitioners (in these services) for co-production of knowledge. Submissions on the theme of innovation, entrepreneurship and building stewardship in the context of emergency services will be particularly welcome in addition to other themes including:

- Challenges of multi-agency cooperation and interoperability
- Community and organisational capacities and resiliencies
- Organisational culture and management of culture change
- Leadership domains across multiple agencies in national and international responses
- Theoretical and methodological foundations of emergency response services
- Measurement management and monitoring of the performance of emergency services

This panel follows the successful panel at IRSPM 2018, and the panel conveners have regularly presented papers at the IRSPM conferences on various management aspects of the emergency services. Emergency Management panels have also been presented at the EGPA and Academy of Management (Critical Management Studies) conferences, on the related theme of emergency management. The panel chairs have published widely on this subject area.

Emerald Group Publishing and the [International Journal of Emergency Services](#) will sponsor the best paper award at the panel along with a possibility of a Special Issue in 2019.