

Fall 2015

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A Message from the Director

DRC Alums and Friends,

Welcome to our Fall 2015 DRC Dispatch. Here you'll find some quick highlights on the latest happenings, including our research and some of the activities of DRC faculty and students. We've been busy with projects taking us around the world. Some of our work was quite somber, as we deployed a quick response team to Nepal following the April earthquake. Other travel brought DRC staff to the annual Natural Hazards Workshop, presenting research on projects ranging from humanitarian logistics to post-Sandy recovery in New York City.



As always, you can access our website drc.udel.edu and [Facebook](#) for continuous updates on all of our work. We hope you're having a good late autumn or spring, depending on where you are!

Best Wishes,
Jim Kendra

Feature

Nepal Earthquake, Quick Response Field Study



After the 2015 Nepal earthquake, DRC deployed three researchers to collect data on the broad social impacts of the earthquake: Sarah E. DeYoung (postdoctoral researcher), Samantha Penta (Ph.D. student in Sociology), and Daryl Yoder-Bontrager (Ph.D. student in Disaster Science & Management). The team also included Nepali researcher Manoj Suji (Tribhuvan University). Rachel Davidson of Civil Engineering (DRC core faculty member) deployed with the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute.

To learn more about DRC research in Nepal studies, projects, presentations and publications, [visit DRC Research.](#)



Call for Papers: The Nepal Earthquake

Special Issue of the International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters

DRC Postdoctoral Researcher Sarah DeYoung is serving as a Guest Editor for a special issue of the International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters focused on the Nepal earthquake. IMJED invites researchers and scholars from all nations to contribute papers that explore social, cultural, political and ecological aspects of the Nepal earthquake.

Manuscript Deadline December 31, 2015 | [Manuscript Details & Submission](#)

E.L.Q. Resource Collection

DRC Receives T. Joseph Scanlon Collection

The Disaster Research Center is deeply indebted to the family of long time disaster researcher, friend and colleague Professor Joe Scanlon for their gift of the T. Joseph Scanlon Collection. This significant collection reflects the many years of research and writing that Joe undertook in the field and will serve as an invaluable resource to future researchers. For more details about the Scanlon Collection, [visit E.L. Quarantelli Resource Collection](#).

Publications & Presentations

Spotlight: DRC Collaboration with CIGIDEN

DRC Director Jim Kendra and DRC Associate Director Tricia Wachtendorf traveled to Chile to work with colleagues at the National Center for the Integrated Management of Natural Disasters ([CIGIDEN](#)), a new multi-institution research center. With Roberto Moris and Gonzalo Bacigalupe of CIGIDEN and William Siembieda of Cal Poly, they visited areas that were severely damaged in extensive flooding and mud flows last April. In addition, Tricia gave a keynote presentation at the IV Seminar on the Management of Natural Disasters and collaborated with Paula Repetto, while Jim serves on the center's international advisory board and presented at the annual seminar Chile Resiliente: Lecciones del Pasado y Desafios para El Futuro.



Temporary housing following flooding and mudflows in Chañaral, Chile.

Student Achievements

Spotlight: Hans Louis-Charles, Disaster Science & Management Ph.D. Student



Hans first met Norma Anderson, founder of the [Bill Anderson Fund](#), at the DRC 50th Anniversary Workshop in Spring 2014. Inspired by her passion and vision for the Bill Anderson Fund (BAF), Hans helped to launch and was Chairman of the BAF Student Council. Today, the Student Council includes 25 members from graduate programs across the nation. In its inaugural year, the Student Council hosted a three part Professional Development Webinar Series introducing over 250 participants to career opportunities in the hazard and mitigation field. While Hans's role as Chairman of the Student Council has ended, he will continue as a member of the BAF Board of Directors. Bill Anderson was among the first students of DRC and DRC encourages all interested to participate in the great work of the Bill Anderson Fund.

[DRC's graduate students](#) are active in research and translational projects. Follow the [Disaster Research Center on Facebook](#) to see more Student Spotlights!

IAEM@UD Student Chapter

This semester, IAEM@UD hosted an exciting lineup of speakers, including representatives from the [Bill Anderson Fund](#), [Tri-State Bird Rescue](#), and the United States Census Bureau. The fall speaker series concluded with Scott Knowles discussing the future of disaster research. The chapter engaged in community outreach during Newark's Community day, and hosted its third annual Quick Response Field Research Training Workshop. Next semester, they are excited to launch a spring fundraiser to continue supporting these initiatives. [Join, support and participate in IAEM@UD!](#)



Successful Dissertation & Thesis Defenses

The following DRC and Disaster Science & Management students successfully defended their dissertations or theses. Congratulations!

- **Hsien-Ho Ray Chang, Ph.D. Disaster Science & Management**
"An Analysis of the Incident Command System"
- **Israt Jahan, M.S. Disaster Science & Management**
"Assessment of Long Term Housing Recovery after Hurricane Sandy"
- **Mei Johnson, M.S. Disaster Science & Management**
"An Analysis of Two After-Action Reports Published by the Tennessee Valley Authority Following the 2008 Kingston Coal Fly Ash Slurry Spill"

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