

ANZDMC 2013 conference: 80 presenters, 30 poster displays, 300 delegates

The Australian & New Zealand Disaster and Emergency Management Conference was held in Brisbane at the end of May. This year's conference theme was around community resilience and aspects of 'whole-of-nation' resilience-based approaches to disaster management. Presentations, both academic and practice, considered the national, co-ordinated and co-operative efforts needed to withstand and recover from emergencies and disasters. The conference focused on Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

Plenary streams covered risk and crisis management, social media, volunteerism, animals in disasters, business continuity, and relief and recovery. Practical workshops provided good opportunity to explore the issues around animals in disasters, business continuity, resilience and trauma, and disaster mental health.

The Hon Jack Dempsey MP, Minister for Police and Community Safety opened the conference and keynote presentations were by:

- Grant Morrison, Director, Disaster Prevention and Risk Reduction, AusAid
- Associate Professor Brett Aimers, Chief Nurse, St John Ambulance Australia, and, now, Assistant Director, AEMI
- Ian Stewart, Queensland Police Commissioner
- Dr Ian Dacre, Disaster Management Operations Director, Asia Pacific, World Society for the Protection of Animals
- Craig Lapsley, Fire Services Commissioner of Victoria
- Scott Milne, Response Manager and Global Director of the International Association of Emergency Managers



Assoc. Prof. Brett Aimers presented on 'Taking Care of Business – a national response to a jurisdictional emergency'.

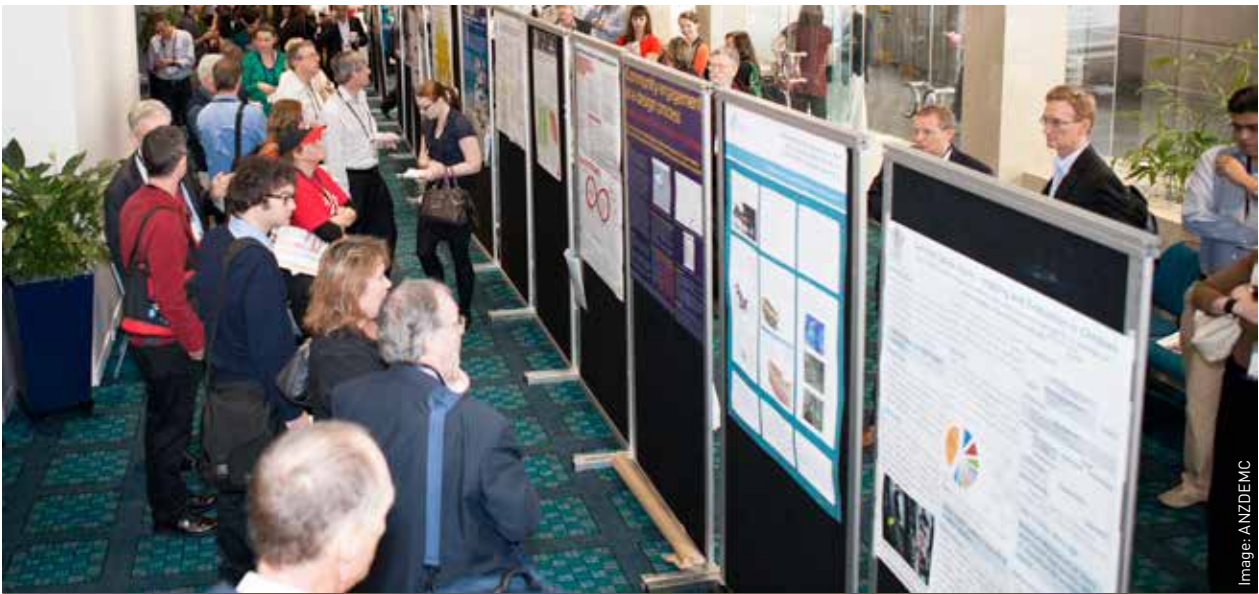
- Professor Philip Morris, President, Australian and New Zealand Mental Health Association
- Dr Rob Vertessy, Director and CEO, Bureau of Meteorology

Organisers indicate that new streams for 2014 conference are being added and they will include Australia's first Search and Rescue forum. Expressions of interest are now open

The conference is a joint initiative between the not-for-profit organisations of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services, the Australian & New Zealand Mental Health Organisation Inc, and the Association for Sustainability in Business Inc.

ANZDMC May 2014 Brisbane

www.anzdmc.com.au



The conference poster series provided a wealth of additional information.



Chris Austin thanks Grant Morrison, AusAid after his presentation on 'Developing a new Hydro Framework for Action in Disaster Risk Reduction'.