

2025 Queensland Disaster Management Research Forum Program

Wednesday 12 November 2025

Rydges Southbank

8:00–8:25 ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATIONS

8:30–10:00 SESSION ONE

Welcome and housekeeping

Kate Retzki, Director, Research and Communications
Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management

Welcome to Country

Uncle Steve Coghill

Opening remarks

The Honourable Daniel Purdie MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Opening remarks

Alistair Dawson APM, Inspector-General of Emergency Management

Keynote address

Dr Thomas Wilson, Chief Science Advisor, National Emergency Management Agency, New Zealand

9:35–10:00am MORNING TEA & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

10:00am–12:00pm SESSION TWO

Future of Research: Panel

- Facilitator: Ms Kylie Mercer, Director, Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management
- Professor Kerrie Wilson, Queensland Chief Scientist
- Dr Margaret Cook, Griffith University
- Ms Kate Retzki, Director, Research and Communications Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management
- Dr Thomas Wilson, Chief Science Advisor, National Emergency Management Agency, New Zealand
- Mr Ian Williams, Disaster and Disruption Resilience Officer, Noosa Shire Council

Questions and conversation time

Dr Allison Rifai, Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management

Innovating emergency management training through cross-sector collaboration

Inspector George Shand and Acting Inspector Robb Wann, Queensland Police Service
Associate Professor Dr. Julianne Senyard, Associate Professor Dr Ellie Meissner, Griffith University

Professionalisation of disaster management into the future

Higher education as an enabler and advancing professional practice through research

Dr Helen Keen-Dyer Central Queensland University

Dr Russell Dippy, Charles Stuart University

Program AIR (Advocacy, Information, Resilience) – the Gold Coast's response to the Severe Wind Hazard Assessment

Mark Ryan, City of Gold Coast

12:00–13:00pm LUNCH & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

13:00–14:30pm SESSION THREE

First Nations women, cultural fire knowledge, wellbeing and memory

First Nations women, cultural fire knowledge, wellbeing and memory

Nell Reidy, Zoe Schultz, Kylee Clubb, Alex Lacey and Chloe Swiney, National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Program, Monash University, Natural Hazards Research Australia, and Queensland Fire Department

**Balancing tradition and technology:
The evolving role of crisis communication during tropical cyclone weather events**

Dr Susan Grantham, Griffith University

Modelling the impact of natural hazards on interconnected infrastructure networks

Dr Avin Hadlos and Dr Matt Mason, School of Civil Engineering, The University of Queensland and Natural Hazards Research Australia

Questions and conversation time

Dr Allison Rifai, Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management

Managing earthquake risk: Unreinforced masonry building database

Dr Hossein Derakhshan, Queensland University of Technology, and Matthew Dyer, Queensland Fire Department

Evaluating resilient housing programs: Lessons for Australia

Professor Paula Jarzabkowski, University of Queensland and Jimmy Scott, Qld Reconstruction Authority

14:30-15:00pm AFTERNOON TEA& POSTER PRESENTATIONS

15:00-15:30pm SESSION FOUR

Evolving community preparedness: Insights from University of the Sunshine Coast collaboration

Chris Barnes, City of Moreton Bay
Renee Barnes, University of the Sunshine Coast

Research Connect and conversation time

Shayal Kumar, Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management

Conference scribe

Hayley Langsdorf, Thoughts Drawn Out

Closing remarks

Shayal Kumar, Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management