



# Virtual International Conference

MAY 2021

# CONFERENCE Program

*“Principles of gender justice and feminist leadership offer new possibilities for responding to the climate crisis. This groundbreaking conference will help us to develop meaningful strategies to heal systemic injustices while promoting equity and sustainability.”*

*Professor Lori Peek,  
Director of the  
Natural Hazards Center*

*Professor of Sociology, University of  
Colorado Boulder*



Australian Institute for  
Disaster Resilience



Gender & Disaster Pod

An initiative of WHGNE, WHIN & MUDRI



WOMEN'S HEALTH  
IN THE NORTH  
voice • choice • power



women's  
health  
goulburn north east  
challenging inequality, embracing diversity



MONASH University

The *Gender Justice in Disaster: Inspiring Action* conference will bring a gender lens to critical issues of disaster and contemporary emergency management. It will inspire action at the intersection of gender and sustainable Aboriginal land management, climate change activism, discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people, the representation of women in leadership, violence against women, and more.

Building on the successful National Conference '*Diversity in Disaster*' held in Melbourne three years ago, this conference presents Australian and international experts. It promises unique insights for emergency management for the benefit of women, men, LGBTIQ+ people and children.

The **Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience** (AIDR) is a supporting partner of the *Gender Justice in Disasters: Inspiring Action* conference and will publish an edition of the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* on this topic in early 2022. We are pleased to announce that **Women & Fire Fighting Australasia** (WAF) are also supporting partners. The conference:

- Asks contemporary and compelling questions of decision-makers and people affected by emergencies.
- Places gender justice at the centre of emergency management's response to the most pressing current and emerging environmental and social challenges.
- Provokes, challenge and stimulate individuals, communities, and organisations to change, and incorporate gender justice in emergency planning and response.
- Gives voice to the lived experience of disasters.
- Connects with others' work in both gender emergency management in Australia & overseas.
- Promotes the GAD Pod's resources as tools to progress gender justice in emergency and disaster management.
- Delivers legacy documents as a valuable resource for future actions.

This virtual event allows us to include speakers from across the globe and offers registration to delegates everywhere. The valuable lessons in Australia – a country known as the 'climate change canary' – will have application to other parts of the world. International guest presenters will bring perspectives from the UK, New Zealand, the Pacific, Southeast and South Asia, Iceland, the UK, the US and more.

Sincere thanks to our moderators: Liam Leonard, Commander Donna Wheatley, Steve O'Malley AFSM, Naomi Bailey, Susan Davie, Teresa Capetola, Nikhila Madabhushi and Jaspreet Kaur.

***Be part of this vital conversation.***

Read on for full Conference details!



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## Lead-in sessions – April 2021

Uploaded to the website following their release on Tuesdays and Thursdays in April:

<https://www.genderanddisaster.com.au/info-hub/conferences-events/gender-justice-in-disaster/gender-justice-in-disaster-inspiring-action-lead-in-sessions/>

(Please note that recordings from the conference itself will not be made public until 2022.)

Courtesy of Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience: Family Violence in Recovery webinar introduced by Amanda Leck, AIDR Executive Director. (6/4/2020)	<b>Dr Debra Parkinson</b> – Manager of Gender and Disaster Pod, Adjunct Research Fellow, MUDRI <b>Stephen O'Malley AFSM</b> – Fire Rescue Victoria
Journalists' panel with views across continents and cultures on disaster reporting. (8/4/2020)	<b>Moderated by Naomi Bailey</b> – GAD Pod Associate <b>Rebecca Hersher</b> – Science Reporter, NPR, US <b>Stephanie Corsetti</b> – Journalist, SBS News
Aboriginal land management practice – a sustainable way of life and an innovative approach to climate change-related catastrophic bushfires.	<b>Victor Steffensen</b> - Indigenous Writer, Researcher and Activist
The intersection of human rights and climate justice; the gendered and rural implications of climate change; and insurance post disaster.	<b>Professor Susan Harris-Rimmer</b> – Director of the Griffith University Policy Innovation Hub and co-convenor of the Griffith Gender Equality Research Network
The intersections of feminism, climate justice, education, and the politics of emotions, with a focus on young people.	<b>Dr Blanche Verlie</b> – Climate change educator and researcher, Sydney Environment Institute
Long-term disaster resilience: The experiences and wisdom of men, women and children.	Research with 57 disaster survivors in Australia since 1943, with community informants and researchers. Vignettes from <b>Sharon Bourke, Ruth McGowan, Dianne Simpson, Lindy and Keith Wrest and Jodie Thorneycroft.</b>
The National Gender and Emergency Management (GEM) Guidelines: Incorporating people of diverse gender and sexual identities, and with proposed new sections on pregnant and breastfeeding women; and evacuation Centres.	<b>Moderated by Susan Davie</b> - Manager Community Connections, Victoria State Emergency Services <b>Karleen Gribble</b> - Assoc. Professor, Western Sydney University <b>Jaspreet Kaur</b> - Training Coordinator, GAD Pod <b>Krissy Nicholson</b> - Family Violence Prevention Officer, City of Casey <b>Jade Lane</b> - Regional Gender Equity, Coordinator, WHGNE  <b>Continued ...</b>



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<p>Women in fire and emergency leadership: Reflections on the UK and Australian experiences and ideas for systemic change in gender inclusion.</p>	<p><b>Donna Wheatley</b> - Commander, Fire Rescue Victoria  <b>Alex Johnson</b> - Chief Fire Officer, South Yorkshire Fire &amp; Rescue UK, named "Most Influential Woman in Fire" in 2019  <b>Dawn Hartog</b> - Captain, Toolangi Fire Brigade and Senior Program Manager, FFMVic, Culture and Diversity  <b>Quinn Cramer</b> - President of Women and Firefighting Australasia  <b>Becci Bryant QFSM MBA MIFireE Hon DPP</b> - Chief Fire Officer, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service HQ Pirehill Stone, Staffordshire, UK</p>
<p>A decade's reflections on disaster risk and recovery for women, men and children.</p>	<p><b>Jodie Thorneycroft</b> – Kinglake Community Member  <b>Daryl Taylor</b> – Kinglake Community Member          Interviewed by <b>Amanda Kelly</b> – CEO, WHGNE</p>
<p>Reflections on trauma, emergencies and disasters from Ash Wednesday in 1983 to the current COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p><b>Dr Rob Gordon, PhD, FAPS, Clinical Psychologist</b></p>
<p>Courtesy of Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience: LGBTIQ+ communities and disaster webinar introduced by Amanda Leck, AIDR Executive Director</p>	<p><b>Liam Leonard</b> – Associate, GAD Pod, Adjunct Research Fellow, MUDRI  <b>Stephen O'Malley AFSM</b> – Fire Rescue Victoria</p>



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## The Wheeler Centre Event - Tuesday May 4th

### Welcome to Country

6:30-7:30pm	'Women at the Edge: Disaster and beyond'	<p>Fire. Flood. Earthquakes. With climate change making itself felt, the environmental challenges we face are changing rapidly – and so too are the ways people of different genders are impacted by them. Who gets to lead, and what does that mean for the climate emergency? In this panel discussion as part of our Women at the Edge series, panellists will consider how we can take action on gender justice in disaster – and why we need to.</p> <p><b>Moderator: Commander Donna Wheatley</b>, Fire Rescue Victoria</p> <p>(Introduced by <b>Amanda Kelly, CEO, WHGNE</b>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Honourable Gabrielle Williams, MP</b> – Minister for Women</li> <li>• <b>Dr Niki Vincent</b> – Victorian Commissioner for Gender Equality in the Public Sector</li> <li>• <b>Dr Meagan Tyler</b> – Centre for People, Organisation and Work, RMIT</li> <li>• <b>Cathy McGowan</b> - Former Independent MP for Indi, author of “Cathy Goes to Canberra: Doing Politics Differently”</li> </ul>
7:30pm onwards	Networking	<p>The Moat Café (Directly below <i>The Wheeler Centre</i>)</p> <p>Network in a European escape at The Moat. Authentic Italian meals and drinks available to purchase.</p>



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Session 1 – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May		
10:20am		Virtual conference opening & Acknowledgement of Country <b>WHIN CEO, Helen Riseborough</b>
10:30 – 11:15am	Blueprint for Gender Equality, Diversity and Systemic Change  What could Emergency Service Organisations do to achieve this?	<p><b>Moderated by Liam Leonard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professor Guðný Björk Eydal</b> – Faculty of Social Work, University of Iceland</li> <li>• <b>Donna Stolzenberg</b> – Founder of National Homelessness Collection, Australian of the Year Victoria</li> <li>• <b>Arjan Cheema</b> – Australian Red Cross - National Senior Project Officer, Recovery Emergency Services</li> <li>• <b>Stuart Ellis</b> – CEO, Australasian Fire &amp; Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC)</li> <li>• <b>Lucy Saaroni</b> – Executive Manager Fire Prevention and Preparedness, Country Fire Authority (CFA)</li> </ul>
11:20 - 12:05pm	'Lead-In' to Conference themes – Panel	<p><b>Moderated by Steve O'Malley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professor Susan Harris-Rimmer</b> – Director of the Griffith University Policy Innovation Hub and co-convenor of the Griffith Gender Equality Research Network</li> <li>• <b>Victor Steffensen</b> – Indigenous Writer, Researcher and Activist</li> <li>• <b>Liam Leonard</b> – GAD Pod Associate, Research Fellow, MUDRI</li> <li>• <b>Assoc. Professor Karleen Gribble</b> - Western Sydney University</li> <li>• <b>Naomi Bailey</b> – Gender and Disaster Pod Associate</li> </ul>



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## Session 2 – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May

<p>1:00-2:30pm</p>	<p>Emergency Service Organisations 2021 – Who's in and who's out?</p>	<p><b>Moderated by Steve O'Malley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Niki Vincent</b> – Victorian Commissioner for Gender Equality in the Public Sector</li> <li>• <b>Assoc Prof Tony Walker ASM</b> – Chief Executive Officer, Ambulance Victoria</li> <li>• <b>Trevor Owen</b> – Deputy Chief Officer – Regional Director, South East Region, Country Fire Authority</li> <li>• <b>Brett Curran</b> – Assistant Commissioner, Victoria Police</li> <li>• <b>Professor Maureen Fordham</b> - Director Centre for Gender and Disaster, University College of London (by video)</li> </ul> <p><b>Responding to:</b>  <b>Dr Debra Parkinson</b> – Manager, Gender and Disaster Pod, Adjunct research fellow, MUDRI  <b>Jaspreet Kaur</b> – Training Coordinator, Gender and Disaster Pod  <b>Liam Leonard</b> – Gender and Disaster Pod Associate, Adjunct research fellow, MUDRI  <b>Mary Farrow</b> – Director Centre of Resilience, Emerald</p>
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## Session 3 – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May

<p>10:30–11:15am</p>	<p>Gendering Global Warming and Environmental Violence - Keynote</p>	<p>'To change the exploitative relationship between humans and nature which is the basis of the looming climate crisis and the global pandemic, we will need to gender responses to environmental disasters. Masculinist notions of objectivity, rationality and invincibility have dominated men's attitudes towards nature and shaped the techno-scientific approaches to environmental crises.'</p> <p><b>Moderated by Teresa Capetola</b></p> <p><b>Professor Bob Pease</b>  Honorary Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Deakin University, and Adjunct Professor, Institute of Social Change, University of Tasmania.</p>
<p>11:20 -12:05pm</p>	<p>Climate Change Activism</p>	<p><b>Moderated by Teresa Capetola</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fiona Armstrong</b> – Australian Woman of Influence, founder of Climate and Health Alliance</li> <li>• <b>Professor Danielle Celermajer</b> – Deputy Director, Sydney Environment Institute, University of Sydney</li> <li>• <b>Ella Simons</b> – School Strike 4 Climate (Melbourne)</li> <li>• <b>Ruby Bron</b> – School Strike 4 Climate (Sydney)</li> <li>• <b>Dr Blanche Verlie</b> – Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Sydney Environment Institute</li> </ul>



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Session 4 – Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May		
1:00-1:45pm	Indigenous Design and Disasters – Keynote	<b>Jefa Greenaway</b> Co-founder Indigenous Architecture and Design Victoria  <b>Moderated by Nikhila Madabhushi</b>
1:50-2:30pm	Sociology, Design and Disasters - Panel	<b>Moderated by Jaspreet Kaur</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nikhila Madabhushi</b> – Architect, Gippsland recovery project lead</li> <li>• <b>Daniel Miller</b> – General Manager, On Country at Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC)</li> <li>• <b>Christy Bryar</b> – Architect, Black Summer survivor</li> <li>• <b>Jefa Greenaway</b> – Co-founder Indigenous Architecture and Design Victoria</li> </ul>

Session 5 – Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May		
10:30 – 11:15am	Violence against women and Disasters - Keynote	<b>Hayley Foster, CEO, Women’s Safety NSW</b> <b>Karla McGrady, Manager Emerging Practice, Our Watch</b>  <b>Moderated by Naomi Bailey, GAD Pod Associate</b>
11:20 - 12:05pm	Violence Against Women and Disasters - Panel	<b>Moderated by Commander Donna Wheatley</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Sanaz Sohrabizadeh</b> – Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran</li> <li>• <b>Dr Debra Parkinson</b> – Manager Gender and Disaster Pod, Adjunct Research Fellow, MUDRI</li> <li>• <b>Rachael Mackay</b> – WHGNE, Gender &amp; Disaster Pod Trainer</li> <li>• <b>Andrew Wilson-Annan</b> – Gender &amp; Disaster Pod Trainer</li> <li>• <b>Alison Birchall</b> – Acting Manager (Policy Unit) DV Victoria/DVRCV</li> </ul>



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## Session 6 – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

<p>1:00-1:45pm</p>	<p>Understanding gender, and its multiple connections with disasters – Keynote</p>	<p><b>Professor Emerita Raewyn Connell</b></p> <p>A leading figure in gender studies internationally.</p> <p>‘We need to consider what gender is, and recognize the multiple dimensions of gender relations. Gender patterns have multiple connections with disasters, in the lead-up, impact, response and consequences. Thinking carefully through them will help both effectiveness and justice in strategies for prevention and response.’</p> <p><b>Moderated by Liam Leonard</b></p>
<p>1:50 – 2:35pm</p>	<p>Panel to follow, on disaster and people with diverse gender and sexual identities</p>	<p><b>Moderated by Commander Donna Wheatley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professor Dale Dominey-Howes</b> – Sydney University, leading LGBTIQ and disaster research</li> <li>• <b>Liam Leonard</b> – Gender &amp; Disaster Pod Associate, Adjunct Research Fellow, Monash University Disaster Resilience Initiative</li> <li>• <b>Beth McCann</b> – General Manager, Drummond Street Services</li> <li>• <b>Emily Dwyer</b> – Founder of Edge Effect (Pacific, Southeast and South Asia)</li> <li>• <b>Professor JC Gaillard</b> – University of Auckland</li> </ul>



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The sessions held on 27<sup>th</sup> May coincided with the announcement of a 7-day Lock Down in the state of Victoria. As Commissioner Andrew Crisp and the Inspector-General of Emergency Management in Victoria Tony Pearce were key to the decisions leading to this Lock Down, they were unable to attend this session. However, we hope to bring their contribution to the legacy documents and recordings of the conference at a later date.

We are indebted to Assistant Commissioner Stephen Smith, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), and Janine Taylor, Principal Advisor Workforce Development at QFES for accepting Steve O'Malley's early morning invitation to this Panel. Their contributions were highly valued.

Session 7 – Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May		
10:30 -11:15am	Black Summer's bushfire recovery 2020 onwards – where is it at and how did gender factor? – Panel	<p><b>Moderated by Susan Davie and Steve O'Malley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carmel Flynn</b> – Acting CEO, Bushfire Recovery Victoria</li> <li>• <b>Catherine Connelly</b> – Researcher (Black Summer), Women's Information and Referral Exchange</li> <li>• <b>Eva Grunden</b> – Place Manager, Mallacoota District</li> <li>• <b>Shona Whitton</b> – National Coordinator, Operations, Australian Red Cross</li> </ul> <p><i>Apology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tony Pearce</b> – <i>Inspector-General for Emergency Management, Victoria</i></li> </ul>
And 11:20 –12:05pm	Government Initiatives for reimagining gender in emergency management - Panel	<p><b>Moderated by Steve O'Malley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professor Maureen Fordham</b> – Director Centre for Gender and Disaster, University College of London (by video)</li> <li>• <b>Amy Prendergast</b> – Acting CEO, Respect Victoria</li> <li>• <b>Amanda Leck</b> – Executive Director, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience</li> <li>• <b>Assistant Commissioner Stephen Smith</b> – Queensland Fire and Emergency Services</li> <li>• <b>Janine Taylor</b> - Principal Advisor Workforce Development, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services</li> </ul> <p><i>Apologies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Andrew Crisp</b> – <i>Emergency Management Vic (Separate video forthcoming)</i></li> <li>• <b>Tony Pearce</b> – <i>Inspector-General for Emergency Management, Vic. (Separate video forthcoming)</i></li> </ul>
12.05 – 12.10	Conference Close	<b>Helen Riseborough, WHIN CEO</b>



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# GAD Pod Conference – Behind the scenes

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## Conference manager

- Lee-Anne Wilson, Happenings Australia

## IT and online producers

- Vanessa Brown & Jaspreet Kaur
- With thanks to Greg Taylor, Aust. Institute for Disaster Resilience & Melissa Rowland, WHGNE

## Program development and implementation

- Dr Debra Parkinson, Adjunct Research Fellow MUDRI, Manager GAD Pod
- Stephen O'Malley, AFSM, Fire Rescue Victoria
- Jaspreet Kaur, Training Coordinator, GAD Pod

## Creative contribution

- Liam Leonard, Adjunct Research Fellow, MUDRI, GAD Pod Associate
- Naomi Bailey, Creative producer of The Wheeler Centre events, GAD Pod Associate
- Commander Donna Wheatley, Fire Rescue Victoria
- Susan Davie, Manager Community Connections, Victoria State Emergency Service
- Rachael Mackay, WHGNE, GAD Pod
- Jade Lane, Regional Gender coordinator, WHGNE

## Conference Committee

- Helen Riseborough (Chair), CEO, Women's Health In the North
- Professor Francis Archer, Director, Monash University Disaster Resilience Initiative
- Amanda Kelly, CEO, Women's Health Goulburn North East
- Daryl Taylor, Director, Bioculture

Sincere thanks to Women's Health In the North CEO Helen Riseborough and her team for corporate and financial services.



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