

Natural Hazards Focus Group Fall News

Dear Colleagues –

I'd like to bring you up-to-date regarding a number of activities associated with the Natural Hazards Focus Group (NHFG). At the Fall AGU meeting our group will host several activities: The Gilbert White Distinguished Lecture, the evening reception, and a Town Hall focused on careers. We're also inviting people to become active in the NHFG by attending the Executive Committee meeting as we're seeking people willing to become active within the Focus Group.

Best regards, and see you in San Francisco!

Rick Murnane

=====

1. Gilbert F. White Distinguished Lecture

- Prof. James Elsner, Florida State University, "Are tornadoes getting stronger?"
- 2:40PM, 104 Moscone South, Tuesday, 10 December.

2. Evening Reception

- Sponsored by Swiss Re
- 6:30-8:00PM, Tuesday, 10 December.
- Intercontinental Hotel, Grand B - 3rd Floor.
- Seeking slides of your personal experience with natural hazards for display at reception

3. Executive Committee Meeting

- 112 Moscone North, 6:45-7:45AM, Wednesday, 11 December.
- All members welcome.

4. Town Hall: "Exploring Careers in Natural Hazards"

- Learn about different job possibilities from panelists working in a variety of traditional and non-traditional careers
- 12:30-1:30PM, 2005 Moscone West, Thursday, 12 December.

5. Outstanding Student Paper Award

- Please consider becoming a judge.

6. NHFG Web Manager

- Please consider volunteering to act as the manager for the NHFG web site.

1. Gilbert F. White Distinguished Lecture Award

This year's lecturer is James Elsner, the Earl and Sophia Shaw Professor in the Department of Geography at Florida State University. Prof. Elsner will present a talk titled "Are tornadoes getting stronger?" The Gilbert F. White Distinguished

Lecture Award is given annually to an individual “for original contributions to the basic knowledge of natural hazards and/or disaster risks”. The lecture will be held at 2:40PM in room 104 Moscone South on Tuesday, 10 December.

For more information about the award please see:

http://www.agu.org/focus_group/NH/awards/gfwhite.html

2. Evening Reception

Please join us Tuesday evening from 6:30-8:00PM at the Fall AGU meeting for a chance to socialize and network with others interested in Natural Hazards. The NHFG would like to gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Swiss Re for sponsoring the reception. The reception will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Grand B - 3rd Floor.

We are seeking from NHFG members images showing personal experience with natural hazards for a PowerPoint background display at the reception. If you have photos you'd like to share, then please send them to Rick Murnane at rickjmurnane@gmail.com

3. Executive Committee Meeting.

The annual NHFG Executive Committee meeting will be held from 6:45-7:45AM on Wednesday, 11 December at 112 Moscone North. The meeting will be open and we seek additional volunteers. In particular, we are searching for people to:

- Help with the Outstanding Student Paper Award (see item below).
- Participate on committees tasked with identifying potential nominees from the NHFG for awards that range from AGU Fellows to the Graduate Research Award to AGU meetings committee.

We will also discuss potential participation of the NHFG in the Global Flood Initiative. Please let me know if there you have items that you feel should be added to the agenda (rickjmurnane@gmail.com).

4. Exploring Careers in Natural Hazards

On Thursday from 12:30-1:30PM in 2005 Moscone West join us for a Town Hall meeting focused on careers related to natural hazards and different job possibilities from panelists working in a variety of traditional and non-traditional careers. You will be able to hear from and ask questions of:

- Dr. Susan Hough, Earthquake Science Center USGS
- Mr. Prasad Gunturi – Senior Vice President at Willis Re, Inc.
- Dr. Maggie Walser - Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate, NRC
- Mr. Ken Johnson, PhD, CEG, PE, Senior Supervising Geological Engineer at Parsons Brinckerhoff

with additional comments from NHFG early career scientists Dr. Dana Kirschbaum, Dr. Kelly Klima, and Prof. Ning Lin.

5. Outstanding Student Paper Award

Prof. Celso Ferreira has taken on the duty of managing this year's judging for the NHFG OSPA. You've probably received an email soliciting your participation as a judge. If not, then I'm sure Celso would like to hear from you (cferrei3@gmu.edu). Sign-Up is easy! Use your AGU member login to the OSPA system (<http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2013/ospa/>)

Congratulations to last year's winners:

- Jiang Xiaoman, Nanjing University, Diagnostic analysis of a heavy rainfall event over Beijing on July 21-22, 2012
- Amir Jina, Columbia University, Development after Disaster: Multidecadal Impacts of Tropical Cyclones upon Long-run Economic Growth
- Nicholas Roberts, Simon Fraser University, Landslide-generated tsunami geomorphology at Chehalis Lake, British Columbia

5. NHFG Web Manager

We are seeking volunteer(s) to manage the NHFG web site. This should not require much effort, but it will make a major contribution to the visibility and effectiveness of the NHFG. If you're interested please contact me ASAP. We hope to select the manager next week. In addition, at the Fall Meeting AGU is offering demo and overview presentations on Monday through Wednesday. The web site is being converted to the WordPress platform.