Philippines, in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan
Understanding global risks and reducing disasters presents a major challenge that requires coordinated and collaborative action. Responding to the UCL Grand Challenges, our vision for the UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction (IRDR) was for an institute, hosted in the MAPS Faculty, but working across UCL, that would lead research, knowledge exchange (KE) with industry and humanitarian agencies, and advanced teaching, in the area of risk and disaster reduction.

2013 was an important year for us as we came to an end of the investment from the Provost’s Strategic Discretionary Fund and moved out from under the wing of the Vice Provost Research, as we assume more of the functions of an academic department, while retaining our cross-UCL remit. In our review, we were described as an “exemplar institute” and it is with this endorsement that we plan to continue on our path of building cross-department and trans-disciplinary collaboration in research, teaching and knowledge exchange, linking across UCL and out to our partners, in private and public sectors, in London, the UK and internationally. All in the IRDR helped to achieve this success, but it is worth noting the contribution of the deputy director, Rosanna Smith, and also our first academic appointments, Joanna Faure Walker and David Alexander, who took a leap of faith in joining us when there was just a vision.

But with our non-traditional structure and governance, we aim to make the IRDR, your IRDR too, inclusive and welcoming members from staff and students across UCL and seeking excellence everywhere in order to fulfil our mission, building understanding of global risks and the steps necessary to reduce disasters, and how that understanding can be translated into practice. There is much to do, but also the commitment of one of the world’s leading universities.

Peter Sammonds
Director
UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction
IRDR at a Glance in 2014

Below we highlight the achievements and developments of the IRDR in 2013-14

- Welcomed the appointment of Ilan Kelman to the position of Reader in Risk, Resilience and Global Health, made jointly in an exciting new collaboration with the UCL Institute for Global Health, in the School of Life and Medical Sciences
- Welcomed the appointment of Gordon Ross as Lecturer in Statistics and Risk Analysis, made jointly with the Department of Statistical Science, the first position of this kind, internationally
- Welcomed Bayes Ahmed, Danielle Charlton, Gillian Dacey, Nurmala Nurdin, Gianluca Pescaroli, Sally Scourfield, Katerina Stavrianaki, Serena Tagliacozzo and Zoe Watson as PhD research students, Rick Wall and Rosa Sobradelo as research associates and Gordon Woo and Robert Muir-Wood, as Visiting Professors.
- Established a lectureship in engineering risks, jointly with the Department of Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering and a lectureship in ionosphere / magnetosphere risks jointly with the Department of Space and Climate Physics
- Our Doctoral Research Centre grew to 18 PhD students, funded from diverse sources and co-supervised across UCL
- Launched the first IRDR Student Forum for our PhD students and the first Spring Academy for all IRDR researchers, staff and students
- The new MSc in Risk, Disaster and Resilience admitted its first students
- Held our second IRDR Careers and Opportunities Forum
- 600 participants in IRDR events from UCL and beyond
- Set up a partnership with the Tohoku University International Research Institute of Disaster Science as part of a university-wide MoU, and held a joint field investigation into the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines

On the downside:
- We have completely outgrown our space for research students, staff and teaching

IRDR - Global Reach

Norway NTNU Studentship

Europe Cascading crises

Italy Social media

Haiti Thinking Development

Oceans PURE Project Tsunami PhD

Bolivia CAFOD Water risk

Greece PhD Studentships Partnership

Arctic risk

UK Fracking risk

Japan Tohoku MoU

Philippines Field mission

India Schools KE

Indonesia Schools KE

Bangladesh Water risk project

Iran – Joint symposium

Indonesia Schools KE

Italy Social media

Haiti Thinking Development

Oceans PURE Project Tsunami PhD

Bolivia CAFOD Water risk

Greece PhD Studentships Partnership

Arctic risk

UK Fracking risk

Japan Tohoku MoU

Philippines Field mission

India Schools KE

Indonesia Schools KE

Bangladesh Water risk project

Iran – Joint symposium
A key aim of the IRDR is to engage in public debate on issues in risk and disaster reduction, creating a space for academic discourse in the public-policy and political arenas, and raising the profile of UCL.

To achieve this, we have organised discussion meetings, lectures, conferences and symposia, open to the UCL community and the general public, which have proved to be highly successful. Two principal themes have been addressed this year: Disabilities and Disasters and the role of Women in Disaster Risk Reduction.

The needs of people with disabilities may be neglected in emergencies, but one in four families includes such a person. IRDR Professor David Alexander is preparing a policy document for the Council of Europe on disabilities and disasters. The IRDR Public Discussion Meeting on the subject was therefore timely and lively with the airing of diverse views. Members of the audience argued from idealistic and realistic viewpoints. But a fairer, more inclusive society must be one in which people with disabilities benefit from as much safety and resilience as the rest of society and it is our intention to continue offering a public platform for this debate.

Following on from our International Women’s Day panel discussion on Gender and Disasters in 2013, this year we are addressing the role of women in disaster risk reduction (DRR) at our Annual Conference. This is part of the process leading up to the UNISDR new international agreement on DRR in 2015 where the role of women will explicitly be included. Paola Albrito, Head of the European Office of the UNISDR will address the conference.

Thinking Development’s launch of its innovative, collaborative design for a Girls’ School in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to replace a school destroyed by the 2010 earthquake

Public Events in 2013-14

June 2013 IRDR Third Annual Conference attended by 170 participants, with a keynote speech by former UK Security Coordinator, Sir David Omand, sessions on Disaster Preparedness and Media & Society and an in conversation interview with Prof Ian Davis on Building Resilience

June 2013 Hosted Debating Matters National Final, schools debating competition

October 2013 Inaugural lecture by David Alexander, professor for Risk and Disaster Reduction at UCL

November 2013 Co-hosted UK Japan Symposium on Disasters, in London, with the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) of Tohoku University

November 2013 UCL Lunch-hour Public Lecture, After Fukushima, by IRDR Director, Peter Sammonds

March 2014 Supported the web book launch for Thinking Development’s campaign for a girls’ school in Haiti, marking International Women’s Day

March 2014 IRDR Careers and Opportunities Fair

March 2014 IRDR Public Discussion Meeting on Disabilities and Disasters

April 2014 Special Seminar by UCL Honorary Professor Virginia Murray, The road to a safer world from natural hazards - can science impact on policy and practice?
Understanding disaster preparation and disaster response is important to make impact from our research and teaching and is therefore a key part of the mission of the IRDR.

IRDR researchers have participated in and organised post-earthquake and tsunami field surveys, but 2014 marked a new departure as a team led by IRDR Lecturer, Joanna Faure Walker, in partnership with IRIDeS, Tohoku University, undertook a field investigation in the Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan). The objective was to compare the effects of domestic and imported aid and assistance on the quality and speed of recovery and on vulnerability, during the transitional phase between the initial emergency and long-term recovery and reconstruction.

The long-standing partnership between UCL and risk intermediary Aon Benfield has been important to achieve real impact from our research in the world of business. The Aon Benfield UCL Hazard Centre (ABUHC) has continued to develop innovative programmes on non-modelled perils: the impact of tsunamis and landslides, the exposure of cities to natural hazard, and collaboration between academia, the reinsurance sector and humanitarian agencies. The cities and hazards project is focussing on the design and development of decision-making strategies for protecting livelihoods and business activity from volcanic unrest. The collaboration with NGOs will see the development of enhanced methods for visualising and assessing the risk from flooding, focussing on Cambodia.

IRDR Report from the 2014 Field Mission

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The IRDR maintains a high-profile media strategy, providing both immediate comment during disasters and features for documentaries and magazines.

- Ilan Kelman was quoted extensively in the International Business Times on the Arctic
- David Alexander commented on the Chilean earthquake for BBC News
- Peter Sammonds took part in a National Geographic documentary on disasters
Building long-term international partnerships is important to the IRDR in order both to undertake world-class research and to achieve real impact of that research amongst practitioners and policy-makers.

**Arctic Risk Research Partnership**

2013-14 saw the IRDR expand its programme of research into risks associated with the growing industrial activity in the Arctic. We joined an Arctic cruise from the University Centre, Svalbard, to do field experiments on sea ice friction. With a new UCL Impact Studentship with TOTAL, France, we will explore ice hazard to Arctic shipping associated with their Yamal Peninsula facility. We continue working closely with the multinational Sustainable Arctic Marine & Coastal Technology (SAMCoT) programme led by NTNU, Trondheim.

**Tohoku University, Japan**

In November 2013, to commemorate 150 years of UK-Japan collaboration in science and the Choshu Five studying at UCL, and the signing of a university-wide Memorandum of Understanding with Tohoku University, the IRDR co-hosted a UK Japan Symposium on Disasters, in London, with the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRI-DeS). Arising from this has been the joint field mission to the Philippines and collaboration on a joint UK-Japan, UCL-Tohoku platform leading up to the new UNISDR framework programme (Hyogo Framework for Action 2, HFA2) to be negotiated in Sendai in 2015. A UCL delegation will be visiting Tohoku in November 2014, in preparation for this.

**Jammu University, India**

The IRDR is supporting a conference on Sustainable Development in the Himalaya, Leh, Ladakh, June 2014, co-sponsored by the Geological Society, London. This we see as a platform for a formal collaboration and exchange agreement with Jammu University. In particular the IRDR are sponsoring the associated Schools Programme, co-organized by Geology for Global Development (GfGD). This programme aims to teach over 100 young people from the region about landslides, earthquakes and sustainable energy use, even reaching out to a remote nomad school. GfGD will engage with UK students in the development of teaching materials and run a series of placements for undergraduates, related to DRR.

Professor Satomi Susumu, President of Tohoku University, addresses the Symposium on Understanding
Teaching is a core part of our mission. We have established Risk and Disaster Reduction as a taught discipline by initiating three postgraduate programmes, a Master of Research in Risk and Disaster Reduction and its associated Postgraduate Certificate and an MSc in Risk, Disaster and Resilience.

These fill identified needs, from practitioners who wish to gain a sound underpinning in the subject, and for trained researchers. We enrolled 10 students on our masters programmes for 2013-14 but anticipate these numbers will grow quickly to in excess of 20.

IRDR staff also teach extensively on the MSc Geophysical Hazards, MSc Earthquake Engineering and other programmes.

MSc Risk, Disaster and Resilience
Director: Dr Joanna Faure Walker

The MSc is a one-year full-time (or two-year part-time) taught master's programme in which students explore the characterisation, quantification, management and reduction of risk and disasters, and their associated impacts from a diverse range of perspectives. The IRDR teach four core courses: Natural and Anthropogenic Hazards and Vulnerability, Integrating Science into Risk and Disaster Reduction, Emergency and Crisis Planning, and Emergency and Crisis Management. Additional modules from other departments in urban planning for disasters and climate change; anthropology of risk, power and uncertainty; societal resilience to disasters; geophysical hazards; seismic risk; security and terrorism risk reduction; and research skills will be available to students.

MRes Risk and Disaster Reduction
Director: Prof David Alexander

The Master of Research is a research-intensive programme to meet the need for experts trained to analyze and provide solutions to complex issues relating to risk and disasters. The programme consists of four core taught modules, two of the four IRDR core courses listed for the MSc, and two in research methods, in addition to the substantial independent research project.

Careers and Opportunities Fair

We held our second IRDR Careers and Opportunities Fair, targeted at risk and disaster reduction, and attended by over 100 students and graduates and a dozen specialist exhibitors/recruiters. Recruiters and delegates remarked how effective a focused event is.

Doctoral Research Centre

UCL graduate students are regarded by the IRDR as our greatest asset. With PhD students numbers building rapidly, we are establishing an IRDR Doctoral Research Centre, which is cross-disciplinary, international in perspective and making real societal impact. With cross-disciplinary supervisory panels, an educational programme in DRR and participation in IRDR Student Forum, Spring Academy and Annual Conference, we aim to foster a new type of graduate student, comfortable working in a multi-disciplinary, international environment.

The Royal Society’s Chicheley Hall, venue for the first IRDR Spring Academy in 2014
Professor David Alexander was appointed as a Professor in Risk and Disaster Reduction in the IRDR in October 2012. He is involved in a research and applications initiative with the Council of Europe concerning assistance to people with disabilities in disasters, including a new research project on assessing the preparedness of European nations to assist people with disabilities in disasters, crises, major emergencies and their aftermaths. He has begun a collaboration with the Universidad Autónoma Nacional del México (UNAM) in Mexico City regarding the use of scientific information to safeguard communities against landslide disaster. David was a member of the UCL-IRDR mission to the area of the Philippines affected by the tropical cyclone of 8 November 2013. David is leading the UCL part of the EU project FORTRESS, on Cascading crises, which began in April 2014.

Dr Ilan Kelman is a Reader in Risk, Resilience and Global Health, appointed 50:50 to UCL IRDR and UCL Institute for Global Health in November 2013. His overall research interest is combining disaster risk research and health risk research, including the integration of climate change challenges and development approaches into both topics. His main research areas are (1) peace and conflict, (2) island sustainability, and (3) risk education. His current main projects are, (1) developing a research programme on climate change adaptation and health, (2) co-editing a book of narratives of people with disabilities dealing with disaster, (3) Co-leading a project on climate change and migration from Indian Ocean islands.

Dr Joanna Faure Walker is a Lecturer in Risk and Disaster Reduction, appointed to UCL IRDR in May 2012. Her main research areas are mechanics of deformation in the Italian Appenines and post-disaster recovery in the Philippines and in Tohoku. She supervises several IRDR research students, and has led new collaborations between the IRDR and NGOs and between the IRDR and the financial/insurance industry.

Dr Gordon Ross is a lecturer in Statistics and Risk Analysis, appointed 50:50 to UCL IRDR and Statistical Sciences in October 2013. His research involves developing statistical algorithms/methodology for the analysis of point processes and time series, with a particular focus on handling non-stationary processes (structural change points, time varying parameters, etc). He is interested in the application of this work to several areas, such as financial markets, cyber security, and (since starting at the IRDR) seismic hazard modelling.

Dr Stephen Edwards is a senior research associate in the IRDR and Deputy Director of the ABUHC. He is PI on UCL IRDR and CAFOD collaborative projects on “Water risk and its management in Bolivia’s Altiplano development strategy”, and “Environmental impacts and risks to natural resources from mega-dams in the Amazon Basin: the proposed Cachuela Esperanza Dam, northeast Bolivia.”

Dr Ben Lishman was appointed in April 2012 to a 3-year IRDR Research Fellowship in the area of Arctic engineering risks. Ben holds an MEng, an MPhil and a PhD from Cambridge University in engineering. He has worked at UCL and most recently has been a Research Associate at the Bristol Glaciological Centre.

Ben’s Arctic Risk research combines work in the laboratory and the field with analytical and numerical models to try to improve our understanding of the Arctic, and in particular of the engineering and material properties of sea ice. Economic development in the Arctic continues to advance, while climate change leads to significant reductions in sea ice cover. This combination presents risks to human life, infrastructure and environment.
Dr Mohammad Shamsudduha has been working on a number of research projects on ‘water risks’ since he joined the IRDR as a Research Fellow in March 2012. He is currently leading a cross-disciplinary project on “Exploring relationships among groundwater arsenic and adverse pregnancy outcomes in Bangladesh” in collaboration with colleagues in UCL IGH and Geography, funded by UCL’s Grand Challenges Award. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) groundwater arsenic contamination in Bangladesh has been recognised as the worst environmental catastrophe in history. Currently, approximately 50 million people in Bangladesh are estimated to be exposed to dangerous levels of arsenic concentrations in their drinking waters. Chronic exposure to arsenic is associated with carcinogenic (e.g. skin cancer) effects on human health and adverse pregnancy outcomes (e.g., neonatal deaths and pregnancy-related deaths). Shams is currently investigating the relationships between adverse pregnancy outcomes and arsenic intake through drinking water and foods. Using numerical groundwater flow modelling Shams and his colleagues at UCL and the Bangladesh Water Development Board have mapped the security of deep (depth >150 m) groundwater in the southeastern Bengal Basin against the invasion of arsenic from shallow levels. Use of deep groundwater in Bangladesh is the most popular and economic mitigation strategy from widespread arsenic contamination – a serious threat to public health and economic development in Bangladesh and Asian Mega-Deltas where groundwater is contaminated with arsenic.

Dr Simon Day is a senior research associate in the IRDR. He is an Associate Investigator in NERC Follow on Fund Research Grant “A demonstration tsunami catastrophe risk model for the insurance industry”. He is also an Associate Researcher and “tsunami hazard and risk” strand leader in NERC funded, UCL-led consortium (RACER) within the Probability Uncertainty and Risk in the Environment (PURE) thematic programme.

Dr Megan French is a research associate in the IRDR, who was appointed to the UCL IRDR and CAFOD project, “Water risk and its management in Bolivia’s Altiplano development strategy” in March 2012.

Dr Joakim Beck is a research associate appointed 50:50 to the IRDR and Statistical Sciences in April 2013. He is currently working on statistical modelling and quantification of uncertainties to account for the limitations in natural hazards models, which is part of the NERC-funded PURE (Probability, Uncertainty and Risk in the Environment) program.
IRDR PhD Students

**Alexis Cartwright-Taylor:** “A non-extensive statistical physics approach in rock fracture and earthquake geophysics” (Start: Aug 2010)
Funding: UCL Impact Studentship with TEI, Crete
A laboratory-based investigation of electrical signals that accompany rock deformation. Alexis is examining the relationships between microscopic fracture in the laboratory and crustal seismicity and electrical current patterns, aiming ultimately to improve assessing seismic risk.

**Amy Chadderton:** “High temperature pressurisation, fracturing & permeability in volcanic systems” (Start: April 2013)
Funding: IRDR / Earth Sciences
The project aims to investigate the gaps in our understanding of lava dome dynamics using an experimental approach. The mechanics of the relationship between the permeability of dome rocks and high temperature fracture growth during deformation within the dome are studied.

**Andria Sarri:** “Investigation of tsunami wave propagation and inundation induced by earthquake or landslide using statistical emulation” (Start: Oct 2010)
Funding: IRDR / Statistical Science
Numerical modelling of tsunami comes at the expense of high computational resources. To overcome this, Andria’s research uses a statistical emulator which approximates the mathematical model with high accuracy.

**Bayes Ahmed:** “Understanding the issues involved in human adaptation to landslide risks:” (Start: Oct 2013)
Funding: Commonwealth Scholarship
Chittagong and Cox’s Bazar cities of Bangladesh are highly vulnerable to landslide hazard, with an increasing trend of frequency and damage. The aim of this research is to understand human adaptation to landslide risks under rapid urbanization in fast growing cities of a developing country.

**Danielle Charlton:** “The threat of volcanic activity to major urban centres” (Start: Apr 2014)
Funding: UCL Impact PhD studentship with Aon Benfield
Using Campi Flegrei and the City of Naples as a case study, we will develop a generalized methodology of evaluating the impact of explosive volcanic activity on densely populated districts. A key philosophy is that the results must have an immediate practical value in assisting decision

**Gianluca Pescaroli:** “Optimising the role of critical facilities & infrastructures in Cascading Disasters” (Start: Apr 2014)
Funding: European Commission, FP7, FORTRESS project
The work will point out how “critical facilities” and “critical infrastructures” are becoming determinant to orient cascading effects of disasters in society. A new categorisation of facilities will be created and will be consider together with physical effects and social damage in different contexts.
IRDR PhD Students

Funding: Self-funded (part-time)
The aim is to research human behaviour and actions during potentially damaging earthquakes, to ascertain if people follow recommended actions, and whether there is any correlation between behaviour and injury severity.

Giorgos Michas: “Self-organized criticality and non-extensivity in the Corinth rift zone” (Start: March 2011)
Funding: Greek State Scholarship Foundation (IKY)
This research focuses on the geodynamic behaviour of the Earth’s crust, taking a similar approach to the physics of fractures, applied to the Corinth rift, through experiments and theoretical modelling.

Giorgos Papadakis: “A non-extensive statistical physics approach to the seismicity in subduction zones. Application to the geodynamic system of the Hellenic arc” (Start: Mar 2011)
Funding: Greek State Scholarship Foundation (IKY)
Using non-extensive statistical physics, the spatiotemporal distribution of seismicity is studied along the Hellenic subduction zone. The aim of this study is to elucidate the physical evolution of an active tectonic area towards a strong earthquake.

Jabraan Ahmed: “Towards sustainable and risk free gas production from an unconventional source” (Sept 2012)
Funding: UCL Impact Studentship with the Institute for Sustainable Resources (UCL ISR)
This project addresses the shale gas production issue from a classical sedimentology perspective by examining a transect through the Bowland Basin which contains organic rich shales.

Katerina Stavrianaki: “Complexity of seismicity in a statistical physics view: fracture to earth’s scale” (Start: Sept 2013)
Funding: THALES Program, Ministry Education, Greece
Understanding of earthquake physics, from rock fracture to earthquake fault scale, will enhance the quality of life both of European citizens and of vulnerable populations worldwide. This research will develop new innovative techniques based on modern statistical methods.

Luke Wedmore: “Assessing seismic hazard in central Italy from rates of slip and earthquake recurrence through geophysical and geodetic measurements” (Start: Feb 2013)
Funding: UCL Impact Studentship with Geospatial Research
This research focuses on how the faults that cause earthquakes behave over long timescales and why. Luke is particularly interested in how earthquake faults are interacting with each other through the process of Coulomb Stress transfer.
IRDR PhD Students

Melodie Vanderpuye: “Investigating spatio-temporal randomness of large earthquakes” (Start: Mar 2013)
Funding: Aon Benfield (part-time)
This project uses proxies such as sub-marine deposits as a method to extend earthquake records at subduction zones. The eventual aim will be to suggest alternative distributions to those currently used that better reflect the behaviour of these extreme events.

Nurmalahayati Nuradin: “Integrating the disaster risk reduction into Senior High School Chemistry Curriculum In Indonesia” (Start: Jan 2014)
Funding: Indonesian Government
Integrating DRR into the school chemistry curriculum to increase awareness and change attitudes among students in senior high schools in Aceh province, Indonesia using classroom research techniques.

Sally Scourfield: “Consolidation and deformation of brash ice” (Start: Mar 2014)
Funding: UCL Impact studentship with TOTAL, France
With repeated journeys through the same channel, a ship experiences an increase in resistance. The project aims to describe the phenomenon in terms of a rate and state friction law, which takes into consideration the rate of movement of brash ice and the state of its thermal consolidation.

Serena Tagliacozzo: “Investigating requirements for a web 2.0 platform to support communication between authorities and citizens in disaster recovery” (Start: Sept 2013)
Funding: UCL MAPS scholarship
This research is focusing on the use of social media to support the communication between citizens and authorities in the reconstruction phase following natural and anthropogenic disasters.

Stanislav Pavlov: “Risks to Arctic offshore operations: Consolidation & strength of thick sea ice” (Start: Jan 2013)
Funding: UCL Impact Studentship with SAMCoT
This project focuses on the development of a two-dimensional thermal consolidation and failure model for rafted and ridged sea ice.

Zoë Watson: “The link between earthquake recurrence and structural geology in the Apennines of Italy” (Start: Oct 2013)
Funding: Natural Environment Research Council
This research is focusing on the structural geology of the active fault scarps seen throughout the Apennines and whether this has any implication for the recurrence interval between earthquakes occurring on the same fault. This research aims to aid understanding the seismic hazard of the region.


For 2013 papers, see: www.ucl.ac.uk/rdr/people/david-alexander


IRDR People

**IRDR Director**
Peter Sammonds  
Professor of Geophysics

**IRDR Deputy Director**
Dr Rosanna Smith

**IRDR Administrator**
irdr-info@ucl.ac.uk

**Professor, Risk & Disaster Reduction**
David Alexander

**Reader, Risk, Resilience & Global Health**
Ilan Kelman

**Director, Aon Benfield UCL Hazard Centre**
Dr Christopher Kilburn

**Lecturers in Risk & Disaster Reduction**
Dr Carmine Galasso  
Dr Gordon Ross  
Dr Joanna Faure Walker

**IRDR Research Fellows**
Dr Ben Lishman  
Dr Mohammad Shamsudduha

**Senior Research Associates**
Dr Simon Day (NERC)  
Dr Stephen Edwards (ABUHC)

**Research Associates**
Dr Joachim Beck (NERC)  
Dr Megan French (CAFOD)  
Dr Rosa Sobradelo (ABUHC)  
Dr Richard Wall (ABUHC)

**Honorary Professor**
Virginia Murray, Health Protection England

**Visiting Professors**
Frank Furedi, University of Kent  
Dougal Goodman, Found. Sci & Tech.  
Knut Hoyland, NTNU, Trondheim  
Robert Muir-Wood, RMS  
Filippos Vallianatos, Tech Ed Inst Crete  
Gordon Woo, RMS

**PhD Research Students**
Bayes Ahmed  
Jabraan Ahmed  
Alexis Cartwright-Taylor  
Amy Chadderton  
Danielle Charlton (ABUHC)  
Gillian Dacey  
Giorgos Michas  
Nurmala Nurdin  
Giorgos Papadakis  
Stanislav Pavlov  
Gianluca Pescaroli  
Andria Sarri  
Sally Scourfield  
Katerina Stavrianaki  
Serena Tagliacozzo  
Melodie Vanderpuye  
Zoe Watson  
Luke Wedmore

IRDR Executive Board

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Director, IRDR

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Deputy Director, IRDR

David Alexander  
Professor of Risk and Disaster Reduction, IRDR

Graham Hart  
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Alan Smith  
Director, Mullard Space Science Laboratory

Cassidy Johnson  
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Dina D’Ayala  
Head of Structures, Co-Director, EPICentre, CEGE

Helena Titheridge  
Director, Centre for Urban Sustainability & Resilience, CEGE

Ian Scott  
Director, UCL Grand Challenges

Serge Guillias  
Reader in Statistics, Statistical Science

Richard Chandler  
Professor of Statistics, Statistical Science

Richard Taylor  
Professor of Hydrogeology, Geography

Dougal Goodman  
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Julian Hunt, FRS  
Professor of Climate Modelling, Earth Sciences

Linda O’Halloran  
Director, Thinking Development

Claire Fox  
Director, Institute of Ideas

Rosalie Tostevin  
Himalaya Program Officer, Geology for Global Development
If you wish to produce an IRDR event

The IRDR supports the following events:

**IRDR Forums** which aim to bring together 16-20 people from the UCL community, informally, with potential partners and funders, to foster cross-disciplinary collaboration. The format is three lead presentations, then brief talks by researchers and open discussion, followed by a drinks reception.

**Evening Discussion Meetings** which are open to the UCL community, general public and media, are organized around a topical theme which promises a lively debate.

**IRDR Annual Conference** sessions on a research theme. The format may be presentations, panel discussion, keynote lecture or “in conversation” interview.

**IRDR Sponsorship** of launch events, conferences or workshops at UCL, where we can provide logistical support and pump-priming funding.

For further information, please contact the IRDR Deputy Director.
BECOME A MEMBER OF THE IRDR. Reducing global risks and disasters presents a colossal challenge that requires coordinated and collaborative action. UCL is uniquely well placed to respond to this challenge with at least 70 academics across 12 departments and 7 faculties involved in world-class research, teaching and practice in the field. The IRDR aims to bring together this wealth of knowledge and expertise, and through research, teaching and knowledge exchange aims to overcome the barriers to understanding risk and reducing the impact of disasters.

To find out more - or to register your own activity - please visit ucl.ac.uk/rdr/join

Fieldwork on the Chaiten Volcano, Chile, which devastated the town in 2008