



Research Symposium Bushfire Smoke Issues 28th – 29th April Perth Western Australia

In April this year, a Research Symposium on Bushfire Smoke Issues was held at Edith Cowan University (ECU). The symposium was hosted by PBC member A/Prof Andrea Hinwood of ECU and sponsored by the Fire and Emergency Services of Western Australia, the Centre for Ecosystem Management, EcoTech and ECU’s Office of Research and Innovation and Faculty of Computing Health and Science.

The symposium was attended by participants from a wide variety of organisations including researchers, fire and air quality managers, industry and non government organisations. PBC member Dr Budi Haryanto gave the opening address of the symposium on the global health effects of bushfire smoke. He outlined the scale of the issue globally and the significance of smoke from a public health perspective. Dr Haryanto’s presentation was followed by a range of presentations on smoke composition, health effects, personal exposures, techniques for modelling and monitoring smoke and management activities. The symposium had a number of workshops on key topics which are currently being summarised for distribution to interested groups. Information on the symposium including presentations and a summary of the workshops can be obtained from Anthea Ward: anthea.ward@ecu.edu.au



PROGRAM

DAY 1: Meteorology, Bushfire Smoke and Composition

Topic	Speaker
Welcome	Craig Hynes Chief Operations Officer - FESA

Global Health effects of bushfire smoke	Dr Budi Haryanto - Chairman, Department of Environmental Health, Faculty of Public Health, University Indonesia
Bushfire smoke, composition – regional and personal exposures	Dr Fabienne Resien CSIRO Melbourne
Sampling bushfire smoke: physical and chemical considerations	Prof John Todd Consultant and Adjunct Professor, Edith Cowan University
Factors affecting smoke emissions and dispersion from bushfires	Dr Lachie McCaw Dept. Environment and Conservation, Manjimup, WA
Remote Sensing Techniques	A/Prof John Qu – (Speaker Dr Al Reibau) George Mason University
Modelling the distribution of particle emissions from fires	Prof Graham Mills Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research, Melbourne
Forecasting bushfire smoke	Dr. Wei Min Hao USDA Forest Service, Missoula
Operational smoke management and air quality regulations in the USA	Prof Doug Fox Colorado State University
Blanket –the base-line air network of EPA Tasmania, a real-time smoke monitoring network	Dr John Innis EPA Division, Tasmania
Identification of gaps in information and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoke prediction methods • Smoke management • Composition, and monitoring smoke
Report back from Groups to outline key issues from workshop and days proceedings	

DAY 2: Bushfires, Community and Health and Ecological Impacts

Topic	Speaker
Bushfire smoke and the urban interface – issues and challenges	Dr Fay Johnston Menzies Research Institute, University of Tasmania
Fire in Perth remnant bushland and wetlands	Dr Eddie van Etten and Mr David Blake – Edith Cowan University
The health effects of bushfire smoke in Australia	Dr Geoff Morgan New South Wales Health Department
Community perceptions, advice and management of smoke	Mr Terry Maher Department of Environment and Conservation, WA
United States smoke science plan	Dr Al Reibau – Consultant and formerly USDA Forest Service, Washington
Smoke and impacts on vegetation	Dr Tina Bell University of Sydney
Long term future for vegetation under differing fire regimes	Prof Will Stock Director, Centre for Ecosystems Management, Edith Cowan University

Participants discuss research needs based on days presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire, smoke and biodiversity• Health effects smoke• Communication and Community
Further discussion of gaps and research needs	
Presentation of key issues from groups and closing remarks	