

# The UCL Johnston-Lavis Conference 2006

## Managing Volcanic Crises: Effective Integration of Science, Policy and Practice

Thursday 20 April - Friday 21 April 2006  
University College London

This two-day conference follows from the successful launch in 2004 of the UCL Johnston-Lavis Conferences in Volcanology. It will address practical strategies for managing volcanic crises. It invites volcanologists to discuss what they can do, decision makers to declare what they need, and both communities to identify methods of combining the two for improved responses to volcanic emergencies. The two days will be divided into four sessions, with ample time for formal and informal discussions, including extended poster sessions.

**Organising Committee:** Christopher Kilburn<sup>1</sup>, Tom Mitchell<sup>1,2</sup>, Andrew Bell<sup>1</sup>, Megan Davies<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Benfield Hazard Research Centre, Department of Earth Sciences, University College London

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Contact e-mail: [jlavis-meeting@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:jlavis-meeting@ucl.ac.uk).

### Sessions

- S1. Emergency strategies: turning theory into practice
- S2. Eruption alerts: uncertainty and the responsibility of scientists
- S3. Eruptions without warning: responding to volcanic hazards
- S4. After the eruption: returning to the scene of the crisis



# Session Descriptions

## Preparing

- **S1. Emergency strategies: turning theory into practice**

The last decade has seen a proliferation of emergency plans around active volcanoes. Most depend on theoretical strategies and are constrained by constitutional or governmental requirements; only few have been implemented. Session S1 will address the practical reliability of such plans. How effectively can plans for one volcano be transferred to another? Do plans make decision-makers over-confident about their preparedness for an eruption? Are current plans too general or too specific to be of use in an emergency?

## Predicting

- **S2. Eruption alerts: uncertainty and the responsibility of scientists**

False alarms and uncertainties in eruption forecasts are often perceived outside the scientific community as signs of failure. Perfect forecasts, however, may be a physical impossibility. Session S2 will focus on current forecasting capabilities and on methods for effectively communicating their limitations to decision makers. How reliable are techniques for estimating the likelihood of eruption? How well are forecasts being communicated and understood? How can decision makers gain experience if they have never witnessed an eruption?

## Protecting

- **S3. Eruptions without warning: responding to volcanic hazards**

Eruptions can occur before warnings have been issued, or before communities have been made aware that they are vulnerable during a particular emergency. In such cases, communities must react on their own initiative. It is therefore important that they already have some basic response strategies to follow. Session S3 will evaluate how modern ideas about volcanic processes - from lava flows and pyroclastic phenomena to gas release - can be used to design basic awareness programmes, especially among communities that have not suffered an eruption for several generations.

## Prevailing

- **S4. After the eruption: returning to the scene of the crisis**

Emergency plans invariably focus on the build-up to eruptions. Planning after the event is commonly ignored or haphazard. Session S4 will concentrate on strategies for repopulating volcanoes after eruption, especially those that may be entering a period of frequent activity following a generation or more of quiescence. What criteria must be satisfied before repopulation can safely begin? Should repopulation be organised by the authorities or left to individual choice? Should active volcanoes be repopulated at all?

## Participation

To maintain a workshop atmosphere and to encourage free discussion, places may be limited and so early registration is recommended.

## Registration

We are aiming to keep the registration fee low to cover running costs only.  
It would greatly help us if you could meet the 15 March deadline.

Full Registration: £35.00 or €52.00 or us\$64.00

Students and Concessions: £15.00 or €23.00 or us\$27.00

(Euro and Dollar charges include surcharge for converting currency)

## Abstract deadline

Abstracts should be submitted in electronic format (MS Word) by **15 March 2006**. Please state preferred style of presentation (oral or poster) and Session Number. Posters should have a landscape layout and have a maximum size of A0 (120 x 85 cm). Portrait posters can be displayed, but risk the exposure of crumpled tops or bottoms.

Please send abstracts by e-mail to [jlavis-meeting@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:jlavis-meeting@ucl.ac.uk).

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## Abstract Submission

**PREFERRED PRESENTATION:** ORAL/POSTER

**PREFERRED SESSION:** S1/S2/S3/S4

**Style and font:** Times New Roman, 12 pt

**Title, Author(s), Address(es):** Align Left

**Main Text:** Justify

TITLE (CAPITALS)

[space]

Author<sup>1</sup>, Author<sup>2</sup> etc.

[space]

<sup>1</sup> Mailing address, Author 1 (email address)

<sup>2</sup> Mailing address, Author 2 (email address) etc.

[space]

[space]

Main text. No paragraph indentation or references.

**Max. 200 words. (Longer abstracts will be truncated!)**

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### **Accommodation**

A wide selection of accommodation is available within walking distance of UCL (WC1 postcode), ranging from bed-and-breakfast guesthouses to 4-star hotels. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements.

### **Catering**

Morning and afternoon refreshments will be provided.

For meals, a refectory and bars are available at UCL, while a large choice of eating and drinking establishments are within a few minutes' walking distance from the university.

A conference meal will be arranged for the evening of Thursday 20 April.  
Cost per person: £30.00 or €46.00 or US\$54.00.

### **Language**

Presentations will be held in English.

### **Methods of Payment**

Payment may be made by cheque in UK sterling, Euros or US Dollars. Please make cheques payable to "University College London" and send them to the address on the registration form. Personal callers may also pay in cash. Unfortunately, we **cannot** accept payment by credit or debit card.



**For more on Johnston-Lavis, visit**

[http://www.earthsci.ucl.ac.uk/department/collections/JLC\\_files/JLC.htm](http://www.earthsci.ucl.ac.uk/department/collections/JLC_files/JLC.htm)

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## REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete one form per delegate. If you are paying for more than one delegate, please (1) give names of all those covered by your payment, and (2) ensure that the others also complete an individual registration form.

**Name** .....

**Address** .....

**Postcode** ..... **Country** .....

**Email** ..... **Tel.** ..... **Fax** .....

Item	Currency (£/€/€/\$)	Price
<b>Registration</b>		
<b>Conference Meal</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Do you intend to present a paper? YES/NO  
 If YES, (1) which is your preferred presentation? ORAL/POSTER  
 (2) which is your preferred session? S1/S2/S3/S4  
 Are you paying also for other delegates? YES/NO  
 If YES, please give names here:

I enclose a cheque for £/€/€/\$ ....., made payable to **University College London**.

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....

**Name** .....

**Please return to:** Andrew Bell, Benfield Hazard Research Centre,  
 Department of Earth Sciences, University College London, Gower Street,  
 London, WC1E 6BT, UK.