NHERI GSC DEI Working Group Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 27, 2022, at 11:00 am Central Time

Thank you to everyone who attended the third DEI working group meeting. A recording of this presentation will be made available on the NHERI Graduate Student Council Explore Meetings page. Additionally, all slides from today’s presentation are included below.

The Chair (Margaret Webb) updated the working group on progress with:

- DEI resources page
- Plans for upcoming meetings
- DEI workshop 9/23

She then introduced the speaker for the day, Candace Evans from NHERI CONVERGE, who introduced the CONVERGE training modules and answered questions from the group. The following links were referenced:

- https://converge-training.colorado.edu/register/
- https://converge.colorado.edu/resources/training-modules/
- https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=Mo4LseAAAAAJ&citation_for_view=Mo4LseAAAAAJ:u-x6o8ySG0sC
- https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=en&user=Mo4LseAAAAAJ&citation_for_view=Mo4LseAAAAAJ:d1gkVwhDpl0C

15 members attended the meeting.

Our next meeting will be on 24th June 2022 at 11:00 AM CST (unless notified otherwise). We will be hearing from Ben Roston, a civil engineering PhD student in Virginia Tech’s Disaster Resilience and Risk Management program.

**Links:**

NHERI GSC Explore Meetings

This link contains meeting minutes, recordings (once available), and any other additional documents for each meeting: https://www.designsafeci.org/learning-center/nheri-graduate-student-council/explore/meetings/

Thank you,

Margaret Webb | Department of Engineering Education

Virginia Tech | maggiewebb@vt.edu
NHERI DEI Working Group 5/27 Meeting

Chair: Maggie (Margaret) Webb
Vice Chair: Harman Singh

Agenda

- Introductions + Updates
- Message from Candace Evans and NHERI CONVERGE
- CONVERGE Training
DEI Working Group Goals + Updates

- DEI Resource Page
- Upcoming Meetings
  - 6/24 Ben Roston from Virginia Tech DRRM
- Upcoming Events
  - DEI Workshop 9/23

What is DEI?

DIVERSITY: encompasses social, cultural, and a wide range of individual backgrounds represented within a group (CONTR). Diversity is essential for making the most effective use of the unique strengths and qualities that each individual brings to the group.

INCLUSION: is the act of making environments in which all members of a group feel that they belong and are able to participate fully. Inclusive environments are welcoming, respectful, and supportive of the unique needs and experiences of all individuals within the group (CONTR).

Resources on DEI Efforts in Natural Hazards

The CONVERGE facility was established by the National Science Foundation-supported Access to High-end Computing and Visualization (ATC) Network. The National Science Foundation (NSF) has provided the CONVERGE facility with significant funding to support the development and implementation of new and innovative research tools and methodologies. The CONVERGE facility is dedicated to advancing scientific understanding of natural hazards and improving our ability to mitigate the impacts of these events on human communities and ecosystems. The CONVERGE facility is a collaborative effort between researchers from universities, government agencies, and private industry. The CONVERGE facility is led by Principal Investigators from the University of Washington and the University of California, San Diego.

CONVERGE Training Modules Series

Social Vulnerability and Disasters Training Module: An Overview

CONVERGE

NSF

Natural Hazards Center
### CONVERGE TRAINING MODULES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Broader Ethical Considerations for Hazards and Disaster Researchers</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on the broader ethical considerations for conducting research in a disaster setting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collecting and Sharing Perishable Data</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on ways to collect and share perishable hazards and disaster data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conducting Emotionally Challenging Research</td>
<td>This Training Module describes emotionally challenging research and highlights the ways that recognizing researcher emotions can lead to more ethical and methodologically sound research practices in the context of extreme events.</td>
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<td>Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on culturally competent research and offers guidance on how hazards and disaster researchers can build cultural competence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disaster Mental Health</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on mental health outcomes associated with disasters, with a particular emphasis on risk factors over time that make certain populations vulnerable to poor disaster mental health outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research</td>
<td>This Training Module introduces users to Institutional Review Board (IRB) procedures and offers guidance on how to work with the IRB to ensure ethical extreme events research.</td>
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<td>Public Health Implications of Hazards and Disaster</td>
<td>This module bridges public health and hazards and disaster research by showcasing case studies with important implications for public health.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recovery in Hazards and Disaster Research</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on the reciprocal relationship between researchers and disaster-affected communities, with an emphasis on providing mutual benefits for both the people involved with and affected by hazards, as well as those participating in disaster research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Vulnerability and Disasters</td>
<td>This Training Module focuses on social vulnerability to hazards and disasters, with an emphasis on population groups that have been identified in the literature as especially at risk to the adverse effects of extreme events.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding and Ending Gender-Based Violence in Finland</td>
<td>This module describes gender-based violence in the context of field research and provides an in-depth exploration of misconceptions, real-life scenarios, and strategies for safe-fieldwork practices.</td>
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Overview

- Lesson 1: Background
- Lesson 2: Methodological Approaches
- Lesson 3: Knowledge to Action
- Lesson 4: Future Directions

This Training Module focuses on social vulnerability to hazards and disasters, with an emphasis on population groups that have been identified in the literature as especially at risk to the adverse effects of extreme events.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this module, you should be able to:

Lesson 1: Background
1. Define social vulnerability;
2. Understand the conditions and drivers that influence social vulnerability to hazards and disasters in the United States;
3. Identify potentially vulnerable groups and recognize the physical, psychological, and social factors that may amplify their vulnerability to hazards and disasters;

Lesson 2: Methodological Approaches
1. Explain the primary methodological approaches to studying social vulnerability;
2. Understand how research on vulnerable populations can positively improve outcomes for individuals and enhance community resilience;

Lesson 3: Knowledge to Action
1. Recognize how studying potentially vulnerable populations improves hazards and disaster practice and policy;
2. Understand how research on vulnerable populations can positively improve outcomes for individuals and enhance community resilience;

Lesson 4: Future Directions
1. Recognize future directions for social vulnerability research;
2. Learn about additional resources that support hazards and disasters research on vulnerable populations.

Quiz

At the close of the module, you will have the opportunity to take a 10-question quiz. If you get 8 out of 10 questions correct, you will receive a certificate of completion for this module.
Key Content

- Background information on social vulnerability
- Common methodological approaches to studying vulnerable populations
- Advancements in policy and practice that have been made through research on vulnerable populations
- Suggestions for advancing future research

Additional Resources

- Existing Measures
- Additional Readings
- Secondary Datasets
- Web-Based Tools

Here are some additional resources that can be used to support hazards and disaster research on vulnerable populations.

These resources include key readings, standardized measures, secondary datasets, and other web resources.

Measures:
  - CCC’s Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)
  - University of South Carolina’s Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI)

Web Resources:
  - Disaster Ready
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response for Vulnerable Populations
  - IASC Task Team on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action
  - Understanding Older People and Their Needs in a Humanitarian Context

Secondary Datasets:
Quiz

1. QUESTION

Which of the following is an example of a similarity between physical and social vulnerability?

- Both physical and social vulnerability concentrate on the physical processes of the hazard
- Both physical and social vulnerability are influenced by the built environment
- Both physical and social vulnerability are fixed characteristics
- Both physical and social vulnerability concentrate on social conditions of populations

converge.colorado.edu/training-modules
## Attendance:

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<tr>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robin Nelson</td>
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<td>Seyed Saman Khedmatgozar Dolati</td>
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<td>Nurullah</td>
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<td>Candace</td>
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<td>Margaret Webb</td>
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<td>emmalyn</td>
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<td>Esteban Villalobos Vega</td>
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<td>Paula R. Buchanan</td>
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<td>Paola Rivera-Gonzalez</td>
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<td>Sasan Khedmatgozar Dolati</td>
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<td>Karim Mostafa</td>
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<td>Emmaleah Jones</td>
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