

social research

AN INTERNATIONAL QUARTERLY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

A Social Research Conference at

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH



Thursday and Friday, November 1st and 2nd, 2007
John L. Tishman Auditorium, 66 West 12th Street, NYC

Everyday brings fresh news of another disaster that threatens our lives, our homes and our entire community. Please join us as leading experts discuss the conditions that amplify or reduce the affects of disasters, who is most affected by them and why, and what can be done to lessen the likelihood and the magnitude of disasters in the future. **Nicolas Scoppetta**, the NYC Fire Commissioner, will give the keynote address.

TICKETS

Regular full conference: \$50
ACLU members: \$35
New School alumni: \$15
Full-time New School students: Free
Full-time students elsewhere: \$15

*Individual sessions can be purchased

CONTACT

Social Research, The New School
65 Fifth Avenue, Room 375
New York, NY 10003
T: 212.229.5776 x3121
F: 212.229.5476

socres@newschool.edu

Register at www.newschool.edu/disasters



Conference Agenda

Session I. Definitions: What We Talk About When We Talk About Disasters

- A. Scientific Perspectives on Disasters: Physical Sciences, Michael Oppenheimer
- B. Scientific Perspectives on Disasters: Biological Sciences, Eric K. Noji
- C. Scientific Perspectives on Disasters: Social Sciences, Lee Clarke
- D. Pre-Conditions of Disasters, John Mutter

Moderator: Jonathan Veitch

Session II. Acquiring Vulnerabilities that Potentiate Disasters

- A. Socioeconomic Vulnerabilities: Social Structures and Concentrations of Risk, Charles Perrow
- B. Differential Vulnerabilities: Environmental and Economic Inequality, Robert Bullard
- C. Biological and Health Vulnerabilities, Irwin Redlener
- D. The Politics of Infrastructure, Joseph W. Westphal

Moderator: Ronald Kassimir

Session III. Keynote Address by Nicholas Scoppetta, New York City Fire Commissioner

Session IV. What "Really" Happens When Disasters Happen: Preparations and Responses

- A. The Calculus of Risk vs. Preparedness, Erwann Michel-Kerjan
- B. The Psychology of Denial, Elliot Aronson
- C. Conventional Beliefs and Counterintuitive Realities, Enrico L. Quarantelli
- D. The Role of Insurance Companies, Howard Kunreuther

Moderator: Joel Towers

Session V. The Impact of Disasters on Human Development

- A. Comparison of Cases, Reid Basher
- B. Commonalities of Natural and Man-Made Disasters, Michael A. Cohen
- C. Impact on the Formal and Informal Economies, Dean Yang
- D. Impact on Infrastructure, William Morrish
- E. Impact on Health, Robert Ursano

Moderator: Michael Oppenheimer

Metropolitan Museum of Art Tour, Saturday, November 3rd

The Metropolitan Museum of Art is hosting a special, customized tour of artistic representations of disasters from the museum's collection in two, one hour tours at 10:00 am and Noon. (Additional \$24 fee applies.)

*Speaker Not Confirmed