



ISCRAM2009
**The 6th International Conference on Information Systems for
Crisis Response and Management**

**Gothenburg, Sweden
May 10-13, 2009
<http://www.iscram.org>**

TRACK: SOCIAL NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

CALL FOR PAPERS

Introduction of the track

The convergence of information and communication technologies, the growth of the internet including the mobile internet, and the advent of technologies known under the general heading of Web 2.0 have all contributed to our ability to collaborate over great distances, both synchronously and asynchronously. Our aim in this track is to explore how these new approaches to and support for collaboration can help in crisis management and response. How might such collaboration technologies help:

- the crisis management team in their decision making on the handling the event?
- the crisis management team in their interactions with a wide range of responders, government bodies, various publics and stakeholders and, of course, the victims and their families?
- all parties build a picture and share information about a developing crisis?
- widen the range of stakeholders who can join fully in handling the crisis and recovery?
- involve communities fully during the recovery phase to rebuild and return to normality?
- communities to work together, alongside but independently of government and non-governmental agencies, to inform and help themselves, co-ordinating citizen-led efforts?
- virtual teams and virtual communities develop processes and software for emergency management and recovery?

The track will consider technological developments and applications within these areas. It will also include evaluations and the cognitive and behavioral aspects of such applications.

Topics

This track focus on paper submissions that provide rich description and/or evaluation of the actual use of novel web based and other systems for collaboration and/or widespread participation in any phase of emergency management, from initial planning and preparedness, through detection, response, and recovery phases. This might include:

- Studies of the use of virtual teams or virtual communities or “social software” (e.g., social networking sites, knowledge gathering systems such as Wikimapia) in the design or use of emergency management information systems, with data collection methods ranging from laboratory or field experiments to qualitative case studies.
- Exploration and assessment of any problems that occur when virtual or partially distributed teams or the general public use information technology to coordinate disaster management related tasks, and how can they be resolved.
- Assessment of the advantages of collaborative systems compared to closed “command and control” systems created for ‘official’ involvement only?
- Investigations of the role these sorts of forums could have in future disaster preparation and response. How could their efforts be better facilitated? What socio-technical conditions should be in place to make them most beneficial?
- Behavioral studies of collaboration which have implications for the use of networking and web technologies in crisis response and management.

Special Sessions:

In addition to the general track, this track also includes the following special sessions:

- Lightweight stakeholder collaboration in emergency knowledge engineering
- Trust in Emergency Planning and Response

For detailed information regarding special sessions, please consult each Special Sessions’ Call for Papers.

Track co-chairs

Simon French, Manchester Business School
 Starr Roxanne Hiltz, NJIT and the University of Salzburg
 Leysia Palen, University of Colorado

Corresponding track co-chair

- Starr Roxanne Hiltz, NJIT and the University of Salzburg



Simon French
simon.french@mbs.ac.uk

Manchester Business School



Starr Roxanne Hiltz
Hiltz@njit.edu

NJIT and the University of Salzburg



Leysia Palen
palen@cs.colorado.edu

University of Colorado

Important Notice:

- All submissions must be formatted according to the ISCRAM 2009 formatting guidelines. Templates and instructions are published on www.iscram.org.
- All submissions must be submitted through the ISCRAM 2009 conference paper submission web page at www.conftool.com/iscram2009. Instructions for the ConfTool system can be found on www.iscram.org.
- All papers and presentations will go through a double-blind review process, leading to a decision of (conditional) acceptance or rejection.
- Accepted papers will be included in the ISCRAM 2009 program and published in the official proceedings if and only if
 - (1) the paper is formatted according to the instructions,
 - (2) the authors sign the copyright transfer form and
 - (3) one of the authors registers for the conference and pays the registration fee before the cut-off date for early registration.
- Authors who have multiple papers accepted can only register for and present one paper at the conference; co-authors need to register separately.

Important ISCRAM 2009 Dates:

- Submission deadline: January 11, 2009
- Notification of conditional accept: February 16, 2009
- Final submission revised paper: March 1, 2009
- Final author notification: March 9, 2009
- Early registration deadline: March 22, 2009
- Conference: May 10-13 2009

About ISCRAM:

The ISCRAM Community is a worldwide community of researchers, scholars, teachers, students, practitioners and policy makers interested or actively involved in the subject of Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management. At its annual international conference alternating between the US and Europe, the ISCRAM Community gathers to present and discuss the latest research and developments in this growing area during an interactive and stimulating 3 day program. The ISCRAM Community also organizes an International Summer School for PhD students and ISCRAM-CHINA, an annual conference for ISCRAM research in China. All information on ISCRAM can be found at <http://www.iscram.org>

This year the conference will be held from 10-13 May at the Göteborg University located in Gothenburg, Sweden. The conference will be hosted by the Viktoria Institute and the IT-university of Gothenburg. All details on this conference will be made available via the ISCRAM website mentioned above.