

3rd International ISCRAM Summer School

New Technologies for Citizen Participation in Crisis Preparedness and Response

August 20 -28 2009, Tilburg, the Netherlands

Objective

The objective of the Summer School on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management is to provide PhD students with an intense interactive learning experience on the use of information systems and technology to support collaboration and decision making in various types of crisis response and management.

The program of the Summer School consists of a week of in-depth lectures, case workshops, dinner talks, and interesting excursions. All lectures are taught by well-known international experts in the areas of crisis management, decision making, and information systems. The students work in small groups and interact with the experts throughout the Summer School.

The language of the Summer School is English.

The 2009 ISCRAM Summer School is an initiative of the ISCRAM Community, and is organized in partnership with the Emergency Management Improvement Committee (EMIC) in the Netherlands.

Previous ISCRAM Summer School editions

This year the ISCRAM Summer School is organized for the third time. In total, more than 70 students and lecturers have traveled to Tilburg to participate in the two previous editions of the Summer School. The first ISCRAM Summer School was organized in 2006 with “*Blended Crisis Response Teams*” as theme. There were 22 PhD student participants from 13 different countries, and 13 internationally renowned researchers from the Netherlands and abroad were lecturing at the Summer School. The second Summer School took place in 2007, with the theme “*Global Disaster Risk and Humanitarian Assistance*”. This time there were 21 participants from 9 different countries, and 19 lecturers in total.

2009 ISCRAM Summer School theme

The theme of the 2009 ISCRAM Summer School is “*New Technologies for Citizen Participation in Crisis Preparedness and Response*”, and is dedicated to identify and discuss the emerging role of new information technologies for allowing citizens (and the communities they belong to) to prepare for and respond to crises.

As illustrated in the wake of Hurricane Katrina or during the California and Colorado fires last year, effective responses using new information technologies also originate from within the communities living at or near the affected area. Web-based communication efforts such as Familyfinder.com to locate missing family or friends, or the use of Google maps to provide up-to-date fire locations, were widely used and very successful.

The objective of the 2009 Summer School is to identify, discuss and analyze new technology applications that may result in the involvement of citizens, providing for new opportunities and challenges for a more effective preparedness and crisis response.

Who should attend?

Students in PhD programs in Information Systems, Computer Science, Organization Research, Management Science, and Operations Research or in other fields with research interests related to crisis management are eligible for nomination. The nominee should have completed course work, developed a dissertation proposal and preferably have completed one year of dissertation work with one year remaining (at the time of the summer school) before completion.

Participants will gain insights from information systems for crisis response and management and emerging themes in the area of citizen participation in crisis preparedness and response. Research students will have the opportunity to discuss their work with other researchers and practitioners. Ample opportunity will be provided for social activities during the Summer School. The Summer School is intended to be an intellectually and socially stimulating environment, and expected to result in active networking long after the summer school is over.

Benefits from attending

Participants will gain insights in the use of information systems for crisis response and management and become informed of emerging themes in the area of community and citizen crisis preparedness and response. All students will be stimulated to interact and discuss their work with the experts.

The Summer School is intended to be an intellectually and socially stimulating environment, and expected to result in active networking long after the Summer School is over.

At the Summer School, participants are expected to work in groups whose tasks include:

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- analysis and discussion of relevant crises cases;
- study the role of IT/IS in citizen and community preparedness and response;
- exercising, gaming and role playing;
- use of dedicated crisis response decision support software.

Ample opportunity will be provided for social activities during the summer school.

How to apply

Participation is by invitation only. Admission is limited to 20 participants in total.

PhD students (in one of the PhD programs as described above) should have completed course work and developed a dissertation proposal. Ideally, they should have completed one year of dissertation work with at least one year remaining (at the time of the summer school) before completion.

Important Dates:

May 10 2009:	Nomination letter and Extended Abstract submission
May 17 2009:	Notification of nomination acceptance/rejection
June 1 2009:	Registration deadline
August 20-28 2009:	2009 Summer School

Instructions for application:

Please send to the Summer School Program Committee (email address: summerschool2009@iscram.org) the following three documents before **Sunday May 10, 2009**:

1. A two page document in which you should describe your research or work experience, as well as why you are interested in the theme of the Summer School and indicate the relevance of the theme to your research or work,
2. A Curriculum Vitae,
3. and a formal nomination letter:

Applicants must be formally nominated by the chair of the student's department, or any other faculty member who is familiar with the student's research (e.g. Ph.D. program director or thesis advisor).

A letter of nomination (with your institution's or employer's official letterhead) should

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include the following:

- The title of your PhD dissertation;
- Information on the nominating faculty member: name, address, department/institution, email address, phone and fax numbers.

Applicants will be informed of acceptance by Sunday May 17 2009. Upon acceptance of your application, you will be asked to complete your registration by **Sunday May 24, 2009**.

Venue

The Summer School is organized on the campus of Tilburg University. With a population of nearly 200,000 inhabitants, Tilburg is the Netherlands' sixth largest city and is located in the South of the country, close to the Belgian border, in the Province of 'North Brabant'.

Tilburg University is nicely situated in a forested area on the outskirts of the city. Tilburg University is a relatively small and internationally oriented university with around 12,000 students in total and 750 international students from 65 countries. The university is internationally renowned for its research, especially in economics through the international research institute CentER.

Schedule, costs and accommodation

All participants are expected to attend the entire duration of the Summer School and will be provided with accommodation accordingly. A Certificate of Attendance will be delivered at the end of the Summer School.

The cost of participation for the 2009 Summer School is 900 EURO and 1200 EURO after the registration deadline. This will cover your hotel room (standard single room, 8 nights, at the Summer School hotel), all lunches, dinners and coffee breaks and materials provided for the lectures or cases.

Please note that travel expenses are not covered by the registration fee.

Organizing Committee

The 2009 ISCRAM Summer School is organized by EMIC.

EMIC members are Ron de Milde, Jan Otten, Janneke Liebrechts - van Maarle, Bartel Van de Walle and Paul Burghardt.

Please contact the Organizing Committee via email at summerschool2009@iscram.org.