

LEVERHULME WILDFIRES SUMMER CONFERENCE



LEVERHULME

Centre for **Wildfires,**
Environment and Society

25th July 2023, Imperial College London

Leverhulme Wildfires Summer Conference 2023

25th July, Imperial College London, South Kensington Campus

PROGRAMME

General information: The conference will be held at the South Kensington campus of Imperial College London. Information on how to get there can be found [here](#). Please enter through the College's main entrance on Exhibition Road. Walk through the main foyer – City and Guilds Building Lecture Theatre 200 is at the end of the foyer in the left-hand corner (for those who attended our launch event, it is in the same location!). Registration will be open throughout the day.

Monday 24th July (pre-conference)

Read Lecture Theatre, Sherfield

Pre-conference event: Film and Pizza evening

18:00-21:30 **Elemental - Reimagine Wildfire**

UK Premiere of award-winning feature film, including virtual Q&A with filmmaker Ralph Bloemers

18:00 Film Screening

19:30 Pizza

20:15 Q&A

Tuesday 25th July

City and Guilds Building, LT200

09:30 – 10:00	Registration and Coffee
10:00-10:10	Welcome (Colin Prentice , Director, and Adriana Ford , Centre Manager)

Session 1. Large-scale observations and models of fire

What observations do we have, and expect to have; and how can they be used for better understanding fire, its role and impacts?

10:10-11:10	Presentations
10:10-10:25	Fang Li (Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences) <i>The status and challenge of global fire modelling</i>
10:25-10:40	Jose Gomez-Dans (King's College London) <i>How to use Earth Observation to tame the flames</i>
10:40-10:55	Olivia Haas (Imperial College London) <i>Statistical models as a tool to explore the relative importance of climate and CO₂ in driving large-scale changes in wildfire regimes</i>
10:55-11:10	Meng Meng (University of Reading) <i>Exploring Holocene changes in wildfires in China using a statistical modelling approach</i>
11:10-11:35	Discussion (Chair – Sandy Harrison , Associate Director)
11:35-12:00	Coffee

Session 2: Fire as an Earth System Process

How does fire interact with ecosystems, atmospheric chemistry and climate?

12:00-13:00	Presentations
12:00-12:15	Juli Pausas (CIDE-CSIC, Valencia, Spain) <i>The role of fire on Earth</i>

12:15-12:30 **Stefan Doerr** (Swansea University)
Climate change as a driver of extreme wildfires - evidence, trends and projections.

12:30-12:45 **Claire Belcher** (University of Exeter)
Understanding flammability, past, present and into the future

12:45-13:00 **Manolis Grillakis** (Technical University of Crete)
Wildfires, climate, and the hydrological cycle

13:00-13:30 Discussion (Chair – **Apostolos Voulgarakis**, Associate Director)

13:30-14:30 **Lunch & Networking:** A light lunch will be provided to delegates next to the conference room.

Session 3. Fire in relation to land management, conservation, livelihoods and health

What changes in policy and practice would help reconcile different people's needs and goals, including air quality improvements?

14:30-15:30 Presentations

14:30-14:45 **Bibiana Bilbao** (Universidad Simón Bolívar)
Fire Management Policies in Latin American and Caribbean: Controversies, Paradoxes and Opportunities in a Biologically and Culturally Megadiverse Continent

14:45-15:00 **Mark Grosvenor** (King's College London)
Assessing air quality impacts of agricultural burning in South East Asia

15:00-15:15 **Angel Goldsmith** (King's College London)
Vegetation management at South Africa's wildland-Urban interface

15:15-15:30 **Iván Villaverde Canosa** (University of Leeds)
Exploring the transboundary risks of wildfire: a case study from rural British Columbia, Canada

15:30-16:00 Discussion (Chair – **David Demeritt**, Associate Director)

16:00-16:30 Coffee

Session 4. Bridging scales and perspectives

How can we integrate the knowledge of fire possessed by different stakeholders (e.g. researchers, practitioners and affected communities), across different spatial and temporal scales?

16:30-17:30	Presentations
16:30-16:45	Cathy Smith (Royal Holloway, University of London) <i>Ethical questions arising from efforts to collate knowledge about human fire use at the global scale</i>
16:45-17:00	Abigail Croker (Imperial College London) <i>Changing fire regimes in East and Southern Africa's savanna-protected areas: opportunities and challenges for indigenous-led savanna burning emissions abatement schemes</i>
17:00-17:15	Ol Perkins (King's College London) <i>Local and regional uncertainty hotspots in global human-fire interactions</i>
17:15-17:30	Cathelijne Stoof (Wageningen University) Making inter- and transdisciplinary connections to bridge scales and perspectives in fire

17:30-18:00 Discussion (Chair – **Jay Mistry**, Associate Director)

18:00-18:15 Closing Remarks (**Colin Prentice**, Director)

18:15-20:00 NETWORKING: Poster Session + Drinks reception, including canapés.

With 19:00 Announcement of Poster and Photo competition winners

20:00-23:00 BBQ (for ticket holders) at 58 Prince's Gate

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