



Jindal School of Public Health & Human Development (JSPH)

cordially invites you to the

SPECIAL LECTURE

on

DISASTER RESILIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE PREPAREDNESS

Featuring International experts in Engineering and Humanitarian Response

This lecture brings together students, faculty, and global researchers to explore the intersections of post-disaster reconnaissance, hospital functionality, and community resilience. Drawing on field experiences and interdisciplinary research, the speakers will share insights into how built environments and social systems respond to crises—and how we can design for recovery and preparedness.

SPEAKERS



DR. VIVIANA NOVELLI Senior Lecturer Cardiff University

Topic: Post-Disaster Reconnaissance Experiences: Understanding Impacts and Enhancing Community Resilience



DR. MEGAN
BOSTON
Senior Lecturer &
Programme Leader
Civil Engineering
University of Waikato,
New Zealand

Topic: Preserving Hospital Functionality from a Structural Engineering Perspective



Faculty Coordinator
Prof. (Dr.) Sneha Krishnan
Professor
Jindal School of Public Health & Human Development

TUESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 | 11:00 AM TO 04:30 PM

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMME

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM MEETING WITH PROF. STEPHEN MARKS, PROF. SNEHA

KRISHNAN, AND NITESH LOHAN

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM CONSTITUTION MUSEUM VISIT & CAMPUS TOUR

01:00 PM - 02:00 PM LUNCH

02:30 PM - 04:30 PM SPECIAL LECTURE SESSION

Venue: M91 E, ARUNA ABHEY OSWAL ACADEMIC BLOCK (T4)

WELCOME REMARKS – Prof. (Dr.) Sneha Krishnan (10 mins)

LECTURE by Dr. Viviana Novelli **LECTURE** by Dr. Megan Boston

PARTICIPATORY REFLECTIONS AND MODERATED DISCUSSION

BIOS OF THE SPEAKERS

Dr. Viviana Novelli, Senior Lecturer, Cardiff University

Viviana Novelli is a Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University and holds a PhD in Earthquake Engineering from University College London. She is a Principal Investigator leading projects funded by UKRI and the Royal Academy of Engineering, focused on strengthening resilience in hazard- and climate-exposed regions. She works closely with local communities and stakeholders to develop practical, evidence-based tools that assess infrastructure, prioritise interventions, and support rapid, equitable recovery. Her research spans fragile contexts—including North and East Africa, South America, and Asia—integrating engineering, natural, and social sciences to address complex, multi-hazard challenges and translate data into actionable solutions for resilient, inclusive, and adaptive communities.

Dr. Megan Boston, Senior Lecturer & Programme Leader, Civil Engineering University of Waikato, New Zealand

Dr. Megan Boston is a Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader in Civil Engineering at the University of Waikato, New Zealand. She is a structural engineer specialising in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, focusing not only on how buildings withstand natural hazards but also on how the organisations within them manage and recover from damage. Her interdisciplinary research integrates structural engineering, public health, and social science, employing tools such as risk analysis, probability, and structural modelling to predict building damage and societal impacts. Megan supervises undergraduate and postgraduate research on innovative topics, including 3D printed earthquake dampers and structural health monitoring in remote locations. Beyond her professional work, she enjoys exploring New Zealand's outdoors with her two golden retrievers, Sam and Midas, whose contrasting personalities keep life lively.