

Professor Douglas Paton Disaster Risk Reduction Course Scholarship

Inspiring, fostering and guiding the next generations of scholars and practitioners generating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) knowledge and applying DRR knowledge to increase the adaptive capacities of citizens and societies to prepare for, respond to, recover from and rebuild better after disasters was of immense importance to the late Professor Douglas Paton.

In 2007, Douglas helped develop the [Emergency Management Institute](#) (EMI) Summer School course established by the [Joint Centre for Disaster Research](#) (JCDR) at [Massey University](#), Aotearoa New Zealand. This course provides a theoretical and practical introduction to disasters and emergency management. Douglas presented his work at the inaugural EMI in 2007 and continued to contribute every year over the following decade, reflecting how he valued it.

Since 2007, over 500 national and international researchers and practitioners have greatly benefitted from participating in the EMI, leading to career development in both research and practice, and contributing to increased individual and collective adaptive capacities of participants to keep themselves and others safe in the face of disasters.

With the *Professor Douglas Paton Disaster Risk Reduction Course Scholarship* we aim to continue Douglas's legacy and honour his aim to build the DRR capacities of emerging researchers and practitioners from around the world.

The *Professor Douglas Paton Disaster Risk Reduction Course Scholarship* enables an emerging researcher or practitioner, whose community or organisation would benefit from them attending the course, to participate in the 5-day EMI Summer School course which is held in early March in Wellington, New Zealand, each year. In line with Douglas's passion for facilitating cross-cultural exchange and supporting people from disadvantaged populations, we especially encourage emerging researchers and practitioners from outside New Zealand, Indigenous peoples and people from lower to middle income countries to apply.

Funding will be provided to cover travel, accommodation and/or living costs as well as course fees for up to two people each year to attend the EMI Summer School course in person. Applications are open to both New Zealand-based and international candidates. Travel costs will be covered up to NZ\$3000 per persons living in New Zealand, and up to NZ\$5000 per person for applicants based outside New Zealand. Travel bookings will be made directly through JCDR.

Scholarship recipients will be selected on a case-by-case basis, based on supporting statements from the applicant and their referees. An international panel of researchers highly familiar with Professor Paton's body of work will assess the applications and select the awardees.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply, the applicant must be either:

- a postgraduate student enrolled in a DRR-related course,
- a Masters or PhD student conducting their research in an area related to DRR, or
- a researcher or practitioner working in disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response, recovery, rebuilding, or emergency management.

Preference will be given to applicants who are utilising, building upon and/or extending the interdisciplinary extensive body of knowledge the late Professor Douglas Paton created, including his all-hazard and cross-cultural theories.

Application Submission Deadline

31 October each year

Application Process

To apply, submit the following electronically to JCDR.Enquiry@massey.ac.nz using the subject line Professor Douglas Paton Disaster Risk Reduction Course Scholarship:

- an application cover letter (1-2 pages) that specifies:
 - your background
 - how your work utilises, builds upon and/or extends the interdisciplinary extensive body of knowledge that Professor Douglas Paton and his colleagues created, including his all-hazard and cross-cultural theories. For an overview of his work see the [special issue](#) that pays tribute to the Professor Douglas Paton of [Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies - Vol 28, Number 1](#).
 - reasons for applying for the scholarship
 - how you intend to utilize the knowledge and relationships you will gain by participating in the course for your future DRR research and/or work
- a short (max 2-page) Curriculum Vitae
- two brief references that describe clearly why each referee is recommending you for this scholarship.

Payment of Scholarship

The outcome of selection will be communicated by the end of November. Travel bookings will be made directly by JCDR.