



Institute of Civil Protection and Emergency Management

Bill Blake Memorial Award

History and Purpose of the Award

Bill Blake was the founder and co-chair of the Institute of Civil Protection and Emergency Management (ICPEM), who has had a significant influence on the lives of those currently pursuing a career in civil protection and emergency management. In order to commemorate his commitment and dedication, the 'Bill Blake Memorial Award' has been established with the following aims:

1. To provide students studying a full-time course relating to civil protection and emergency management within a UK institution an opportunity to develop academically with research and critical study within the field.
2. To encourage students studying a full-time civil protection and emergency management related course to consider joining the Institute.
3. To recognise the achievements and efforts of students wishing to progress with a career in civil protection and emergency management.

The Bill Blake Memorial Award is awarded annually for the best paper in response to a title provided by the Institute. The Award Committee, led by Dr Sylvia Edwards and consisting of a panel of three academics with experience in civil protection and emergency management related roles, will independently review each eligible entry for quality and content and select the three best entries.

Award Categories

The Institute will annually award three categories;

- 1st prize: £400
- 2nd prize: £200
- 3rd prize: £100

In addition to the monetary award, the winning entrant and two runners-up will each be presented with a certificate of achievement and a Gold, Silver or Bronze inscribed award medallion for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively.

The winning entry will be published in the ICPEM journal 'Alert' and the authors of the three winning submissions selected by the Award Committee will be invited to present at the ICPEM annual conference.

Eligibility & Rules

1. Applicants must be either undergraduate or postgraduate students enrolled on a full-time course relating to a civil protection and/or emergency management subject in a UK Institution. Should there be any doubt as to whether a course relates to civil protection and/or emergency management, clarification should be sought from the Academic Director, Dr Sylvia Edwards at academic@theicpem.net **before** the student embarks on the paper.
2. The submission should be a paper of between 2,000 and 3,000 words, written in English, in response to a title given by the ICPEM, with references cited to work relevant to the given title, using the Harvard referencing style. The text should be Times New Roman with a font size of 12 and a 1.5 line spacing.
3. The student must be the sole author of the paper.
4. Only one entry per person
5. The work must not have been submitted previously for any other award, presented at national or international meetings or published in full or in part in any medium.
6. In order to avoid plagiarism, students should be careful when preparing their work that all source material is correctly referenced. Quotes and ideas from others can be included, as long as they are correctly attributed to the original source by referencing. Direct quotation should be indicated by the use of quotation marks; if not, even with an accompanying reference.
7. Entries must be submitted as a 'pdf' document to Dr Sylvia Edwards at academic@theicpem.net and applicants will receive an email response to confirm receipt of submission.
8. In order to ensure impartiality during the review and selection process, authors are instructed not to include their names on the paper for submission. Authors will not be identified to the judging panel. Entrants are required to submit a separate form with only their name and contact details which will be filed separately by the Academic Director, Dr Sylvia Edwards who will only identify the author following the selection of the winning entries.
9. The deadline for submissions is 23.59 GMT on 30th April 2019. Submissions received after this time will not be considered.
10. Winners will be contacted by email and entrants are responsible for providing the correct contact details.
11. The decision of the assessors on both eligibility and the awards are final and not open to question or challenge.

Proposal for Academic Year: 2018/2019

The proposed paper title for 2018/2019 will be;

'Why do lessons identified so often fail to become lessons learnt: a critical review'

The author may write about any major incident or emergency where identified learning failed to be a lesson learnt, thus resulting in repeated errors.

The context of the question is based on the recently published Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) report into the detrainment of passengers onto the live railway at Peckham Rye. Miscommunication is again at the heart of an incident. The Emergency Planning College (EPC) has produced a document entitled *"Review of persistent Lessons Identified Relating to Interoperability from Emergencies and major Incidents"*

since 1986”, which was published in 2013. Although it is not current, again it shows that consistently, organisations and people identify lessons but fail to learn from them.

It is anticipated that there will already be a fair amount of academic writing on this subject, but it is important to get an up-to-date review especially around the role of human factors in relation to repeated errors.

Enquiries relating to the award and submission should be sent to the Academic Director, Dr Sylvia Edwards at: academic@theicpem.net