

LOUISE K. COMFORT

Professor

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Tel.: (412) 648-7606; Email: comfort@gspia.pitt.edu**Professional Preparation:**

Macalester College, Political Science and Philosophy, B.A. with honors, 1956

University of California, Berkeley, Political Science, M.A. 1960

University of Hamburg, Germany, Studies in Political Sociology & German language, 1960–1961

Yale University, Political Science, Ph.D. 1975

Appointments:**Professor**, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, 1999–**Director**, Center for Disaster Management, Graduate School of Public & International Affairs, 2009–**Associate Professor**, University of Pittsburgh, 1984–, tenured, 1986**Inner Mongolia University**, Huhhot, China, Visiting Scholar, School of Public Management, 2010**ChengChi University**, Taipei, Taiwan. Visiting Professor, Department of Public Administration, 12/2006**Universidad de Córdoba**, Córdoba, Argentina, Fulbright Scholar, August, 2006**Ritsumeikan University**, Kyoto, Japan. Visiting Professor, Department of Geography, June, 2004**Kobe University**, Kobe, Japan. Visiting Scholar, Research Ctr. for Urban Safety & Security, 1999–2000**Leiden University**, Leiden, Netherlands. Visiting Professor, Crisis Research Center, September 1993**University of California, Berkeley**, Research Associate, Institute of Governmental Studies, May 1988–April 1989; Visiting Scholar, Summers, 1990, 1991, February–August, 1994, Summers, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010.**Publications:***i. Selected Recent Publications*Comfort, L.K., A. Boin, and C. Demchak, Eds., 2010. *Designing Resilience: Preparing for Extreme Events*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.Comfort, L.K., T. Birkland, B. Cigler, and E. Nance. 2010. Retrospectives and Prospectives on Hurricane Katrina: Five Years and Counting. *Public Administration Review*. Vol. 70(5), pp. 669–837.Comfort, L.K. et al. 2010. Transition From Response To Recovery: The January 12, 2010 Haiti Earthquake. *Earthquake Spectra*, Special Issue on Haiti Earthquake. Under review.Comfort, L.K., N. Oh, and G. Ertan. 2009. The Dynamics of Disaster Recovery: Resilience and Entropy in Hurricane Response Systems 2005–2008. *Public Organization Review*. 9: 309–323.Comfort, L.K. 2007. "Crisis Management in Hindsight: Cognition, Communication, Coordination and Control." *Public Administration Review*, December 2007 Special Issue (67)1, Hurricane Katrina, December: S188-S196.*Additional Significant Publications*Zagorecki, A., K. Ko, and L.K. Comfort. 2010. Interorganizational Information Exchange and Efficiency: Organizational Performance in Emergency Environments. *JASSS*. 13 (3) 3.

- Comfort, L.K. and C. Wukich. 2009. Designing Resilience for Communities at Risk: Building Capacity for Collective Action. In R. Shaw and R.R. Krishnamurthy, Eds., *Disaster Management: Global Challenges and Local Solutions*. Hyderabad: Universities Press India Limited. Chapter 23.
- Comfort, L.K., D. Mosse, and T. Znati. 2009. "Managing Risk in Real Time: Integrating Information Technology into Disaster Risk Reduction and Response." *Commonwealth: A Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 15, pp. 27–46.
- Comfort, L. K., D. Mosse, T. Znati and T. W. Haase. (2007) *Socio-Technical Aspects of Cost-Effective, Sensor-Based Infrastructure for Tsunami Detection and Monitoring*. Report, Workshop II: NSF.SGER #0549119. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh.
- Comfort, L.K. 1999. *Shared Risk: Complex Systems in Seismic Response*. Oxford: Pergamon Press.

Synergistic Activities:

- Team Leader**, Reconnaissance Study, Transition from Response to Recovery, Haiti Earthquake, 2010
- Member**, EERI Reconnaissance Team, Padang, Indonesia Earthquake, October 8–15, 2009
- Fellow**, National Academy of Public Administration, Elected in 2006
- Member**, American Political Science Association, American Society of Public Administration, Association of Public Policy and Management, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Reviewer** of manuscripts for *Journal of Public Policy and Management*, *Public Administration Review*, *Earthquake Spectra*, *Administration and Society*, *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management*
- Reviewer** of research proposals and member, site visit review teams, National Science Foundation