

Curriculum Vitae

NAME OF FIRM: Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences (GNS)
NAME OF STAFF: JULIA S. BECKER
PROFESSION: Social Scientist
DATE OF BIRTH: 4 June 1975
NATIONALITY: New Zealand
YEARS WITH FIRM/ENTITY: 4
MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES: The New Zealand Society For Risk Management



KEY QUALIFICATIONS:

Julia's expertise stems from a number of fields including social science, earth science and environmental science. In particular she has a focus on developing community resilience, improving emergency management, and promoting good practice planning and policy for hazards.

Julia has worked at GNS Science for four years in total. She began in January 2000 and in September 2001 traveled abroad to gain international experience. After three years of being away and working overseas, she returned to GNS and has been here since.

Julia's role at GNS is focused on enhancing preparedness and developing community resilience to natural hazards. Past projects that she has worked on have involved investigating people's understanding of hazards, their levels of preparedness and how to improve this preparedness through education and community engagement. Julia is also interested in improving planning practice, so that communities are more resilient to natural hazards from an environmental point of view.

While overseas in the United Kingdom, she worked at Oxford Brookes University undertaking research on decision making for environmental impact assessment. This research focused on analyzing the different approaches that people have when making decisions about the significance of environmental impacts, with the findings aiding future decision making for planners and the community.

As part of her previous roles, she has been involved in a variety of activities including project management, organizing and conducting workshops, seminars and conferences, research for both government and commercial jobs, conducting social science research (interviews, questionnaires), writing for publication, outreach activities and providing feedback for central government strategies. She has worked with a wide variety of stakeholders including local government, central government, consultants, other professionals and community groups.

In addition, Julia has traveled widely to a number of places including the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, India, South East Asia, North America, and the Pacific.

Fields of Special Competence:

- Hazard impacts on society
- Hazard education
- Community resilience
- Hazard assessment
- Planning and policy for hazards (e.g. including flooding, earthquake, volcano, tsunami, climate change)
- Assessment of environmental effects

EDUCATION:

Institution	Year	Degree
University of Waikato, Hamilton	1999	MSc Hons (Earth Sciences)
University of Waikato, Hamilton	1997	BSocSci (Geography, Earth Sciences)

EMPLOYMENT RECORD:

Nov 2004 - Present	GNS SCIENCE, NEW ZEALAND Social Scientist
2002 - 2004	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY, UNITED KINGDOM Research Associate
2000 - 2001	INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL & NUCLEAR SCIENCES, NZ Hazards Management Scientist
1999- 2000	EXPLORATIONS IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (EXSCITE), NZ Education Officer

RECENT RELEVANT PROJECTS:

Position	Project	Location	Period	Funded By
<i>Project Manager</i>	Community understanding, preparedness, and warnings for floods and the implications for flood education, New South Wales (NSW), Australia.	New South Wales, Australia	2005-current	State Emergency Services, NSW, Australia
<i>Researcher</i>	Society's Readiness and Response to Hazards - Assisting the CDEM sector by developing strategies to improve emergency management planning, community resilience building, hazard education in schools and warning systems)	New Zealand	2000-2001 and 2004-current	Foundation for Research Science & Technology, NZ
<i>Acting Objective Leader (and researcher)</i>	Planning and Policy For Natural Hazards in NZ - Good practice planning and policy (including the Active Fault Guidelines); recovery planning, community involvement with planning and policy; indigenous methods of hazard mitigation.	New Zealand	2004 - current	Foundation for Research Science & Technology, NZ
<i>Researcher</i>	Washington State survey of hotels for tsunami preparedness and research into indigenous peoples' response to warning systems.	Washington State, USA	2005-current	Washington State
<i>Research Associate</i>	A two year research project looking at new ways of evaluating environmental impacts and communicating these impacts to professionals and the community.	Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom	2002 - 2004	Economic and Social Research Council, UK
<i>Project Manager</i>	The Rotorua geothermal perception study (Bay of Plenty Regional Council).	New Zealand	2001 - 2001	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
<i>Researcher</i>	Planning and policy for natural hazards in NZ.	New Zealand	2000 - 2001	NSOF, NZ
<i>Researcher</i>	Lahar response management at Whakapapa Ski Field, Mt Ruapehu: staff development and public safety.	New Zealand	2001-2001	Department of Conservation, NZ

A list of key publications is available upon request