

Hazelab Newsletter –Imperial College London

October 2021 –May 2022

Hello friends of Hazelab! Welcome to another update from Hazelab at Imperial College London. For more news follow us on twitter @ImperialHazelab, visit our [website](#) or watch our [video](#).

Graduating Students

This has been a dramatic year for people graduating from Hazelab – we have had four members submit their theses and pass their vivas! We would like to *proudly* congratulate **Dr Dwi Purnomo** (Peat fires) for passing his viva, as he will now be moving to UC Berkley along with **Wuquan Cui** to continue his stellar career in fire science! **Matt Bonner** also departed from Hazelab this year, starting his new position as research lead at Trigon fire in London.

We would also like to say goodbye to **Hafizha (Afi) Mulyasih**, a visiting PhD student from Universitas Indonesia who we greatly enjoyed hosting! We had an intense experimentalist versus modellers bowling evening to celebrate her departure, which the experimentalists won by a few points.

After the pandemic causing delays for the past two years, **Eirik Christensen, Matt, Han Yuan, and Mohammad Heidari** had their PhD graduations at the Royal Albert Hall – congratulations all!

To celebrate graduations over the past two years (**Eirik, Matt, Han, Mohammad, and Dwi**), Hazelab members past and present had a celebratory dinner.

Conferences and Outreach

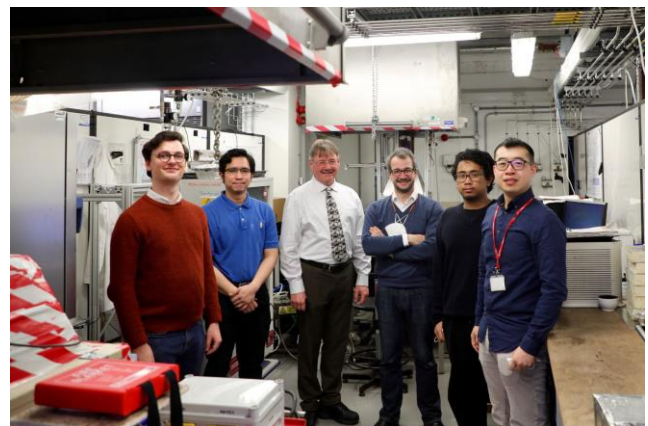
This academic year has been an exceptional time for in-person conferences and outreach from Hazelab to the fire science community and beyond!

Dwi and **Wuquan** presented their individual work at the 13th Asia-Pacific Conference on Combustion 2021 in Dubai.

Harry Mitchell, Rikesh Amin, and Simona Dossi attended another [mass timber compartment fire experiment](#) in France, collaborating with Arup and CERIB.

Nikolaos Kalogeropoulos and **Simona** presented their work on wildfire evacuation triggers and wildfire statistics at the London Leverhulme Centre for Wildfires early career researchers conference! They also attended Pyrolife training in Cyprus, and the European Geosciences Union 2022 conference (EGU22) in Vienna – congratulations Nik and Simona!

Francesca Lugaresci and **Rikesh** attended and participated in an evacuation training drill in a London high-rise building, hosted by the London Fire Brigade and UCLan Fire.



Francesco and **Guillermo Rein** were also special guest speakers on battery fires (episode [#049](#)), travelling fires (episode [#027](#)) and peatland fires (episode [#002](#)) for the new and rapidly growing Fire Science Show podcast, run and hosted by Wojciech Węgrzyński! In a surprise twist, for the [50th episode](#) **Guillermo** became the host, interviewing Wojciech on the challenges of modelling the impact of wind and fire in the built environment.

Guillermo presented in person for the first time in three years at the 7th International Tall Building Fire Safety Conference on the flammability of facades, at which **Rik** and **Francesca** were also in attendance.

We also hosted Brian Meacham and Scott Stephens for our first in-person seminars in the last two years, on “*A Sociotechnical Systems Framework for Performance-Based Design for Fire Safety*” and “*What’s Next? Forest Fires in California’s New Climate Reality*” respectively. Thank you both for visiting Hazelab and sharing your knowledge and experience!

Follow this link to [Hazefiles](#), our repository of papers and reports!

Awards

Xinyan Huang (alumni) and **Guillermo** received the 2021 IOP Ricardo Award for best UK paper contributing to the understanding of combustion at a fundamental level awarded by the Institute of Physics (IOP). The paper in the international journal of wildland fire is an experimental and computational study of how peatfires spread.

SFPE Greater London Student Chapter

After receiving some incredible submissions, the student chapter announced that **Dwi** won first place in the Flash Points competition with an informative and stunning video on peatland fires – congratulations Dwi!! To view the rest of the excellent videos click here.

We also had a handover meeting to say goodbye to old members of our chapter committee, and elect new members! We would like to say thanks to **Matt**, **Ben Khoo**, and **Dwi** our treasurer, events officer and website manager who are all leaving us following their graduation from student life. We would now like to welcome **Harry**, **Francesca**, and **Nikolaos**, our new President, secretary, and Treasurer!

As in-person events are more possible now, our chapter is looking forward to an upcoming year of in-person and hybrid events for the London fire safety student community and beyond!

Sign up to our mailing list by emailing sfpelondonstudentchapter@gmail.com for further updates!

Written by Harry Mitchell & Nikolaos