



Calhoun: The NPS Institutional Archive
DSpace Repository

News Center

News Articles Collection

2016-06-02

Cebrowski Lecture Discusses Disaster and Humanitarian Response

Ehrlich, Michael

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

Cebrowski Lecture Discusses Disaster and Humanitarian Response - Today at NPS
June 2016 - Naval Postgraduate School
<https://hdl.handle.net/10945/49544>

This publication is a work of the U.S. Government as defined in Title 17, United States Code, Section 101. Copyright protection is not available for this work in the United States.

Downloaded from NPS Archive: Calhoun



Calhoun is the Naval Postgraduate School's public access digital repository for research materials and institutional publications created by the NPS community. Calhoun is named for Professor of Mathematics Guy K. Calhoun, NPS's first appointed -- and published -- scholarly author.

Dudley Knox Library / Naval Postgraduate School
411 Dyer Road / 1 University Circle
Monterey, California USA 93943

<http://www.nps.edu/library>



Mission Statement TodayatNPS ▾

Today@NPS



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Ehrlich

Cebrowski Lecture Discusses Disaster and Humanitarian Response

By MC2 Michael Ehrlich

Guest lecturer Willow Brugh speaks to NPS students, faculty and staff on the benefits of combining centralized and distributed systems in disaster and humanitarian response efforts during a Cebrowski Institute Brown Bag in Glasgow Hall, May 25. Brugh, a Research Affiliate with MIT's Center for Civic Media, discussed how varying types of distributed and digital disaster response efforts can support the overall relief effort in ways traditional institutions cannot.

"Formal institutions and grass roots initiatives both have their own strengths, and I think that finding ways to have them interoperate can yield benefits for everyone," said Brugh.

During the Hurricane Sandy response, Brugh was able to take support from various government entities, and coordinate the efforts of small local groups to create the most efficient and effective use of manpower and resources.

"From where I come from, I often see the formal sector thinking that the grass roots are an extension of themselves," said Brugh. "If [informal groups] gather the information, [formal groups] will act on it, which is not how it should end up. Disaster relief works better as part of a more reciprocal relationship."

NPS Department of Information Sciences Research Associate Gerry Scott has written several publications on humanitarian technologies, and agrees with Brugh on the mutual benefits between formal and informal institutions.

"I think, from the military and government perspective, there is a lot we can gain by looking at how informal structures operate in these environments," said Scott.

Tweet

Like 0

G+1 0

6/2/16

Archives

2016

2015

2014

2013

Today@NPS showcases some of the speakers, conferences, experiments, lectures, and other events that take place at the Naval Postgraduate School on a daily basis. If you would like more information about any of the highlighted activities please contact the public affairs office at pao@nps.edu.

June 2016

[January](#) | [February](#) | [March](#) | [April](#) | [May](#) | [June](#) | [July](#) | [August](#) | [September](#) | [October](#) | [November](#) | [December](#)

June 2, 2016

Cebrowski Lecture Discusses Disaster and Humanitarian Response

June 1, 2016

CRUSER Expo Showcases University Research in Robotics

Previous

Next



[NPS Home](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Copyright and Accessibility](#) | [Contact Webmaster](#)