

## Unimutual Risk Management Services

### **Issue: Post Event Disaster Assistance**

In January 2011 a Unimutual *Emerging Risk Report* was circulated to Unimutual Members and the sector, suggesting the establishment of a tertiary “resource bank” of technical and professional expertise to assist universities in recovering from a major catastrophic event. I am pleased to announce the response from the Membership and sector has been extremely supportive with many institutions expressing a willingness to contribute to the creation of this resource. Since my *Emerging Risk Report* of 14 January 2011:

1. Unimutual has received responses from 22 universities across Australia, including emails of support from several Vice-Chancellors and senior administrators.
2. The concept was adopted by Universities Australia and submitted for consideration at a recent UA Board meeting. The Board endorsed the project to organise and promote a disaster assistance register.
3. Several Members and non-Members have begun to submit names to Unimutual, establishing the core of the register. We have also received suggestions regarding structure and design of the data base.
4. Unimutual will be contacting all institutions who sent submissions of interest for their guidance and recommendations.

### **Christchurch Earthquake**

I have been contacted by several institutions regarding providing assistance to Christchurch universities. While communication with both the University of Canterbury and Lincoln University has been difficult and sporadic, I have extended an offer of assistance to both the UC Incident Management Team and Lincoln’s CFO, each with direct responsibility for post event recovery at their respective institutions. I have offered the provision of free technical and professional support from Australian universities. I was informed there is no requirement for such support at this time. As you may be aware, both universities remain closed until the structural integrity of the buildings on campus can be established. You may wish to examine their websites: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/> and <http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/> for updates. I will contact interested Members if the situation changes.

Unimutual seeks your support in this initiative, and will work to compile the register. We ask if any Members have similar skills registers in place, to please send a template to us to use as model.

Any staff members interested in participating are asked to contact Harry Rosenthal, at [Harry.Rosenthal@rmml.com](mailto:Harry.Rosenthal@rmml.com)