**Kevin Ronan** is Foundation Professor in Psychology and chair in Clinical Psychology, School of Health and Human Services and the Institute for Health and Social Sciences Research at CQUUniversity Australia. He is also Chair of the Disaster Reference Group of the Australian Psychological Society.

Dr. Ronan is a clinical psychologist who specialises in hazards and disasters, problems of youth and families (e.g., conduct disorder; anxiety disorders; child maltreatment; trauma), schizophrenia, homework in therapy, and treatment outcome evaluation. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies* and the *Journal of Applied Volcanology* and he regularly provides reviews of manuscripts for a number of journals in the risk and disaster area, including *Risk Analysis*. He has authored and co-authored many disaster related journal articles and other publications, including many empirical articles focused on community preparedness for disasters. He is senior author of *Promoting Community Resilience to Disasters: The Role for Schools, Youth, and Families* (2005, Springer, New York). As the title of this book indicates, one major part of his research program has focused on the role of youth, families, schools, and other community networks in promoting community prevention and preparedness for disasters. At the National Summit for Youth Preparedness in Washington, DC in September 2010, hosted by FEMA and other U.S. agencies linked to disaster preparedness and response, as the opening speaker to that Summit, he was referred to as a “pioneer” in this area of research and practice.

After the 2011 summer of natural disasters in Australia, he was involved with numerous psychosocial response and recovery efforts in his role as Chair of the Australian Psychological Society’s (APS) Disaster Reference Group. This included both research and practice through partnerships the APS has with the Australian Red Cross and the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health. It also included local efforts. One example is a new university psychology clinic that is part of a clinical psychology training program that he started and directs has been offering free services for flood affected residents, underwritten through a partnership with a local Rotary group.

After the summer of disasters in Australia, Dr. Ronan was part of a recent submission to the Australian Senate on development and implementation of early warning systems for disasters, following up that submission in August 2011 with an invitation to provide evidence to the Senate. This appearance included providing research-supported answers to questions alongside advocacy for evidence-based policy development in this critical area.

In addition to work in the disasters area, he also continues work in core clinical psychology areas. This includes programmatic research in treatment outcome evaluation. For example, he and his team at CQUUniversity are now in the third year of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) for a new intervention for conduct disorder and youth offending, with the pilot study findings demonstrating a significant increase in prosocial behaviour, more cohesive family functioning, and, importantly, significantly reduced delinquent and offending behaviours as reported by the youth, by parents and through official offending data sources. Through a partnership with Queensland’s Department of Communities, who have funded the RCT, plans are being made for a next large scale study through a grant application to the Australian Research Council that is currently being considered. One other area worth mention is he has developed and evaluated interventions for anxiety and trauma in children, youth, and families, including interventions following disaster and other traumatic events. He is co-author of a 2010 book on a cognitive-behavioural intervention for trauma in relation to child and youth maltreatment.