



Living with Fire and Smoke: Landscape Fires in the Age of Climate Change

12th Annual Meeting of the Australia-China Centre for Air Quality Science and Management (ACC-AQSM) 2026

Venue: Room 1603, Block M, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), Hong Kong

Date: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm, 25 October 2026

The 12th ACC-AQSM Annual Meeting 2026 will bring together scientists, government representatives, industry stakeholders, and Centre members to explore the growing air quality challenges posed by landscape fires in a time of accelerating climate change. Under the theme *Living with Fire and Smoke: Landscape Fires in the Age of Climate Change*, the meeting will explore the science of wildfire and biomass-burning emissions, smoke transport and atmospheric transformation, impacts on public health, and the policy and management responses needed to reduce risks and strengthen resilience.

As climate change increases the frequency, intensity, and duration of landscape fires, smoke is becoming an increasingly important driver of air pollution episodes worldwide. Fire emissions can travel across regions and borders, elevate concentrations of PM_{2.5} and ozone precursors, and create substantial risks for human health, ecosystems, and air quality governance.

Against this backdrop, the meeting will provide an interdisciplinary forum for sharing the latest science, discussing current and emerging issues of particular relevance to China and Australia, while drawing on insights and experiences from the broader international community.

Conference Sessions

- **Session 1:** Fire Emissions, Smoke and Atmospheric Processes
- **Session 2:** Smoke Exposure, Health and Climate Impacts
- **Session 3:** Policy Responses and Air Quality Management in a Changing Climate

Organised by: ACC-AQSM Executive Committee

Host: Prof. Hai Guo, Co-director of ACC-AQSM, PolyU



Preliminary Agenda

Time	Agenda	Indicative Speakers / Format
09:00–09:30	Registration & Coffee	All participants
09:30–10:00	Opening Ceremony	• Official welcome and opening remarks by Prof. Xiaoli Ding, Interim Dean of Faculty of Construction and Environment, PolyU • Invited remarks by Ms Bing Liu, Deputy Consul-General (Commercial) & Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner at the Australian Consulate-General in Hong Kong and Macau • Address by Prof. Lidia Morawska, ACC-AQSM Board Chair of Australia, Queensland University of Technology • Address by Prof. Tong Zhu, ACC-AQSM Board Chair of China, Peking University
10:00–10:30	Centre Overview	Prof. Zoran Ristovski, Prof. Jian Gao, and Prof. Hai Guo: Overview of ACC-AQSM, achievements over the past years, key milestones and future directions
10:30–10:50	Group Photo & Tea Break	All participants
Session 1: Fire, Smoke and Atmospheric Processes		
10:50–11:10	Keynote speech 1	<i>Long-range transported wildfire emissions: impact on aerosol evolution at a remote high-altitude site, Mt. Yulong, China</i> Prof. Min Hu , Peking University
11:10–11:30	Keynote speech 2	<i>Smoke–Weather Interactions in Southeast Asia: Processes and Impacts</i> Prof. Aijun Ding , Nanjing University
11:30–11:45	Invited presentation 1	<i>Distant Wildfires, Local Air Quality: The Impact of Transported Smoke and Atmospheric Ageing on Urban PM_{2.5} in Queensland, Australia</i> Prof. Zoran Ristovski , Queensland University of Technology
11:45–12:00	Invited presentation 2	<i>Exploring ozone impacts from Landscape fire using numerical modeling and machine learning</i> Prof. Nan WANG , Sichuan University
Session 2: Smoke Exposure, Health and Climate Impacts		
12:00–12:20	Keynote speech 1	<i>Presentation title To Be Confirmed</i> Prof. Tong Zhu , Peking University
12:20–12:40	Keynote speech 2	<i>Landscape fires, smoke and health</i> Prof. Fay Jonston , University of Tasmania
12:40–14:00	Lunch	All participants

Time	Agenda	Indicative Speakers / Format
14:00–14:20	Keynote speech 3	<i>Impact of Atmospheric Processing of Wildfire/Biomass Burning Emission on Health and Climate</i> Prof. Ralf Zimmermann , University of Rostock
14:20–14:35	Invited presentation 1	Exposure to Wildfire Particulate Matter Elevated by Growth of Secondary Organic Aerosol over Long-Time Aging Prof. Yicong He , Tsinghua University
14:35–14:50	Invited presentation 2	<i>Wildfires in a Changing Climate: Air Quality and Health Impacts from the Amazon to the Boreal North</i> Prof. Amas Tai , Chinese University of Hong Kong
14:50–15:05	Invited presentation 3	<i>Global variations in wildfire particle toxicity</i> Prof. Ling Jin , PolyU
Session 3: Policy Responses and Air Quality Management in a Changing Climate		
15:05–15:25	Keynote speech	<i>Can Forest Policy Curb Wildfires in a Warming Climate?</i> Prof. Junji Cao , Institute of Atmospheric Physics, CAS
15:25–15:45	Invited presentation 1	<i>Long-Term Evolution of Regional Air Pollution (PM and O₃) and its Implications for Further Control</i> Prof. Jian Gao , Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences
15:45–16:00	Invited presentation 2	<i>Long-term variations in wildfire contributions to ozone at a background site in Hong Kong</i> Prof. Xiaopu Lyu , Hong Kong Baptist University
16:00–16:20	Tea Break	All participants
16:20–17:40	Final Panel Discussion	Science, health and policy perspectives
17:40–18:00	Closing Remarks	Conference conclusions and the way forward Remarks by Prof. Hai Guo
End of the meeting		