

Fire Service Institute Building
11 Gerty Drive
Champaign IL 61820-7404
217-333-3800
800-437-5819
fax 217-244-6790
www.fsi.illinois.edu



**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE**

Illinois Fire Service Institute Hosts 2010 Firefighter Cardiovascular Health & Safety Research Summit

The Illinois Fire Service Institute hosted the 2010 Firefighter Cardiovascular Health & Safety Research Summit on September 16-17. It is well known that 45% of all firefighter fatalities are attributed to sudden cardiac events each year and significant research has been conducted across the country to address this issue. Several groups have conducted research to understand the risks of cardiovascular disease to firefighters while other research has focused on the cardiovascular strain of firefighting. Our goals for this Summit were to identify policy and protocol implications of current firefighter cardiovascular research findings and to determine methods of effectively implementing the lessons learned from research to provide the highest positive impact on fireground fatality trends.

This workshop brought together research groups focused on firefighter cardiovascular health and safety issues with Directors of State Training Academies and national leadership in the Fire Service. More than 40 attendees were present; while the largest contingent was present from Illinois, some researchers traveled from as far east as New York, and west as California while training and policy experts attendees came from between Quebec in the north and Alabama in the south. The insight and perspective of all attendees provided great discussion and highlighted numerous opportunities for moving research to practice. As all of this information is summarized, a Summit report will be made available on the IFSI Research website in fall 2010.

The Summit was funded in part by a Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention & Safety Grant.

*Gavin Horn
Denise Smith*