

**Hurricanes, Major Disasters, Coastal Protection and Rapid Recovery  
in Texas and Gulf Coast Region  
Final Program -THC 2016 (August 5, 2016)**

**8:30 a.m. Welcome Remarks**

**C. Vipulanandan (Vipu)**, Professor and Director of THC-IT, University of Houston

**Session I: (8:40 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.) General Session**

**Moderator: C. Vipulanandan**, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, Texas

**Charles Wemple**, “HGAC Regional Preparedness and Related Issues,” Chief Operations Officer, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

**Michael Talbott**, "Recent Flooding in Harris County," Director, Harris County Flood Control District, Houston, Texas.

**Michael deMasi**, “US Army Corps of Engineers Actions During 2016 Texas Historic Flooding,” Chief Emergency Manager, USACE-Galveston District, Galveston, Texas.

**9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Coffee Break (Exhibit Area)**

**Session II: (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)**

**Panel 1: Emergency Management Issues and Recovery**

**Moderator: Daniel Wong**, Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (also includes presentations)

**John R. Flanagan**, “Emergency Management in a Major City,” Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**After the Storm: Strategies for Building a Resilient Community**, **Wayne Klotz**, President of RPS Klotz Associates

**Emergency Response at ExxonMobil**, **Peter Jensen**, Exxon Mobil, Spring, Texas.

**Jeffery Weatherford**, “City of Houston Traffic Operations Recover Plans,” Deputy Director Public Works and Engineering, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Panel Discussion: Challenges in Preparedness and Recovery**

**Panel 2: Major Disaster Recovery and Policies**

**Moderator: Rafael Ortega**, Aurora Technical Services, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (also includes presentations)

**Pete Phillips**, “Long-term Disaster Recovery,” Deputy Director, Texas General Land office, Austin, Texas;

**Coastal Storm Surge and Flood Resiliency – Science versus Policy**, **James Thomson**, Group Chief Executive-AECOM, Houston, Texas.

**Ike Dike/Coastal Spine Status: Research, Outreach, Political Support**, **William Merrell and Leonard Waterworth**, Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas.

**Jamila Johnson**, “City of Houston Flood Plain Management in the aftermath of Memorial Day 2015 and Tax Day 2016 Floods,” Managing Engineer, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Panel Discussion: Major Disaster Recovery and Policy**

## **Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters**

Posters on research at **Various Universities along the Gulf Coast Region.**

Companies participate in the **Exhibition.**

**12:00 to 12:15 p.m. Mayor Joe Zimmerman**, "The 2016 Brazos River flood in Sugar Land and Fort Bend County " Mayor of Sugar Land, Sugar Land, Texas.

**12:15 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. Nim Kidd**, Disaster Related Challenges in Texas" Chief of Texas Department of Emergency Management, Austin, Texas.

**12:40 p.m. to 12:55 p.m. State Rep. Dennis Paul**, "Issues Related to Disasters in Texas, State of Texas Representative-District No. 129, Seabrook, Texas.

### **Session III: (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)**

#### **Panel 3 : Modeling, Coastal Flooding, Monitoring and Coastal Erosion**

**Moderator: C. Vipulanandan**, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (also includes presentations)

**Modeling Coastal Storms: Past, Present and Future**, **Bruce Ebersole, Thomas Richardson, and Robert Whalin**, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi

**The Galveston Bay Region As an International Test Bed for Flood Risk Reduction**, **Robert Whalin**, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi, Samuel Brody and William Merrell, Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas

**Water Storage Changes in Texas Observed by GRACE Satellite**, **Hyongki Lee**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Controlling and Monitoring of Coastal Erosion, Flooding and Floating Debris: Current Practices and New Solutions**, **C. Vipulanandan**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Panel Discussion: Coastal Protection Issues and Modeling.**

#### **Panel 4: Coastal Infrastructures and Monitoring**

**Moderator: Gino Lim**, Chair of Industrial Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, TX

**Performance of Coastal Infrastructure Under Wave and Wind Effects**, **Steve Chai**, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Maritime Vehicle Routing Under Uncertainty, : LNG Shipping and Offshore Pipeline Damage Assessment Problems**, **Jeeyoung Cho and Gino Lim**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Drone Technology for Monitoring**, **James Stafford**, CEO, Aerolift Express, Houston, Texas.

**Panel Discussion: Coastal Infrastructures and Monitoring**

#### **RECEPTION: (2:30 - 3:00 p.m.)**

Reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of city, county and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and number of door prizes is waiting for you.

#### **Professional Development Hours (PDH)**

Earn up to 5 hours of PDH by attending the conference. Certificates will be issued after the conference.