

# HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION

THC - 2016  
8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



**Texas Hurricane Center**  
for Innovative Technology

(<http://hurricane.egr.uh.edu>)

Conference and Exhibition  
Sponsored by

**Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative  
Technology (THC-IT)  
&  
Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Industrial Engineering  
University of Houston**

**August 5, 2016**

University Hilton  
University of Houston  
Houston, Texas 77204-3902

## Conference Registration

The Conference is presented in a one day concentrated format to update the community, emergency managers and suppliers who play an important role in hurricane and other disaster preparedness, loss mitigation and rapid recovery. Well known and influential speakers will provide valuable information to the conference attendees. Complete and return the registration form with the registration fee before July 29, 2016 for an advanced registration discount. Registration fee includes admission, lunch, coffee breaks, and free hotel parking. Registration and attendance will be limited to the first 120 registrants.

For Hotel Reservations call (832) 531-6300 or 1-866-327-1161 and ask for Hurricane and Other Disaster Conference Rate.

## Top Reasons To Attend:

- (1) Be informed about the latest plans and procedures in preparing for hurricanes and other major disasters in number of major Gulf coast cities.
- (2) Network with state, city and county emergency managers, engineers, suppliers, consultants, researchers, educators, scientists, students and exhibitors.
- (3) Presentations include debris management, preparedness, loss mitigation, evacuation, coastal protection, transportation issues, rapid recovery and new technologies that could influence your operations.
- (4) View research posters from many Gulf Coast Universities and attend the reception.
- (5) Houston is easily accessible from anywhere in the U.S.

For conference information or to reserve exhibition spaces call **Dr. Vipul** at (713) 743-4278.

## REGISTRATION

Advanced Registration (by 7/29/2016)	\$150.00
At-Door Registration	\$165.00
Student Registration*	\$ 85.00

Exhibitor^	\$300.00
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(A reception is planned in the exhibit area)

^One person has free registration

\*Current I.D. and School Registration;

Please make check payable to THC-IT/UH  
and mail it to:

Conference Registration

THC-IT/Dept. C&EE

University of Houston

Houston, TX 77204-4003

(Attn: Dr. C. Vipulanandan (Vipu))

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nick Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

(office use only)

For more information

Phone: (713) 743-4278; Fax: (713) 743-4260

Email: [CVipulanandan@uh.edu](mailto:CVipulanandan@uh.edu)

## About the Conference

A one day Conference and Exhibition is being organized by the Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative Technology (THC-IT) on "Hurricanes, Major Disasters, Coastal Protection and Rapid Recovery in Texas and Gulf Coast Region" at the University of Houston on August 5, 2016. The presentations will include current preparation plans for the entire Gulf Coast including Texas counties and cities for the 2016 hurricane season and other disasters. Special feature of this conference is the four panel discussions on hurricane issues, other disasters, coastal protection and debris management. After the technical sessions, a reception will be held starting at 2:30 p.m. with invited state, city, county and industry leaders in the exhibit area to facilitate networking. The conference fee also includes lunch, coffee breaks, reception and parking. Earn 5 PDH by attending the entire conference.

### List of Distinguished Speakers

#### **Session I: (8:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.)**

**Jack Steele**, "HGAC Regional Preparedness and Related Issues," Executive Director, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

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

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

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

**Panel 1: Emergency Management and Recovery**  
**Moderator: Daniel Wong, Tolunay-Wong**  
Engineers, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (20 to 25 min. 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, RPS Klotz Associates, Houston, Texas

**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 2: Major Disaster Recovery and Policies**

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

Panelist (20 to 25 min. 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 Thompson**, 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," Managing Engineer, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

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

Posters on current research from **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 (15 to 20 min. 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.

**Monitoring and Control of Coastal Erosion and Flooding**, **C. Vipulanandan**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Panel 4: Coastal Infrastructures and Monitoring**  
**Moderator: Gino Lim**, Chair of Industrial Engineering, University of Houston, Houston

Panelist (20-25 min. presentations)

**Performance of Coastal Infrastructure Under Wave and Wind Effects**, **Steve Cai**, 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 LLC, Houston, Texas.

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

A reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of cities, counties and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and several of door prizes are 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.

**"Innovation through Research and Education"**