

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

THC - 2023
15th 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
University of Houston**

August 4, 2023

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 27, 2023 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 150 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 hurricane experiences, debris management, preparedness, loss mitigation, evacuation, coastal protection, transportation issues, COVID-19 impacts, 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. Vipu** at (713) 743-4278.

REGISTRATION

Advanced Registration (by 7/27/2023) \$160.00
At-Door Registration \$175.00
Student Registration* \$ 85.00

Exhibitor^ \$300.00
(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
4226 M. L. King Blvd.
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

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 4, 2023. The presentations will include current preparation plans for the entire Gulf Coast including Texas counties and cities for the 2023 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: (8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.)

Charles Wemple, "Building a Stronger Region after Past Experiences," Executive Director, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

Alicia Rea, "U.S. Army Supporting Responses and Recovery to Disasters," Director Emergency Manager, USACE-Galveston, Galveston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

Jet Hays, "Planning for Disaster Resilience," Deputy Director, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas. Keynote Speaker,

Session II: (10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.)

Panel 1: Inland Flooding Issues and Recovery

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

Ataul Hannan, "Understanding Urban Flooding," Director Planning Division, HCFCD, Houston, Texas;

Brian Manson, "City of Houston Disaster Responses after Disasters," Executive Director-Houston TranStar, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Rob Winiecke, "City of Galveston Experiences and Future Plans," Director of Infrastructure and Engineering, City of Galveston, Galveston, Texas.

Panel 2: Transportation and Emergency Response Issues

Moderator: Daniel Wong, P.E., Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Inc., Houston, Texas.

Milton Rahman, "Projects and Plans for Harris County," Director of County Engineering, Harris County, Houston, Texas.

Melody Galland and Peter Sissons, "TxDOT Plans for Storm Response," Director of Maintenance, TxDOT, Houston, Texas.

Richard Herrera, "METRO Plans for Storm Response," Emergency Management Officer, METRO, Houston, Texas.

Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters

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

Companies participate in the **Exhibition.**

12:20 to 12:40 p.m. State Representative, Dennis Paul, "Updates on Issues Related to Disaster Protection and Recovery " State of Texas Representative-District No. 129, Seabrook, Texas.

12:40 to 1:00 p.m. Judge K. P. George, "Fort Bend County Challenges and Preparedness," County Judge, Fort Bend County, Texas.

Session III: (1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.)

Panel 3: Coastal Issues, Tornado Disaster Impacts and New Technologies

Moderator: C. Vipulanandan, Director THC-IT, Houston, Texas.

Lieutenant Commander Namon Dimitroff,

"Preparing a Port for Heavy Weather," U.S. Coast Guard Houston-Galveston, Houston, Texas.

Protecting America's Coasts in the Coming Era of Rapid Climate Change: The Ike Dike Example, Sam Brody, Cherie Coffman and William Merrell, Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas.

Tornado Disasters Impacts, Protection and Disaster Management with New Technologies for Rapid Recovery, C. Vipulanandan, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel 4: Resilience and Sustainability of Maritime Ports

Moderator: Gino Lim., Chairman-Industrial Engineering University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Hurricane Impact on Capital Projects using Heavy Lift Ships, Marco Poisler, COO at UTC Overseas, Houston, Texas.

Power Network Grid Restoration Planning using Machine Learning, Behnam Sabzi, Jian Shi and Gino Lim, University of Houston, Houston, Texas
RECEPTION: (2:45 - 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"