

**Presidents' Forum on Meeting Coastal Challenges  
Speaker Information**

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William Coulbourne is a department head at URS Corporation, the nation's largest engineering firm, and the program manager for the Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT) that FEMA provides after significant natural and man-made disasters. MAT support is intended to provide communities and states with reconstruction guidance while collecting important best-practice information for applicability nationwide. Mr. Coulbourne earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech and a master of engineering degree in structural engineering from the University of Virginia. He is a licensed professional engineer and a certified structural engineer. Mr. Woodbourne's area of technical emphasis and practice for the last 12 years has been providing engineering solutions for rebuilding after and mitigation before natural disasters strike. He is a primary author of FEMA's new *Coastal Construction Manual*. He authored FEMA's guidance manual on building safe rooms within houses and wrote the National Performance Standard for Shelter Design, published by FEMA in 1999.

**Margaret Davidson**

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Margaret Davidson, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center, is no stranger to the coast or its many challenges. She was

executive director of the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium from 1983 until 1995. Prior to that, she served as special counsel and assistant attorney general for the Louisiana Department of Justice. An active participant in coastal resource management issues since 1978, Ms. Davidson earned her juris doctorate in natural resources law from Louisiana State University and a master's degree in marine policy and resource economics from the University of Rhode Island. She holds a faculty appointment at the University of Charleston and serves on the adjunct faculties of Clemson University and the University of South Carolina. Ms. Davidson has served on numerous local, state and federal committees and has provided leadership for national professional societies. She has focused her professional work on environmentally sustainable aquaculture, mitigation of coastal hazards and impacts of climate variability on coastal resources. Ms. Davidson served as the acting assistant administrator for NOAA's National Ocean Service from 2000 through 2002.

**Mark Davis**

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Mark Davis is the executive director of the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana. He earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting and a juris doctorate from Indiana University. He is a member of the Indiana, Illinois, District of Columbia and Louisiana bars; the board of directors of Restore America's Estuaries; board of directors of the Gulf Restoration Network; the LSU School of the Coast and Environment advisory committee; and the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Restoration and Conservation.

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Rod Emmer is the executive director of the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association, a 501(c)(3) corporation of floodplain professionals. He holds a doctorate in geography from Oregon State University and a master of arts degree in geography from Louisiana State University. He has been involved in floodplain management since the early 1970s, and his 1974 dissertation examines the implementation of the National Flood Insurance Program in Oregon. Dr. Emmer has provided contract reports for federal and state agencies on floodplain management, coastal zone management and environmental

studies. He is active with the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), Madison, Wisc., and served as Annual Conference program chair (1997), co-chair of the Host Committee (2003), chair of the Standing National Conference Committee, and a participant on ASFPM projects and reports.

**Henry Fry**

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Henry Fry holds a bachelor of architecture degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and a master of architecture and urban design degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. He spent 12 years in private architecture practice, planning and general construction, and served as Tulane University's resident architect and director of campus planning for 23 years. Mr. Fry has been with the Office of State Fire Marshal for three years and has been acting as state fire marshal for 18 months. Responsibilities of the office include annual processing of more than \$7 billion worth of gross construction work, including more than 17,000 plan reviews and 20,000 field inspections. The agency employees 178 individuals, including 24 architects and engineers and 75 field inspectors.

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Dennis Hwang has been working in the area of coastal zone management for more than 20 years. He has a bachelor of science degree in geology from the University of Rochester, a master of science degree in geology and geophysics from the University of Hawaii and a juris doctorate from the University of Houston. He is the author of the *Hawaii Coastal Hazard Mitigation Guidebook*, written for several state and federal agencies. Mr. Hwang is helping state and local agencies in Hawaii deal with hazard mitigation issues such as erosion, subsidence and hurricanes, while also assisting the United Nations and the government of Indonesia with recovery from the 2004 tsunami.

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Mike Jacobs is the publisher and editor of the *Grand Forks Herald*, a general circulation newspaper in North Dakota. In 1998, the *Grand Forks Herald*, with Mr. Jacobs as its editor, received a Pulitzer Prize for meritorious public service by a newspaper through the use of its journalistic resources. He is on the board of directors of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He is involved with Rotary Club, Northern Valley Arts Council, Gilby Presbyterian Church, University of North Dakota School of Communication and UND's Native Media Center. Mr. Jacobs has also served on several committees of the Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce, United Way board, the Area Community Credit Union board, the Peace Garden board, and the Diabetes Association in North Dakota board.

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Marc Levitan is director of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Center and is the Charles P. Siess Jr. Associate Professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering at LSU. He earned his doctorate in civil engineering from Texas Tech University. His areas of research include wind effects on buildings, wind loads on industrial and petrochemical structures, assessment and design of hurricane shelters, wind and flood protective design, and hurricane evacuations.

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Hassan Mashriqui is a licensed professional engineer in civil engineering. He holds a doctorate degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University and is currently developing coastal hydrologic/hydraulic modeling capabilities for the LSU Hurricane Center. His research interests include coastal and inland flooding due to hurricanes, hydrodynamic and sediment transport modeling, wetland restoration, river management, and using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) technology-based environmental modeling. Mr. Mashriqui is actively involved with the Coastal Ecology Institute at the LSU School of the Coast and Environment in support of numerous coastal restoration research efforts.

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Clay Menard is the secretary-treasurer for the Vermilion Parish Police Jury. He earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from University of Louisiana at Lafayette and is a certified engineer intern with the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board. He has also worked as a project manager for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Engineering Division.

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King Milling earned a bachelor of arts degree from Washington & Lee University in 1962 and an bachelor of laws degree from Tulane University in 1965. He began working

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**Cindy O'Neal**

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Cindy O'Neal is the Louisiana National Flood Insurance Program state coordinator. She has been employed in the Floodplain Management Section of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for the past 10 years. She has worked with Community Rating System (CRS) communities for eight years, the Louisiana NFIP State Coordinator for four years, served on the Hazard Mitigation Team for four years and been a certified floodplain manager for two years.

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Thomas Pelham is a land use lawyer and certified planner with Fowler White Boggs & Banker in its Tallahassee, Fla., office. He holds bachelor of arts and juris doctorate degrees from Florida State University, a master of arts degree from Duke University and a master of laws degree from Harvard University. Mr. Pelham has been involved with Florida's environmental and land use planning programs for more than 30 years. From 1987-1991, he served as secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, which is responsible for supervising the state's programs on areas of critical state concern, developments of regional impact, local comprehensive planning and growth management. He has written extensively about all of these programs and is a frequent lecturer at national and state conferences on land use law and planning. For many years, Mr. Pelham has served as an adjunct professor of law at Florida State University where he teaches courses in land use planning, regulation and growth management. He is also a past president of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association, past chair of the Florida Bar's Environmental and Land Use Law Section, and a current member of the Executive Council of the American Bar Association's Section on State and Local

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Charlotte Randolph is Lafourche Parish president. She has owned Randolph Publications, a public relations and advertising company, since 1996. Previously, she was editor of the *Lafourche Gazette*. Ms. Randolph is a former president of the South Lafourche Chamber of Commerce; former chairperson of the Chamber of Lafourche and the Bayou Region; former member of the Bayou Industrial Group Board of Directors; a charter member of Leadership Lafourche, Lafourche Safe Kids, and Harvest of Thanks; and a member of the government committee of the South Central Industrial Association.

**Randy Roach**

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Randy Roach was first elected mayor of the City of Lake Charles in 2000. As mayor, he has worked closely with city and parish governments and other agencies to form partnerships and pool resources that benefit the Imperial Calcasieu five-parish area. Mr. Roach served two terms as a state representative to the Louisiana Legislature representing District 36, which included part of Calcasieu and Cameron parishes. In the Legislature, he served on the Civil & Law Committee, the Ways & Means Committee, and was chairman of Natural Resources Committee & the Subcommittee on Coastal Restoration. He was a member of the Advisory Panel on the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission and a member of the Governor's Task Force on Judicial Selection and Louisiana Drug Coordinating Council. He earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from Louisiana State University and his law degree from LSU. He is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, Ducks Unlimited and the Chamber Southwest Louisiana.

**Harvey Ryland**

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Harvey Ryland is the president and CEO of the Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS), a national, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to reducing injuries, deaths, property damage, economic losses and human suffering caused by natural disasters. The institute is supported by the insurance industry and others committed to accomplishing this mission. Mr. Ryland has been in the field of emergency management for more than 30 years. He holds bachelor of science and master of science degrees in engineering science. He was nominated by President Bill Clinton, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, as deputy director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He worked closely with James Lee Witt, the former director of FEMA, to develop a new strategy for emergency management in the United States, emphasizing loss reduction through mitigation. From 1989 to 1993, Mr. Ryland was executive director of the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), whose mission is earthquake mitigation and preparedness in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Previously, he was the project engineer for the development of the Incident Command System (ICS), the Uniform Fire Incident Reporting System (UFIRS), the Community Fire Protection Master Planning manuals, and numerous fire, law enforcement and emergency management communications-dispatch systems.

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Patricia Skinner is disaster programs coordinator for the LSU AgCenter Cooperative Extension Service and the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program. She is a leader in the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), chair of the Floodproofing and Retrofitting Committee of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), and a member of the State Hazard Mitigation Planning Team and the State Animal Planning Work Group. In 2004, Ms. Skinner was awarded the John R. Sheaffer Award for Excellence in Floodproofing. She earned her bachelor of science degree in biochemistry and master of science degree in zoology from Louisiana State University.

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James Wilkins is director of the Louisiana Sea Grant Legal Program. He earned his bachelor of science degree in biology from Centenary College, master of science degree in biology from Texas A&M University and his juris doctorate from Louisiana State University. His professional interests include environmental law, fisheries and wildlife law, and ocean and coastal resources law. He is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee, Louisiana State Bar Association and Marine Affairs and Policy Association.