

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

# **Hurricane Experts Guide**

*Compiled by the Division of Marketing & Communications*



# Expert Areas

- 1** Important Online Resources and Contacts
- 2-3** How Hurricanes Form
- 4-5** Structural and Water Damage to Offshore Structures
- 6-7** Environmental and Ecosystem Effects of Hurricanes
- 8** Hurricane Effects on Animals and Pets
- 9** Personal, Societal and Social Aspects of Hurricanes
- 10** Beach Erosion, Coastal Infrastructure and Ecosystems
- 11** Warning Systems and Evacuation
- 12-14** Recovery and Sustainable Development
- 15** Hurricanes, Marine Life and Seafood
- 16** Legal Issues

*The 2021 hurricane season began June 1. Texas A&M University has more than 40 faculty and staff experts available to discuss every aspect of hurricanes – from early formation to recovery and resilience – until the season ends Nov. 30.*

*In this guide, media will find information about experts, research institutes and a central point of contact for Texas A&M University inquiries regarding hurricane preparedness and response.*

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# Important Online Resources and Contacts

## **TEXAS A&M TASK FORCE 1**

An elite, highly trained and highly specialized group trained in disasters and terrorism. It can be mobilized within hours and is equipped to remain on 24-hour duty for days at a time.

[textaskforce1.org](http://textaskforce1.org)

Contact: Jeff Saunders 979.458.6800 | [jeff.saunders@teemail.tamu.edu](mailto:jeff.saunders@teemail.tamu.edu)

## **CENTER FOR TEXAS BEACHES AND SHORES (CTBS)**

The CTBS at Texas A&M University at Galveston was established in 1993 by the Texas Legislature to address beach erosion and wetlands loss throughout the state. It also aims to gain further understanding and educate the Texans living in this 18-county coastal region. Online resources include the Texas Coastal Planning Atlas and Buyers Be-Where, an online system to help prospective home buyers and sellers understand their risk relative to other properties in the area. [tamug.edu/ctbs](http://tamug.edu/ctbs)

## **TEXAS EXTENSION DISASTER EDUCATION NETWORK (EDEN)**

The EDEN hurricane resources page has links to information about both pre- and post-storm topics, including general safety, food, health issues, restoring a home or septic system, financial recovery and care for pets and other animals. [texashelp.tamu.edu](http://texashelp.tamu.edu)

Contacts: Andy Vestal 979.862.3013 | [t-vestal@tamu.edu](mailto:t-vestal@tamu.edu)

Joyce Cavanagh 979.845.3850 | [jacavanagh@tamu.edu](mailto:jacavanagh@tamu.edu)

## **HAZARD REDUCTION & RECOVERY CENTER (HRRC)**

Established at Texas A&M University in 1988, the HRRC is an interdisciplinary collaborative effort focused on hazard analysis, emergency preparedness and response, disaster recovery and hazard mitigation. [hrrc.arch.tamu.edu](http://hrrc.arch.tamu.edu)

## **TEXAS COMMUNITY WATERSHED PARTNERS PROGRAM (TCWP)**

The TCWP provides education and outreach to local governments and citizens on the impacts of land use on watershed health and water quality. [tcwp.tamu.edu](http://tcwp.tamu.edu)

## **TEXAS A&M DIVISION OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the news team can assist in seeking additional experts and fielding questions from media. [today.tamu.edu/press-room](http://today.tamu.edu/press-room)

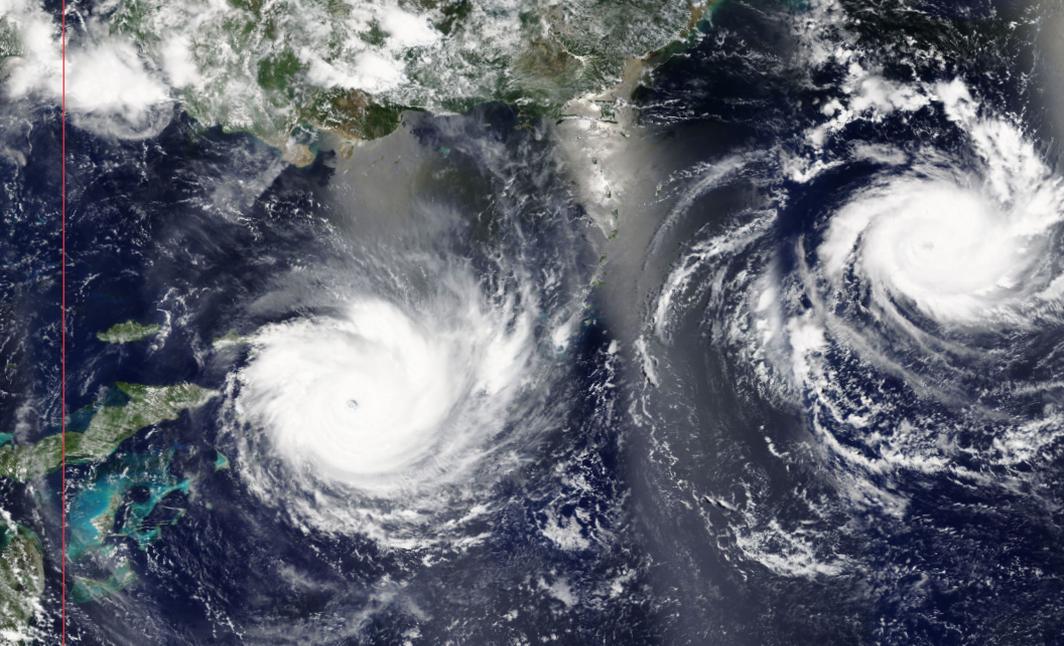
## **TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Texas Division of Emergency Management, Operations Section, manages and staffs the State Operations Center (SOC), which operates 24/7 to monitor threats, make notification of threats and provide information on emergency incidents to local, state and federal officials, and coordinate state emergency assistance to local governments that have experienced an emergency situation that local response resources are inadequate to deal with.

[tdem.texas.gov](http://tdem.texas.gov)

## **TEXAS A&M VETERINARY EMERGENCY TEAM (VET)**

The largest and most sophisticated team of its kind in the nation, the Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET) provides medical support to urban search-and-rescue teams and resident animals in response to natural and manmade disasters at the request of the Texas A&M Task Force or county jurisdictions, while training future Aggie veterinarians in emergency preparedness and response. The VET has recently deployed along the Texas coastline in response to Hurricane Harvey in 2017 and to Jefferson County in response to Tropical Storm Imelda in 2019. [vetmed.tamu.edu/vet](http://vetmed.tamu.edu/vet)



## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON How Hurricanes Form



### **JOHN NIELSEN-GAMMON**

**Regents Professor of Atmospheric Sciences,**  
*Texas A&M University College of Geosciences*

Nielsen-Gammon serves as the State Climatologist and is an expert on the history of Texas hurricanes, hurricane forecasting, rainfall and flooding produced by hurricanes and how climate change affects hurricane impacts.

Contact: 979-862-2248 | [n-g@tamu.edu](mailto:n-g@tamu.edu)

### **TIM LOGAN**

**Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences,** *Texas A&M University College of Geosciences*

Logan is an expert in lightning behavior in severe storms and hurricanes, as well as the impacts of pollution smoke and mineral dust on clouds, severe weather, lightning and hurricanes.

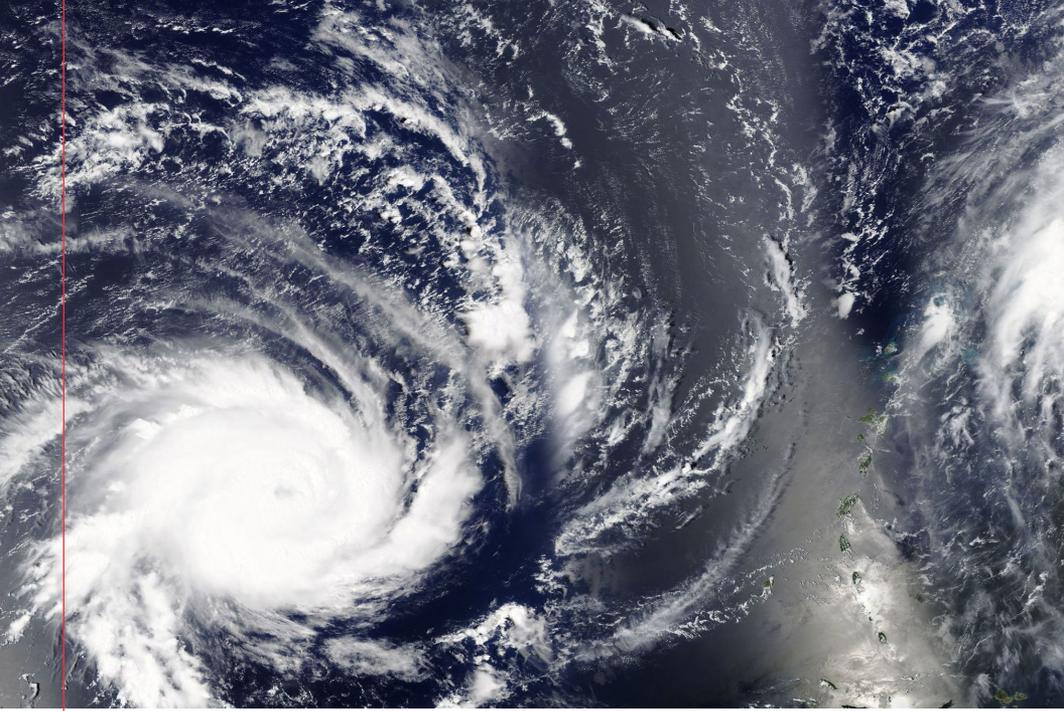
Contact: 979-845-2004  
[tlogan52@tamu.edu](mailto:tlogan52@tamu.edu)

### **HENRY POTTER**

**Assistant Professor of Oceanography,** *Texas A&M University College of Geosciences*

Potter is an expert in physical oceanography, including tropical cyclones, ocean observing, hurricane formation and heat exchange in hurricanes and typhoons.

Contact: 979-845-0405  
[hpotter@tamu.edu](mailto:hpotter@tamu.edu)



## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON How Hurricanes Form (cont.)

### ROBERT KORTY

**Associate Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences**

Korty is an expert on how hurricanes affect oceans and how climate affects hurricanes.

Contact: 979-847-9090  
[korty@tamu.edu](mailto:korty@tamu.edu)

### COURTNEY SCHUMACHER

**Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences**

Schumacher is an expert in tropical meteorology, large mesoscale convective systems, radar meteorology and mesoscale-climate interactions.

Contact: 979-845-5522  
[cshu@tamu.edu](mailto:cshu@tamu.edu)

### JAMES KAIHATU

**Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Ocean Engineering, Texas A&M University College of Engineering**

Kaihatsu focuses on theory and numerical modeling of ocean surface wave generation and propagation, including continental shelf-scale wave transformation, nonlinear wave-wave interaction, wave breaking and nearshore circulation and the effects of cohesive bottom sediments and coastal vegetation on waves. He creates and runs computer models for flooding of coastal petrochemical facilities due to urban runoff and hurricane-induced surges.

Contact: 979-862-3511  
[jkaihatsu@civil.tamu.edu](mailto:jkaihatsu@civil.tamu.edu)



## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON Structural and Water Damage to Offshore Structures



### **JEAN LOUIS BRIAUD**

**Professor of Civil Engineering, Texas A&M University  
College of Engineering**

Briaud is an expert in erosion and “scour,” the remains of buildings damaged by seawater. He also is proficient in how water sweeps away materials or bridges and soil compaction in levees.

Contact: 979-845-3795 | [briaud@tamu.edu](mailto:briaud@tamu.edu)

### **RICK MERCIER**

**Professor of Engineering, Texas A&M  
University College of Engineering**

**Director, Offshore Technology Research  
Center**

Mercier is an expert in off-shore drilling platforms, hurricane damage to oil rigs or any deep water off-shore structure, and oil rigs cut off from production.

Contact: 979-845-6000  
[rsmcier@tamu.edu](mailto:rsmcier@tamu.edu)

### **DANI BAILEY**

**Texas Sea Grant Oil Spill Outreach  
Specialist, Texas A&M University -  
Corpus Christi**

Bailey is an expert in oil spill recovery and mitigation planning.

Contact: 361-825-6215  
[danielle.bailey@tamu.edu](mailto:danielle.bailey@tamu.edu)

### **ROBIN AUTENRIETH**

**Head of the Zachry Department of  
Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
Texas A&M University College of  
Engineering**

Autenrieth is an expert in water cleanup, environmental damage of waters from hurricanes and floods, and contaminated water and the many problems it poses.

Contact: 979-845-2438  
[rautenrieth@civil.tamu.edu](mailto:rautenrieth@civil.tamu.edu)



## **TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**

# **Structural and Water Damage to Offshore Structures (cont.)**

### **MARIA KOLIOU**

**Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Texas A&M University College of Engineering**

Koliou focuses on post-disaster system functionality and community resilience, collapse assessment of structural systems and multi-hazard performance-based design of buildings and non-building structures. She leads an interdisciplinary project that enables community resilience planners to model the physical and socio-economic systems of a community and assess the effectiveness of measures aimed at minimizing post-disaster disruption and recovery time.

Contact: 979-845-4469  
[maria.koliou@tamu.edu](mailto:maria.koliou@tamu.edu)

### **STEPHANIE PAAL**

**Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Texas A&M University College of Engineering**

Paal leverages existing knowledge and artificial intelligence to understand the performance of civil infrastructure under extreme loads during natural disasters such as hurricanes. In collaboration with Maria Koliou, she is developing damage assessors to move more quickly in what efforts need to be prioritized for optimal post-disaster functionality and recovery.

Contact: 979-845-4394  
[spaal@civil.tamu.edu](mailto:spaal@civil.tamu.edu)



**TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**

# Environmental and Ecosystem Effects of Hurricanes



## **SHARI YVON-LEWIS**

**Professor and Head of the Department of Oceanography, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences**

Yvon-Lewis is an expert in chemical oceanography and trace gas biogeochemistry, and has conducted extensive post-hurricane research in Galveston Bay.

Contact: 979-458-1816

[syvon-lewis@ocean.tamu.edu](mailto:syvon-lewis@ocean.tamu.edu)

## **JESSICA FITZSIMMONS**

**Oceanography Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences**

Fitzsimmons is an expert in chemical oceanography and biogeochemistry. She has conducted extensive post-hurricane research in Galveston Bay.

Contact: 979-845-5137

[jessfitz@tamu.edu](mailto:jessfitz@tamu.edu)

## **ANTHONY KNAP**

**Director, Geochemical and Environmental Research Group**

**Professor of Oceanography, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences**

Knap is an expert in the effects of contaminants on marine environments, ocean health and human health interactions. He also co-leads the Texas A&M Superfund.

Contact: 979-458-9328

[tknap@tamu.edu](mailto:tknap@tamu.edu)



**TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**

# Environmental and Ecosystem Effects of Hurricanes (cont.)

**LISA CAMPBELL**

**Regents Professor of Oceanography,**  
*Texas A&M University College of  
Geosciences*

Campbell is an expert in biological oceanography, phytoplankton ecology and harmful algal blooms. She is well-versed in the effects hurricanes can have on ecosystems.

Contact: 979-845-5706  
[lisacampbell@tamu.edu](mailto:lisacampbell@tamu.edu)

**STEVE DIMARCO**

**Professor of Oceanography, Team  
Leader for Ocean Observing in the  
Geochemical and Environmental  
Research Group,** *Texas A&M University  
College of Geosciences*

DiMarco is an expert in ocean observing systems, autonomous ocean vehicles and data collection methods, as well as the short- and long-term effects of hurricanes on environments and ecosystems, including coral reefs, and coastal hypoxia.

Contact: 979-862-4168  
[sdimarco@tamu.edu](mailto:sdimarco@tamu.edu)

**JASON SYLVAN**

**Assistant Professor of  
Oceanography,** *Texas A&M University  
College of Geosciences*

Sylvan is an expert in biological oceanography, microbial ecology, geomicrobiology, deep biosphere and hydrocarbon microbiology. He can discuss the short-term and long-term effects of hurricanes on environments and ecosystems, including coral reefs.

Contact: 979-845-5105  
[jasonsylvan@tamu.edu](mailto:jasonsylvan@tamu.edu)

**KATHRYN SHAMBERGER**

**Assistant Professor of  
Oceanography,** *Texas A&M University  
College of Geosciences*

Shamberger is an expert in chemical oceanography, ocean acidification and seawater carbonate chemistry, as well as the short-term and long-term effects of hurricanes on environments and ecosystems, including coral reefs.

Contact: 979-845-5752  
[shamberger@tamu.edu](mailto:shamberger@tamu.edu)



## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

# Hurricane Effects on Animals and Pets



### **DEB ZORAN**

**Professor of Veterinary Medicine,**  
*Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences*

Zoran is an expert on displaced pets, pets relocating to unfamiliar areas, pets facing isolation and separation anxiety, etc. She is currently a veterinarian overseeing the care of search and rescue dogs.

Contact: 979-845-2351 | [dzoran@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:dzoran@cvm.tamu.edu)

### **WESLEY BISSETT**

**Professor of Veterinary Medicine,**  
*Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences*

Bissett is an expert on displaced pets, pets relocating to unfamiliar areas, pets facing isolation and separation anxiety, etc.

Contact: 979-845-2351

[wbissett@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:wbissett@cvm.tamu.edu)

### **MURL BAILEY**

**Professor of Veterinary Medicine,**  
*Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences*

Bailey is an expert on zoonotic diseases (those passed from animals to humans) and problems that can arise if this occurs.

Contact: 979-845-7261

[m-bailey@tamuedu](mailto:m-bailey@tamuedu)

### **GARRY ADAMS**

**Professor of Veterinary Medicine,**  
*Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences*

Adams is well-versed on numerous public health issues, diseases stemming from disasters and treatment strategies for dealing with large numbers of injured or sick animals.

Contact: 979-845-5092

[gadams@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:gadams@cvm.tamu.edu)



**TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**

# Personal, Societal and Social Aspects of Hurricanes



## **LAURA STOUGH**

**Professor of Educational Psychology, Texas A&M University College of Education & Human Development**

Stough is an expert on the psychological and social effects of disaster on individuals with disabilities and schools and schoolchildren. She is the director of Project REDD: Research and Evaluation on Disability and Disaster, which has investigated the impacts of disasters, including Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey, the California Wildfires and the Bastrop County Complex Wildfire, on socially vulnerable populations.

Contact: 979-845-2620 | [justinelizalde@tamu.edu](mailto:justinelizalde@tamu.edu)

## **ANGELA CLENDENIN**

**Instructional Assistant Professor,**  
*Texas A&M University School of Public Health*

Cledenin has served as the public information officer for the Veterinary Emergency Team and has expertise in risk communication and emergency management.

Contact: 979-436-0613  
[raemitchell@tamu.edu](mailto:raemitchell@tamu.edu)

TEXAS A&M EXPERT ON

## Beach Erosion



### WILLIAM MERRELL

**Professor and George P. Mitchell '40 Chair in Marine Sciences, Texas A&M University Galveston Campus**

Merrell serves on the City of Galveston Hurricane Task Force. He is also an expert on beach and shoreline erosion, effects of hurricanes on the entire shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico and a proponent of the "Ike Dike," a coastal surge suppression barrier for the Houston/Galveston area, based on a similar project in the Netherlands.

Contact: 409-740-4732 | [merrellw@tamug.edu](mailto:merrellw@tamug.edu)

TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

## Coastal Infrastructure and Ecosystems

### SAMUEL BRODY

**Professor of Marine Sciences and Urban Planning and the George P. Mitchell Chair in Sustainable Coasts, Texas A&M University Galveston Campus**

Brody directs the Institute for Sustainable Coastal Communities (ISCC) and the Center for Texas Beaches and Shores (CTBS), headquartered at Texas A&M at Galveston. Brody helps conserve and protect the Texas shoreline, bays and waterways. He prepares coastal communities to absorb, adapt and respond to hurricanes, coastal storms and flooding.

Contact: 409-741-4076  
[sbrody@tamu.edu](mailto:sbrody@tamu.edu)

### IGNACIO RODRIGUEZ-ITURBE

**Distinguished University Professor and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station Distinguished Research Professor, Texas A&M University College of Engineering**

Rodriguez-Iturbe studies coastal ecosystems and the challenges they pose to coastal cities and communities.

Contact: 979-458-3141  
[irodriguez@ocn.tamu.edu](mailto:irodriguez@ocn.tamu.edu)



**TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**

# Warning Systems and Evacuation

## **JOHN COOPER**

*Associate Professor of Practice, Texas A&M University College of Architecture*

**Urban Planning and Outreach Coordinator, Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center and the Center for Housing and Urban Development**

Cooper's areas of interest include principles of inclusive planning and plan quality. His research and outreach focuses on emergency management, disaster planning and mitigation with a primary focus on socially vulnerable populations and communities.

*Contact: 979-862-2272*

**[jcooper@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:jcooper@arch.tamu.edu)**

## **WALTER GILLIS PEACOCK**

*Director, Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center*

**Professor of Urban Planning, Texas A&M University College of Architecture**

His research has focused on evacuation, restoration and long-term recovery from disasters, disaster mitigation and resilience.

*Contact: 979-845-7853*

## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

# Recovery and Sustainable Development



### **ALI MOSTAFAVI**

**Associate Professor**, *Texas A&M University College of Engineering*

**Principal Investigator**, *UrbanResilience.AI Lab*

Mostafavi focuses on analyzing, modeling and improving network dynamics in the nexus of humans, disasters and the built environment to foster convergence knowledge of resilient communities. He has extensively researched urban resilience to natural disasters such as wildfires, hurricanes and pandemics.

Contact: 979-845-4856 | [amostafavi@civil.tamu.edu](mailto:amostafavi@civil.tamu.edu)

### **SHANNON VAN ZANDT**

**Director**, *Master of Urban Planning program*

**Associate Professor**, *Texas A&M University College of Architecture*

**Director**, *Center for Housing and Urban Development, and HRRC fellow*

**Director**, *Master of Urban Planning Program*

Van Zandt's areas of interest include post-disaster housing recovery, social vulnerability, community resilience and hazards mitigation.

Contact: 979-458-1233

[svanzandt@tamu.edu](mailto:svanzandt@tamu.edu)

### **GALEN NEWMAN**

**Department of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning**  
**Associate Department Head**, *Texas A&M University College of Architecture*

**Director**, *Center for Housing and Urban Development*

Newman's interests include urban regeneration, land use science, spatial analytics, flood resilience and community/urban scaled design.

Contact: [gnewman@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:gnewman@arch.tamu.edu)

### **ASHLEY BENNIS**

**Planning Specialist**, *Texas Sea Grant*

Bennis is an expert in long-term disaster recovery planning.

Contact: 361-825-3225

[ashmarie@tamu.edu](mailto:ashmarie@tamu.edu)

### **MICHELLE MEYER**

**Director**, *Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center*

Meyer's research interests include disaster recovery and mitigation, environmental sociology and community sustainability, and the interplay between environmental conditions and social vulnerability. She studies inequality and how disaster and environmental settings intersect with structural forces that maintain or transform inequality.

Contact: [mmeyer@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:mmeyer@arch.tamu.edu)

## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

# Recovery and Sustainable Development (cont.)

### JAMIE HICKS MASTERSON

*Associate Director, Texas Target Communities*

Masterson is associate director of Texas Target Communities at Texas A&M, a high impact service-learning program that works alongside underserved communities to plan for resilience. She is the author of a handbook that focuses on hazard mitigation strategies and tools for government officials, planners and emergency managers.

Contact: [jmasterson@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:jmasterson@arch.tamu.edu)

### LEI ZOU

*Assistant Professor of Geography, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences*

Zou is an expert in disaster resilience, emergency management, GIS, big data analytics and coupled natural-human system modeling. He has led interdisciplinary projects related to hurricane management and resilience, such as measuring community resilience to coastal hazards, mining social media for improved understanding of disaster resilience, engaging citizen science in resilience improvement, and modeling coastal sustainability through spatial modeling and machine learning.

Contact: [lzou@tamu.edu](mailto:lzou@tamu.edu)

### KATE DE GENNARO

*Planning Specialist, Texas Sea Grant*

Kate de Gennaro is an expert in hurricane preparedness, mitigation and recovery.

Contact: 956-574-8204

[kdegennaro@tamu.edu](mailto:kdegennaro@tamu.edu)

### COURTNEY THOMPSON

*Assistant Professor of Geography, Texas A&M University College of Geosciences*

Thompson is an expert in natural hazards, exposure, vulnerability and resilience quantification and risk perception. She is also an expert in using GIS, survey analysis and spatial statistics to better understand human-environment interactions.

Contact: 979-458-1096

[cthompson24@tamu.edu](mailto:cthompson24@tamu.edu)

### GARETT SANSON

*Research Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University School of Public Health*

Sanson, as part of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, led a research team to analyze soil samples from the Manchester neighborhood of Houston collected immediately after Hurricane Harvey. He is also the recipient of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant to study the impacts of industrial pollutants following disasters and how to improve the resilience of vulnerable communities.

Contact: [raemitchell@tamu.edu](mailto:raemitchell@tamu.edu)

## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

# Recovery and Sustainable Development (cont.)

### **NASIR GHARAIBEH**

**Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Texas A&M University College of Engineering**

Gharaibeh focuses on infrastructure condition assessment and deterioration modeling, infrastructure lifecycle analysis and enhancing public safety by creating data and framework for disaster mitigation efforts, specifically flash flooding, employed by local and state governmental agencies. This includes improving hazard mitigation, emergency response and capital improvement plans.

Contact: 979-845-3362

[ngharaibeh@civil.tamu.edu](mailto:ngharaibeh@civil.tamu.edu)

### **WEIHSUEH CHIU**

**Professor of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences**

Chiu is an expert in computational and statistical approaches for understanding and predicting the human health effects of environmental chemicals, as well as estimating the variability in individual susceptibility to environmental exposures to better protect sensitive subpopulations. He is a principal investigator in the Texas A&M Superfund Research Center's decision science core and co-principal investigator of the research translation core. Chiu is also principal investigator of a newly-funded U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant to build community resilience to industrial pollutant releases after hurricanes and floods.

Contact: 979-845-4106

[wchiu@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:wchiu@cvm.tamu.edu)

### **IVAN RUSYN**

**University Professor of Toxicology, Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences**

Rusyn is an expert on the mechanisms of action of environmental toxicants, the genetic determinants of the susceptibility to toxicant-induced injury, and computational toxicology. He is director of the Texas A&M Superfund Research Center, which was funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to conduct environmental research projects that work toward mitigating the health and environmental consequences of exposure to hazardous chemical mixtures during disasters such as hurricanes.

Contact: 979-458-9866

[irusyn@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:irusyn@cvm.tamu.edu)



**TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON**  
**Hurricanes, Marine Life and Seafood**

**LAURA PICARIELLO**

**Extension Fisheries Specialist,**  
*Texas Sea Grant*

Picariello has experience working with commercial fisheries, both in Texas and across the Gulf of Mexico.

Contact: 361-825-3460

[lpicariello@seagrant.tamu.edu](mailto:lpicariello@seagrant.tamu.edu)



## TEXAS A&M EXPERTS ON

# Legal Issues

### GABRIEL ECKSTEIN

**Professor of Law**, *Texas A&M University School of Law*

Eckstein is an expert in environmental, property and water law. His research addresses water and environmental issues, and most recently has explored pharmaceutical contamination of fresh water supplies, climate change implications for global water resources and international law for transboundary ground water resources. He serves as director of the Energy, Environmental, and Natural Resource Systems Law Program.

Contact: 817-212-3913

[gabrieleckstein@law.tamu.edu](mailto:gabrieleckstein@law.tamu.edu)

### WAYNE BARNES

**Professor of Law**, *Texas A&M University School of Law*

Barnes practiced law for eight years in commercial litigation, creditors' rights and bankruptcy. He is an expert in consumer law, particularly in bankruptcy, debt collection practices, deceptive consumer practices and online contracting.

Contact: 817-212-410-0

[wbarnes@law.tamu.edu](mailto:wbarnes@law.tamu.edu)

### NEIL SOBOL

**Professor of Law**, *Texas A&M University School of Law*

Sobol began his career in private practice before opening his own law partnership in 1992, focusing primarily on consumer protection and bankruptcy. His clients have include Fortune 500 companies, financial institutions, small businesses and individuals. Sobol is interested in consumer-protection issues and those involving abuses by debt collectors.

Contact: 817-212-4055

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