

Research Initiatives to Improve Community Resiliency

Tuesday, December 1, 2015 from 12:00pm to 1:30pm
NERC (North Engineering Research Center), Room 1012

RSVP by Friday November 27, 2015 via the following link:

https://universityofalabama.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6zITQ43SQDTGi7H

You are invited to the December 1st lunch in the Research Partners Lunch Series. The goal of the lunch series is to introduce research topics for the development of research partnerships across disciplines. These partnerships can serve as a foundation for interdisciplinary research endeavors, grant proposal writing, course development, and innovative research applications. Different researchers from across the University are invited to brief a research topic each month for potential research partners. The lunch will begin at noon and the presentation will begin at 12:15pm.

Presentation will be presented by Dr. Back of the University of Alabama Center for Sustainable Infrastructure.

Improving structural infrastructure resiliency is an important step in formulating a strategy to mitigate social vulnerability and, ultimately, to support urban prosperity. As such, considerable effort has been expended in areas that have been impacted by severe weather and other extreme events to identify meaningful lessons learned regarding the engineering design aspects of materials and physical infrastructure to identify, or formulate, proactive improvement strategies. It is through these field surveys and failure assessments that the engineering professions have learned valuable lessons with regard to design standards, construction procedures, and life safety requirements appropriate for individual buildings or structures. However, little focus has been given to how natural disasters affect urban or community centers in the larger context and the associated macroeconomic impact the loss of structural infrastructure has on the municipality, community or urban environment. For example, the housing sector, consisting of a diverse, non-homogeneous ownership structure is difficult to examine holistically. The inherent variability in personal interests, building types, construction quality, and other such factors make studies focused on macro-level improvement a unique and difficult challenge. Nonetheless, a concise relationship can be conceptualized between the state of urban infrastructure and the balance between social vulnerability and urban prosperity. The University of Alabama Center for Sustainable Infrastructure promotes research initiatives that are focused on these particular challenges and societal needs.

Kindly RSVP your attendance by via the link below so we can reserve your lunch.

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If you have any further questions about the lunch, please call Sarah McCullough at 205-348-6999.

Thank you so much and we look forward to meeting you at the Research Partners Lunch Series.

Laura Myers, *Executive Director*
Center for Advanced Public Safety
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SAVE the DATES for these future 2015 series events!

January 20	April 21	July 28	October 20
February 24	May 26	August 25	December 1
March 31	June 30	September 29	December 15