



Waterways

Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers

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Fall 2008

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Institute Responds to Changing Environment



As you read this column, two Hurricane Ike Field Investigation teams, comprised of your COPRI colleagues and other partners, have just returned from a three-day field trip to examine the effects of Hurricane Ike on coastal landforms and infrastructure in the Galveston Bay area. These teams focused on the impact to beaches, buildings, coastal structures, bridges, and

other infrastructure. I want to thank COPRI Past President Billy Edge for spearheading this important project. I look forward to seeing the teams' report, which I am sure will help COPRI members and the public create more sustainable communities.

I've found throughout my career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that, while the projects we undertake offshore, along the coasts, in riverine areas or in our nation's ports might have many similarities, our field is dynamic and ever-changing. Conditions along the shoreline might change daily or even hourly. During my year as President, this fact has been evident as we've seen a series of catastrophic cyclones and floods and recently Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Here at COPRI, we are committed to helping our members and the public learn from and adapt to the changes in the environment and in our chosen profession.

It has been an honor for me to serve as President of COPRI this past year. I have been humbled by the dedication to service

continued on page 7

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Discussion on Wetlands Regulation Draws Diverse Participants

An Interview with Dom Izzo, P.E., F.ASCE

Dominic Izzo, P.E., F.ASCE, Co-Chair of the Wetlands and Sediment Management Committee, is an engineer for KBR Inc. He is based in Houston, Texas and is currently working on an international project off the coast of Australia.

WATERWAYS: In April, the Wetlands and Sediment Management Committee held the Federal Wetland Regulatory Workshop. Why did your Committee organize the workshop?

DOM IZZO: Recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions have caused considerable added cost, delay and frustration for many individuals seeking federal wetlands permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. With the workshop, we invited the leading experts to give us their best assessment of the legal and technical issues raised by the Court and to identify possible solutions to the new challenges. The committee's goal was to identify and document in a white paper the range of issues and solutions for use by ASCE and the public in formulating future policy on wetlands regulation. The white paper is available on the COPRI website.

WW: What has been the effect of the Court decisions?

DI: In both SWANCC and Rapanos, the Court rejected the federal agencies' reasons for applying federal jurisdiction to the discharges of dredged and fill material into geographically isolated ponds (SWANCC) and wetlands adjacent to non-navigable tributaries (Rapanos) under the Clean Water Act (CWA). These decisions and the questions they raised have created angst and uncertainty in both the development and

continued on page 7

Highlights

Legislative Spotlight	2
Organizational Members	3
Committee Updates	4
Conferences.....	6

Changing the Guard...Board Salutes Outgoing Members

At its August 2008 Governing Board meeting, President Jim Blanchar recognized Billy Edge and Steve Curtis for their outstanding service on the COPRI Governing Board. President-Elect Dave Kriebel also honored Blanchar for his hard work this past year. The Institute looks forward to Blanchar's service in 2009 as Past President and bids farewell to two Past Presidents who have left a lasting legacy and are a hard act to follow.

In September, the COPRI Board accepted the resignation of its Treasurer, John Headland, a coastal engineer with Moffat & Nichol, who has been asked to manage a large-scale coastal engineering project in the Middle East. Headland is a Senior Vice President and Regional Manager for Moffat & Nichol's northeastern United States operations, where he has worked since 1992 as well as from 1980 to 1986. He has been an invaluable part of the COPRI Board and will be missed as he embarks upon his new project.

Edge, who served on the COPRI Governing Board from 2005 to 2008, is a professor at Texas A&M University as well as a practicing engineer. As the Director of the Haynes Coastal Engineering Laboratory since its inception in 2003, Edge has overseen a state-of-the-art facility which provides an environment for addressing the problems of near-shore and estuarine regions.

Steve Curtis served on the Governing Board from 2005 to 2008. During his presidency, he initiated COPRI's Strategic Plan, sought to increase Institute membership and worked to improve the conferences and products offered by COPRI. Curtis currently serves as Vice President and Group leader of the Tetra Tech EC, Inc. Ports, Harbors and Waterways Engineering and Construction Services. Curtis has over nineteen years of engineering experience in port and harbor development work.

Beginning in October, David Kriebel, an associate professor of Ocean Engineering at the U.S. Naval Academy, will take the reigns at COPRI. He has been a professor at the Naval Academy for more than 20 years and served as the Director of the Naval Academy Hydromechanics Laboratory from 1996 to 2002. For nearly 25 years he also has served as a part-time consultant to more than 25 clients such as the Delaware Emergency Management Agency. Among his accomplishments, is the development of the EDUNE numerical model for simulating dune erosion due to storm surge associated with tropical and extra-tropical storms.

Kriebel's research interests include: beach response processes, nearshore wave transformation, shoreline erosion control, coastal zone management, stochastic analysis of ocean waves, wave-structure interaction, and laboratory scale model testing.

Though new to the COPRI Governing Board, Ron Noble is no stranger to COPRI having served on the COPRI Coastal Engineering Research Council for more than 25 years. (See International Coastal pg. 4).

Stan White comes to the position after spending two years as chair of the Ports and Harbors Committee, serving as a



President Blanchar with Billy Edge Steve Curtis is recognized

pioneering member of COPRI, and 35 years of involvement with ASCE. White is currently the President of Ocean and Coastal Consultants, Inc, a firm specializing in port facilities, underwater investigations and coastal engineering, which he founded in 1983. OCC joined COWI A/S in 2007 and is part of COWI USA, Inc. for which White is also the President. He is active in the preparation of Ports Conference series as well as the Mooring Task Committee; has published numerous papers on port facility design, and is a guest lecturer at the US Coast Guard Academy for the fourth year Project Management course. White is currently a licensed Civil Engineer in 14 states and has been a member of ASCE since 1973. ■

Proposed Principles for Water Resources Projects Released



A revision of the Economic and Environmental Principles for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies, commonly

known as the P&G, was made available for public comment Sept. 12, 2008. The document is the government's principal planning document for water resource projects and lays out the factors the government must consider when calculating the benefits and costs of water resource projects. Previously established by the U.S. Water Resources Council March 1983, these guidelines are now 25 years old. Section 2031 in WRDA 2007 gives officials until November 8, 2009 to complete the revisions. The comment period was scheduled to expire Oct. 15 but comments will be accepted on the proposed rulemaking once all sections are released.

Revisions to the principles are intended to provide "transparent planning in the formulation, evaluation, and selection of proposed Federal Water and related land resources projects," according to the *Federal Register*. Among the elements that should be included in water resources planning, the document calls for a focus on sustainable national economic development. The principles also distinguish goals associated with project types, including commercial navigation, flood and storm damage reduction, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and plans with multiple objectives.

Contact Larry Prather at 202-761-0106. ■

W.J. Castle Group Partners with COPRI

COPRI is pleased to welcome The Castle Group as its newest organizational member.

Based in Hainesport, New Jersey, The Castle Group (wjcastlegroup.com) was founded in 1983 by William J. Castle, P.E., F.ASCE as a structural and civil engineering firm, with a marine engineering focus. The company has 15 employees and has worked on projects in seven states. W.J. Castle handles every aspect of marine projects from design and diagnosis to construction. Their clients have included utilities, private companies, state and city governments and various agencies.

"We can analyze problematic marine structures, design appropriate repairs, and then perform the repairs ourselves without having to subcontract any of the work," officials say. "Additionally, we provide custom designed bridges to private owners as well as state and local government —from the design phase through installation."

The Group is comprised of three companies: W.J. Castle & Associates; Hydro-Marine Construction; and Simplified Bridge Systems. The Group provides structural and marine engineering; construction inspection and management; underwater inspection services; specialty and building designs; hydrographic fathometric surveys and non-destructive testing. Hydro-Marine was founded in 1997 as the construction division of the Group. Its services include bulkhead and pier construction and rehabilitation, pile jacking and repairs, submarine cable recovery and placement, anchor installation and underwater debris removal. Simplified Bridge Systems is the Group's bridge unit which designs and builds small and medium-sized bridges. Please see the electronic version of *Waterways* or visit the Castle Groups website for more information. ■

Organizational Members

Sustaining Organizational Member

- Tetra Tech, Inc.

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- Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company
- Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Institute for Water Resources

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- Arcadis
- Collins Engineers Inc.
- Manson Construction Company
- Moffatt & Nichol
- Ocean and Coastal Consultants
- U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center
- W.J. Castle, Inc.

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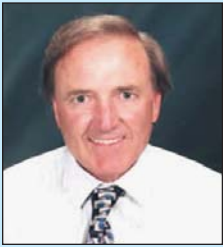
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Do you know someone who is not receiving their quarterly issue of *Waterways*? If so, please send an email to copri@asce.org with the member's mailing and email address. Feel free to invite them to visit www.asce.org/myprofile (or call 800-548-2723) to verify and/or update their contact information today! Past versions of *Waterways* are available online in the COPRI news section at

<http://www.coprinstitute.org/news/newsarchives.cfm>.

Please help us help you to receive all your membership benefits by keeping your contact information current.

International Coastal Engineering Award Presented to Ron Noble



Ron Noble

Longtime COPRI member and supporter Ron Noble was presented with the ASCE International Coastal Engineering Award at the 31st International Conference on Coastal Engineering, held in Hamburg, Germany, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 5.

The International Coastal Engineering Award has been presented annually for significant achievements in research, design and advancement of coastal engineering and science. Noble was recognized during the conference not only for a notable coastal engineering career but also for his dedicated service to the community. A forty-year member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a longstanding member of COPRI's Coastal Engineering Research Council, Noble headed the Local Organizing Committee for ICCE 2006 in San Diego.

"I personally view this as the premier award in the field of coastal engineering, and it is an honor to be selected by my peers in this field and to join the distinguished list of past recipients of this award," Noble said.

According to Noble, ICCE is an important event for COPRI and the coastal community because it such a longstanding conference with a dedicated international audience. A biannual event, ICCE is the main international conference in the field of coastal engineering. It covers all of the technical areas within coastal engineering, and brings together the world wide leaders, educators, researchers and practitioners in the field to exchange knowledge on the latest achievements within the coastal engineering field. Noble said he personally views this conference as the premier conference in the field of coastal engineering.

During his more than 40 year career, Noble has completed projects in 35 countries as well as throughout the United States. For more than 20 years, he has served as president and principal engineer for Noble Consultants. Additionally, Noble has also served on the Coastal Engineering Research Council, which oversees the ICCE technical program, for more than 25 years. Throughout his career, he has contributed to four technical standards and guidelines, 24 technical papers, taught short courses and seminars on coastal engineering, and served as a third-party project reviewer for numerous state and local projects.

Noble's key accomplishments include: developing the first comprehensive numerical computer model to calculate hurricane storm surge and calibrating that model with historical storms that have occurred along the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts; using hydraulic models to test wave runup and overtopping with wave flumes; and using wave tanks to test wave defraction

and reflection. Recently, he served as a member of a FEMA technical working group that developed a new Coastal Flood Hazard Analysis and Mapping Program for the Pacific Coast.

Noble's projects have included oceanographic instrumentation, diving investigations, bathymetric and topographic surveying, marine geophysical surveying, field investigations, numerical modeling, physical modeling with wave tanks, design, preparation of construction drawings and construction management.

In 2003, he received the Engineering Excellence Merit Award from the Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California for the San Diego Regional Beach Sand Project. He was responsible for overseeing construction management to re-nourish 12 county beaches with more than 2 million cubic yards of sandy material dredged from six offshore borrow site. In Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, He conducted an inventory of the harbor, sand sources, erosion rates and sediment budgets. This led to the development of a comprehensive sand management program to control beach erosion.

The ICCE award has been offered annually since 1977 to honor a current ASCE member for their contributions to coastal engineering. To nominate someone for the 2009 award, please visit the ASCE awards website, <http://content.asce.org/handa/index.html>. The deadline for 2009 nominations is November 1, 2008. ■

PORTS 2010 Planning Committee Issues Call for Papers

By Steve Dickenson, Ph.D., M.ASCE

The Ports and Harbors Committee is very pleased to announce that Ports 2010 is scheduled for April 25-28, 2010, in Jacksonville, Florida.

Ports 2010, the 12th in COPRI's successful series devoted to port and harbor engineering, continues ASCE's partnership with the U.S. Section of PIANC in the development of the premier ports engineering conference in the world. The conference will focus on current projects, practical issues, innovative engineering and construction, and state-of-the-art developments for port engineering.

Developed for professionals involved in port design, development, management, or construction, the conference has traditionally drawn nearly 1,000 participants. The 2010 conference will feature short courses, 36 technical sessions, keynote addresses, and social activities planned to facilitate ample professional interaction in an informal atmosphere. Conference topics will include:

- Engineering related to land or water port access;

- Planning, design, rehabilitation, inspection or repair of marine terminals;
- Environmental planning;
- Transportation planning;
- Security considerations; and,
- Monitoring and performance assessment of port facilities during daily operations and extreme events.

The technical program is enhanced by cooperation with the Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT), a conference sponsor, which will offer technical tours of its facilities. Ports 2010 also will feature expanded programs for young professionals and students. A student paper competition is being planned with details to accompany the call for abstracts later this year.

Ports 2010 will be held at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront, located along the St. John's River in downtown Jacksonville. In addition to Jacksonville's diverse cultural and recreational activities, coastal attractions and historic St. Augustine are within 45 miles of downtown. The Cape Canaveral-Orlando region, home to the Kennedy Space Center and world-famous theme parks, is roughly 150 miles from Jacksonville.

The call for abstracts will be made in Fall 2008, with abstracts due in January 2009. Many aspects of the conference program, sponsorship opportunities, exhibits, as well as information on the Jacksonville region will be available soon. Right now, click here to visit the conference website, www.portsconference.org. For additional information on the conference program, please feel free to contact the Conference Organizing Committee Chairman Dr. Stephen Dickenson at stephen.dickenson@oregonstate.edu.

We hope to see you in Jacksonville, Florida. Mark your calendars for April 25-28, 2010. ■

COPRI Journal Editor Wins Moffatt & Nichol Award



Vijay Panchang

Vijay Panchang, editor of the Journal of Waterway, Port, Coastal and Ocean Engineering, was selected as the 2008 Moffatt-Nichol winner. Panchang was selected for his contribution to the field of coastal engineering as developer of the CGWAVE, a model that has become one of the most widely used wave models for port and harbor design and renovation projects.

The model has the ability to predict harbor agitation and has allowed engineers to optimize harbor entrance designs and identify harbor resonance problems. It also has improved upon models previously available. Panchang also has worked with the U.S. Navy to enhance the model's capability for naval applications.

Not only has Panchang developed the model, he also has trained many engineers on the use of the model. His efforts to develop the model, make it widely available, make it convenient and assist other engineers with project applications has benefited the profession and the public at large.

Panchang is head of the Department of Marine Engineering Technology at Texas A&M University at Galveston. His research interests include coastal hydraulics and mathematical modeling of coastal ocean processes. He has served as Editor of the ASCE Journal of Waterway, Port, Coastal and Ocean Engineering since 2005. ■

Please visit the HTML version of the newsletter online at www.coprinstitute.org/archives for additional committee updates.

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Bob Esenwein, CEP - Robert.C.Esenwein@usace.army.mil

COPRI to Co-Sponsor Deltas Conference in Egypt

Bringing engineers, scientists, managers and local government agencies together to discuss problems associated with coastal erosion, accretion, and subsidence on the shorelines of river deltas and low land areas is the focus of this conference scheduled for March 6-10, 2010 in Alexandria, Egypt.

River deltas and lowlands have been influenced by global climate change and an accompanying increase in storm activity, as well as manmade interferences. Providing sustainable solutions, minimizing and adapting to adverse impacts and making use of integrated coastal management are the primary goals of this conference, according to officials from the Egypt Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI). The conference is being organized through the Coastal Research Institute (CoRI) of the National Water Research Center (NWRC), of the MWRI. Conference organizers include: Costamarine Technologies (CMT), the Arab Maritime Academy (AASTMT) and the Coastal Zone Foundation. They are sponsoring this conference in cooperation with COPRI, the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association and the United States Geologic Survey. Conference themes will include: geologic processes of

deltas and river mouths; coastal change processes and human influences on coasts; coastal defense restoration and erosion mitigation; coastal modeling and risk management; coast and beach ecosystems; dune and wetland management; coastal pollution; contamination control and disaster management; impact of coastal defense systems on ecology of coastal zones; sustainable construction materials for marine and coastal structures; impacts of climate change and adaptation policies; sustainable coastal management human influence on coasts; and case studies of major deltas and low land coastlines.

Organizers are issuing the call for papers this month. Abstracts are due January 16, 2009. Abstract selection is March 13, 2009 and paper summaries should be submitted by June 12, 2009. Final papers will be submitted three months after the conference for production of the proceedings.

For additional information on this conference, please contact Professor Nabil Ismail, at nicoastmarine@gmail.com. Other COPRI members of the international advisory team include Billy Edge, Bob Wiegel, and Orville Magoon. ■

Registration Open for Gulf Coast Hurricane Conference

November 11-14, 2008

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel, Mobile, AL

On behalf of PIANC USA, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and all of our generous sponsors and cooperating organizations,



it is my pleasure to extend this invitation to join us in Mobile, Alabama, for the Gulf Coast Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery & Rebuilding Conference 2008.

This upcoming conference has been organized to bring together the nation's and the world's top professionals in the field of hurricane response, ecosystem restoration

and infrastructure protection, including more than 200 private sector and governmental participants.

The four-day conference will include technical sessions, field tour opportunities, industry exhibits, technical short courses and networking events. As part of the tours, you will have the opportunity to see up close the latest innovations being undertaken at the Port of Mobile, as well as ongoing recovery of the Mississippi Gulf Coast from Hurricane Katrina. But the strength of the conference lies with the technical program, with more than sixty-five presentations addressing state-of-the-art technical aspects of subjects ranging from Ecosystem Resiliency-Coastal Recovery; Navigation-Ports and Industry; Community

Resiliency-Watershed Wide Flood Hazard Master Planning; and Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Mobile, Alabama, is a beautiful, historic port city by Mobile Bay. The venue, offers a Southern charm that is welcoming and enjoyable for visitors from around the world.

This Gulf Coast Hurricane Conference promises to be the best ever, having a full array of nationally and internationally recognized speakers. Don't miss this opportunity to network with your industry peers and enhance your professional knowledge. Register today!

HON. John Paul Woodley, Jr.
Chairman, PIANC USA

P.S. For online registration and the detailed conference agenda, go to www.pianc.us. ■

Registration Open for 2008 ASCE Annual Conference

What does the future hold for the civil engineering profession? How will you meet the industry's new challenges and thrive in the civil engineering workforce?

The 2008 ASCE Annual Conference, "ENGINEERING: The Workforce of the Future," held November 6-8 in Pittsburgh, PA, will help you address the profession's challenges in the face of aging infrastructure, shrinking energy and water resources, and globalization. To register, visit www.asce.org/conferences. ■

President's Column *continued from page 1*

of so many COPRI members. Whether going into the field to investigate the effects of natural disasters, organizing a conference, leading a committee, or developing a standard or manual of practice, COPRI members are stepping up to make valuable contributions to their Institute and their profession. The value of these efforts is demonstrated by the nearly 10% growth in membership over the past year. If you are one of those new members, I want to welcome you to the Institute. I hope that you are able to find a committee or project to get involved with or perhaps a mentor or a friend in the field.

The COPRI Governing Board recognizes that the future of the Institute depends on the recruitment and involvement of younger members. At its recent meeting, the Board agreed to establish a Student Participation Fund, which will be funded through voluntary contributions and be used to encourage student participation in COPRI activities. The Board provided an early example of such encouragement when it awarded a \$2,000 stipend to the author of the best student paper at the International Conference on Coastal Engineering (Please see ICCE article below for more on this.) Special thanks to Board Member Lesley Ewing for organizing and conducting a raffle at

the Solutions to Coastal Disasters Conference this past April, which raised nearly \$1,000 for student participation activities.

This past year allowed me to work with two great COPRI leaders who have just rotated off the Board, Steve Curtis and Billy Edge. The excellent example they provided as well as their dedication to COPRI were inspiring to me as President (See Changing the Guard on Pg. 1). Please join me in welcoming Dave Kriebel as he assumes the presidency this month, as well as our new Governing Board members, Stan White and Ron Noble.

I also want to applaud Ron Noble on his receipt of the International Coastal Engineering Award and Vijay Panchang on the Moffatt & Nichol Award. I am certain the Ron will be an invaluable board member in the coming years. I want to offer my regards to Vijay not only for this wonderful award, but, as a professor at Texas A&M Galveston for bouncing back from Hurricane Ike and not losing sight of his duties as the Editor of COPRI's Journal. Best wishes for a speedy return to Galveston, Vijay!

As I conclude, I'm grateful to you for your service to COPRI. I enjoyed meeting many of you at the Solutions to Coastal Disasters conference in April. I'll be around as Past President in the coming year. So, please contact me with any questions, suggestions for activities or other needs at jblanchar@aol.com. ■

Interview: Dom Izzo *continued from page 1*

conservation communities concerning the jurisdictional status of many waters and wetlands previously regulated under the CWA.

WW: Who participated in the workshop?

DI: First, I want to say that the workshop was co-sponsored with ASCE's Environment and Water Resources Institute (EWRI). The workshop planning committee included COPRI and EWRI members as well as several non-ASCE members who contributed significantly to the workshop. The Invitations Subcommittee searched for the best possible participants from local, state and national levels, from engineering, science, and legal disciplines, and from across the public and private sectors, including academia and non-governmental organizations (NGO's). The diverse participation at the workshop can be best gauged by the forty-five different organizations that sent one or more representatives.

WW: With such a large and diverse group, was it possible to gain consensus?

DI: Well, it wasn't easy considering we had folks from groups as diverse as National Wildlife Federation and the National Association of Home Builders. However, I am very pleased that we were able to reach consensus on a common description of the problem and on four propositions, including:

- An enhanced federal, state and local partnership is needed for proper wetland regulation. Incentives for state and local participation will encourage this partnership.

WW: The fourth point of consensus is about an enhanced federal-state-local partnership. Are states and localities stepping in to provide effective wetlands regulation?

DI: Nationally, twenty states implement wetland permit programs under their respective state statutes. Other states work actively to condition federal permits. However, the wetland program is the only part of the Clean Water Act still largely implemented by the federal government. However, a few states are arguably doing better than the federal government in protecting their wetlands and 45 states are running the point-source program on behalf of both the state and the federal government. This may be a unique and timely opportunity to improve the current wetlands regulatory scheme and develop a system that empowers the states and local governments to be more active partners in regulatory efforts.

WW: What should ASCE do next?

DI: The generous contributions of all of the participants of the workshop, both at the meeting and in drafting the white paper, were invaluable. There was considerable interest among the workshop participants to continue and expand the discussions started in the April workshop. The committee will work with ASCE's Policy Committee to ensure that the insights gained from the workshop are incorporated in future revisions to the Society's National Wetlands Regulatory Policy. The Wetlands and Sediment Management Committee is looking at undertaking additional activities in this area. Individuals interested in working with the committee should contact me or co-chair Bob Esenwein. ■

Become a COPRI Member Today!

If you are not already a COPRI member, we invite you to be a member of the Coasts, Oceans, Ports and Rivers Institute. Becoming a member of this Institute is an excellent way to keep current in your field, enhance your professional skills and network with other specialists in the discipline. You can also join the various committees, which will allow you to actively develop key technical, professional and educational issues of COPRI. Please visit

<http://www.coprinstitute.org/membership/>

or contact Jennifer Moulton at jmoulton@asce.org or (703) 295-6370.

Mark Your Calendar 2008 – 09

2008

Nov. 11–14 **Gulf Coast Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding**, Mobile, Alabama

2009

May 5 **ASCE OTC Hall of Fame Gala**

June 28– July 1 **Technical Council on Lifelines Earthquake Engineering** Oakland, California

Aug. 10–14 **Water Engineering for a Sustainable Environment**
International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research Congress 2009. Vancouver, British Columbia.

For more industry events visit www.coprinstitute.org/conferences



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