

EMINENT SPEAKER SERIES 2011-2012

Hosted By: The National Committee on Coastal and Ocean Engineering (NCCOE)

Dr. Kate White PhD, PE

Senior Lead for Global and Climate Change, US Army Corps of Engineers



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<http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/eminentspeaker/>

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FOR WATER RESOURCES: MOVING FROM SCIENCE TO POLICY

Climate change and variability strongly influence the fundamental drivers of hydrology - temperature and precipitation – and thus have immediate impacts to water resources management agencies like the US Army Corps of Engineers. Changing sea levels and other coastal processes are also tied to climate change and variability.

While we don't know how fast climate is changing, how exactly these changes will manifest themselves, and whether some changes are irreversible, we do know that the steps we take to adapt to climate change also help us adapt to other global challenges to our missions and operations, because they share a common goal: to improve resilience and decrease vulnerability.

Water resources managers are accustomed to making decisions under uncertain conditions. We are able to take action now because there is a large existing body of knowledge developed by the science agencies on which we can base our policies and guidance.

This presentation will address the need to closely couple science and engineering, allowing for refinements in policy as scientific knowledge grows and speeding the development of policy and guidance needed to implement climate change adaptation for water resources management.

Kate White is a Civil Engineer with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Institute for Water Resources. She holds a BS and MS in Civil Engineering and a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering, and is a registered Professional Engineer. Her > 25 years of USACE experience has emphasized hydrology and hydraulics supporting planning, engineering, design, operations, and emergency management. As the senior lead for global and climate change, her work incorporates anticipatory management in the face of dynamic global changes so the USACE will remain adaptable and sustainable over time. She is active in international arenas as well, and currently serves as the chair of the PIANC Permanent Task Group on Climate Change.

PRESENTATION DETAILS

Sydney

Tuesday 8th May 2012
5:30pm for 6:00pm start

Zenith Theatre and Convention
Centre
Corner McIntosh and Railway
Streets, Chatswood, NSW

Melbourne

Wednesday 9th May 2012
5:30pm for 6:00pm start

Crowne Plaza Melbourne
1-5 Spencer St
Melbourne VIC

Canberra

Thursday 10th May 2012
5:30pm for 6:00pm start

Engineering House
11 National Circuit
Barton ACT

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