

## Water and Sustainability Seminar Series





Presents
Jayantha Obeysekera, Ph.D. P.E., D.WRE
Chief Modeler
Hydrologic & Environmental Systems Modeling
South Florida Water Management District

## "Sea Level Rise and Climate Change in South Florida: Implications and Adaptation"

November 19, 2015 | 3:30 PM | WC Room 130

Jayantha Obeysekera is the Chief Modeler at the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), a regional governmental agency in South Florida, United States. At SFWMD, he had a leading role in modeling of Kissimmee River Restoration, and the Everglades Restoration. He was responsible for establishing a large group of multi-disciplinary, modelers with over 60 members covering the disciplines of hydrology, hydrodynamics, water quality and environmental restoration.

He served as a member of the federal advisory committee which directed the development of the most recent National Climate Assessment in 2014. He was also a co-author of the sea level rise projections report published by NOAA for the National Climate Assessment and a lead author for the Southeast Chapter of the National Climate Assessment. Dr. Obeysekera was a member of three panels of the National Research Council dealing with water resources issues of (a) Klamath River in California and Oregon; (b) California Bay Delta; and (c) Edwards Aquifer system in Texas (serving currently). He is also serving as a member of the Coastal Assessment Regional Scenario Working Group associated with the Department of Defense.

Dr. Obeysekera holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from University of Sri Lanka, M. Eng. from University of Roorkee, India, and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University with specialization in water resources. He worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Colorado State University. He also has taught courses in the water resources area at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. and at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. He has also held the position of Courtesy Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of South Florida in Tampa. Currently he serves as an Affiliate Research Professor at Florida Atlantic University.

Dr. Obeysekera is the recipient of the 2015 Norman Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers for a technical paper that makes a definitive contribution in engineering.

Applied Research Center (ARC)
Water & Sustainability Seminar
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Refreshments will be provided