Welcome and Keynote Speakers

TIEMS 2022 HYBRID ANNUAL CONFERENCE

George Markowsky, *TIEMS 2022 Annual Conference Host, USA*

**WELCOME TO TIEMS 2022 HYBRID ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Experienced Professor of Computer Science with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry. Skilled in Mathematical Modeling, Python, Computer Science, Data Analysis, and Strategic Planning. Strong education professional with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) focused in Mathematics from Harvard University. Present position is as Chair and Professor of Software Engineering & Game Development at Kennesaw State University.

Sumanth Yenduri, *Dean of the College of Computing and Software Engineering*

**WELCOME TO KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY**

Dean of the College of Computing and Software Engineering. In this capacity, he oversees a college with over 4,000 students and over 110 faculty members. Dean Yenduri has held leadership positions at four institutions prior to coming to Kennesaw State University. He has written many articles for conferences and journals and has been successful in obtaining research funding. Dr. Yenduri holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Louisiana State University.

James Westbrook, *Acting Director of Emergency Management at Kennesaw State*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

James Westbrook is the Acting Director of Emergency Management at Kennesaw State. He has been in this role since June 2022. Prior to that, James was the Assistant Director of Emergency Management from the creation of the Office of Emergency Management in January 2015. He joined KSU in 2013 as the Security and Safety Coordinator, a position focused on emergency management, fire safety, and security systems management. Prior to joining KSU, James worked at the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for over seven years in both the State Emergency Communications Center and as a School Safety Coordinator. He also has a background in 911 operations, hazardous materials, and the fire services. James is an Advanced Certified Emergency Manager through GEMA and a certified Professional Continuity Practitioner through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). James holds a Master of Science degree in Emergency Management from Jacksonville State University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of Georgia.
K. Harald Drager, *TIEMS President, Norway*

**TIEMS STATUS AND PLANS TOWARDS 2030**

K. Harald Drager, Oslo, Norway, is the founding member of *TIEMS* (The International Emergency Management Society - [www.tiems.org](http://www.tiems.org)), which he took the initiative to establish in 1993. He was the International Vice President of TIEMS since its inauguration until 2002, when he took over as TIEMS President, a position he was re-elected to for the 6th time in 2019. He has brought in new ideas and new people in TIEMS and succeeded the organization to span worldwide.

Jeffrey Stern, *Superintendent, Emergency Management Institute, USA*

**THE FUTURE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

Dr. Jeff Stern is the Superintendent of the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He previously led the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, where he was responsible for disaster and homeland security preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts across the Commonwealth. He led Virginia through nearly 50 emergency declarations over 6 years and deployed Virginia’s first responders to disasters across the United States, including Hawaii, Alaska, California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Saroj Kumar Jha, *Global Director, Water Global Practice, The World Bank Group*

**ADDRESSING WATER SECURITY IN A CHANGING CLIMATE**

Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha is the Global Director for the World Bank Group’s Water Global Practice (GP). In his current assignment, Mr Jha is a core member of the GP’s senior management team, which drives the policy direction of the GP, oversees a portfolio of $24 billion in water-related investments, analytical work, multi-donor trust funds and global partnerships. Mr Jha supports an integrated approach to water security and inclusive service delivery, accelerated climate action and food security through Bank’s Global Water Strategy, and providing policy advice and operational support in response to specific country needs.
Roman Tandlich, *TIEMS Regional Director for Africa, South Africa*

**STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE 2023 TIEMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA**

Roman Tandlich, has been working in the field of emergency and disaster management since 2011. With background in biotechnology, Dr. Tandlich got involved in the development of low-cost and decentralized sanitation technologies. During the rollout of one such technology, policy and technical skills shortages at local government level. This resulted in the shift of focus of his research towards disaster management approaches towards shift action to address water, sanitation and hygiene challenges in developing countries. This has led to the development of new teaching and research tools to deal with public health, disaster risk reduction and Development.

Maia Hallward, *Professor of Middle East Politics and International Conflict Management*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN TIMES OF CONFLICT**

Maia Carter Hallward, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor jointly appointed with the PhD Program in International Conflict Management and the Department of Political Science and International Affairs. She has worked and/or conducted research in a number of countries in the MENA region, including the Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Oman, Morocco, and Israel. Dr. Hallward has over 13 years of teaching experience at the secondary and post-secondary levels and has designed original courses on a range of subjects in online as well as face to face formats. Dr. Hallward currently chairs the curriculum committee of the School of Conflict Management Peacebuilding and Development, has received grants from the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center and the Department of Global Affairs for her research on women leaders in Arab monarchies, and has published four books and over a dozen peer-reviewed articles on topics related to the Middle East.