

The Marine Board will hold its 2010 Fall Meeting in New Orleans on November 18-19, 2010. In addition to updates on current projects, items on the agenda include: Deepwater Horizon, maritime security, offshore wind energy, and post-Katrina updates. At the Fall Meeting, the Board will also welcome five new members:

**Edward N. Comstock** is an Engineering Fellow in Integrated Defense Systems at Raytheon, where he serves as the Ship Community of Practice Lead. Before joining Raytheon in 2006, he worked for 31 years for the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and six years with General Dynamics/Electric Boat Division and GE Marine Turbine and Gear Department. In NAVSEA, he last served as the Director for Science and Technology and acted as the Executive Director of the Ship Design, Integration and Engineering Directorate and previously held positions as Chief Naval Architect and Executive Director, Surface Ship Design and Systems Engineering Group. He is a Vice President of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME) and a Council Member of the American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE).

He has received numerous professional awards, including the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, Superior and Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, SNAME David W. Taylor Medal, National Society of Professional Engineers' Engineer of the Year Award, ASE Silver Medal, University of Michigan Rosenblatt Alumni Award, and Fellow of SNAME. Mr. Comstock received an M.S.E. degree in ship hydrodynamics in 1974 and a B.S.E. degree in naval architecture and marine engineering in 1970, both from the University of Michigan. He currently serves on the TRB/Marine Board Naval Engineering in the 21st Century study committee.

**Stephan T. Grilli** is Distinguished Professor and Chair of Ocean Engineering at the University of Rhode Island (URI). Over the past 25 years, Dr. Grilli has developed a specialization of his research and teaching interests in the general area of ocean and coastal engineering. Within this area, however, he has broad academic and research interests ranging from computational wave and fluid dynamics, coastal and surf-zone modeling, extreme (rogue) waves and tsunami modeling, floating body dynamics in waves and wave-structure interaction, to porous and poro-elastic media flows. Dr. Grilli's recent research activity has been supported by the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the National Science Foundation (NSF), various state agencies, private foundations, and corporations. Dr. Grilli's recent research is primarily directed at wave analysis in coastal areas and wave interaction with submerged and emerged coastal structures, including wave-induced sediment transport around partly buried mines, freak wave generation and impact on structures, topographic wave breaking and properties of breaking waves, waves generated by FastShips (surface effect ships). A great deal of Dr. Grilli's recent research is also related to tsunami generation (long waves) and *tsunami* propagation, and geohazard in coastal areas.

Dr. Grilli was educated at the University of Liège (Belgium), where he received an M.S. degree in civil and hydraulic engineering in 1980, an M.S. degree in physical oceanography in 1983, and a Ph.D. in applied sciences (hydraulic and ocean engineering) in 1985 (all with highest honors). After two years as a research associate at the University of Liège, in 1987 he joined the Civil Engineering department (Ocean Engineering Group) of the University of Delaware as a research assistant professor. He then joined the faculty at URI in 1991 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1993 and to professor in 1998.

**John M. Holmes** is deputy executive director of operations at the Port of Los Angeles. Captain Holmes oversees the port police, port pilots, emergency preparedness, wharfinger, and homeland security divisions at the nation's number one container port and has ultimate responsibility for port-related security and public safety issues. His divisions work cooperatively with associated government and law enforcement agencies to uphold maritime laws, enforce safety and security regulations, and continually test and enhance emergency preparedness procedures to ensure the safety of the port workforce and residents in the surrounding harbor communities. Captain Holmes has 30 years of international management experience in a variety of positions that include a chief operating officer, Fortune 500 executive, senior level USCG officer and renowned

maritime industry security specialist. He most recently served as a principal and chief operating officer of the Marsec Group, a full-service security consulting firm specializing in supply chain security, technology, and operations. Prior to forming the Marsec Group, Holmes was vice president and director of business development for Science Applications International Corporation, where he assisted government and commercial clients with the development of technology solutions to homeland security challenges, with an emphasis on port, border, and military solutions.

Captain Holmes retired from the USCG in 2003 following 27 years of distinguished service in a variety of posts that included Commanding Officer, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection, and Captain of the Port (COTP) for the Los Angeles-Long Beach port complex. As COTP, he was at the helm on September 11, 2001, and has been credited with swift and decisive actions that ultimately led to the creation of a number of national security practices, including the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA), Area Maritime Security Committee, and national Sea Marshal Program. Earlier in his USCG career, he served as Deputy Chief of the USCG Office of Congressional Affairs in and as Delegate and Committee Chair at the International Maritime Organization in London. Captain Holmes served on the NRC Committee on Advanced Spectroscopic Portals of the Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board. Captain Holmes holds bachelor's degrees in English and education from Boston College and a master's degree in business administration from Washington University's John M. Olin School of Business.

**Ali Mosleh, NAE**, is Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maryland, where he conducts research in various risk assessment fields such as expert quantitative opinion, reliability growth modeling, probabilistic reliability physics, common cause failure analysis, dynamic accident simulation, and dynamic probabilistic risk assessment. He also conducts human reliability analyses, develops methodologies for security risk management, and space systems risk analysis. He has performed risk and safety assessment, reliability analysis, and decision analysis for nuclear, chemical, and aerospace industries. He is the editor of four books, author or co-author of four source books and guidebooks, and more than 140 papers in technical journals and conferences. Professor Mosleh was the organizer and/or chairman of numerous international conferences and technical sessions.

He chairs the Engineering Division of the International Society for Risk Analysis, and is a Board Member of the International Association of Probabilistic Safety Assessment and Management. He is a member of the Board of Editors for the *Journal of Reliability Engineering and System Safety*. He is a member and Program Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Human Factors Division, American Nuclear Society, as well as a member of the Risk Analysis Methodology Committee, International Society for Risk Analysis. He also serves as Co-Director of the Center for Technology Risk Studies at Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland. He is an expert consultant to national and international organizations on risk and reliability issues. He has a Ph.D. in nuclear science and engineering from the University of California in Los Angeles. Dr. Mosleh was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2010.

**Peter K. Velez** is the Global Emergency Response Manager for Shell International Exploration and Production. Employed at Shell since 1975, his assignments have included Drilling Engineering, Civil Engineering, Division Civil Engineer, Operations Superintendent, Production Superintendent, Manager Production Engineering – Gulf of Mexico, Manager Health, Safety and Environment – Gulf of Mexico, Manager Regulatory Affairs, Manager Regulatory Affairs and Incident Command for Shell U.S. and Americas, Global Security Manager, and his present assignment. As the Incident Commander for Shell, he has responded to major incidents in the Gulf of Mexico and onshore involving oil spills, hurricanes, fires and explosions, Y2K, and other events. He has performed work for Shell at international locations in Nigeria, Oman, Algeria, Gabon, UK, Norway, Russia, China, India, Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, and Venezuela. He has received several external recognitions that include the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Meritorious Public Service Award and Medal (the highest award to a civilian), American Petroleum Institute

(API) Distinguished and Meritorious Service Awards, Offshore Operators Recognition Awards, and others.

He was appointed by the Secretary of Transportation to the USCG National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee, on which he served for 7 years, the last 4 years as the Chairperson. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Marine Preservation Association (largest Oil Spill Response Organization in the U.S.). He is active in various trade association groups: served as Chair of the API Executive Committee on Drilling and Producing Operations, Chair of the API Executive Committee on Environmental Conservation, Chair of the Louisiana Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Committee, and others. He has been a member of the API Standards Group, API Safety Committee, and others. He chaired the API Committee that developed, with the Minerals Management Service, Recommended Practice 75 "Safety and Environmental Management Program for Offshore Operations". He presently chairs the International Oil and Gas Producers (OGP) Arctic Coordination Task Force and the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) Arctic Oil Spill Task Force, and serves on the API/National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) Oil Spill Response Task Force established after the Deepwater Horizon incident. He has made many presentations on oil and gas subjects at industry and external conferences, as well as coordinated industry workshops on a variety of subjects. He is Shell's Campus Ambassador to Cornell University, one of the 20 universities at which Shell recruits. He received B.S. (1974) and M.S. (1975) degrees in civil engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.

For additional information on the Marine Board activities, please contact Joedy Cambridge ([jcambridge@nas.edu](mailto:jcambridge@nas.edu)).