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seminar

Global Catastrophic Risks with Climate Change as a Case Study

Prof. Bilal M. Ayyub, PhD, PE

Global catastrophic risks are associated with natural or anthropogenic events that have the potential to inflict serious damage on human well-being on a global scale, including destroying or crippling modern civilization. Such events include nuclear war, outer space hazards, e.g., solar storms and asteroids impacting Earth, geohazards, e.g., supervolcanoes, climate change, resource scarcity, biohazards, pandemics, diminished biodiversity, financial crises, income inequality, governance and anarchy, etc. The most severe among them pose existential risks for humans. A workshop is being planned to examine global catastrophic risks in concurrent tracks using similar frameworks in order to facilitate comparisons and cross fertilization for informing policy and decision making. This presentation will focus on global climate change as a case study. Washington DC is used to estimate damages resulting from only sea level rise as an example.

Dr. Ayyub is a University of Maryland Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Professor of Reliability Engineering, Professor of Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computation, and Director of the Center for Technology and Systems Management. Dr. Ayyub's main research interests are risk, uncertainty, decisions, and systems applied to civil, mechanical, infrastructure, energy, defense and maritime fields. Dr. Ayyub is a fellow of ASCE, ASME, SRA and SNAME. Dr. Ayyub completed several projects for governmental and private entities, such as NSF, ONR, AFOSR, USACE, DHS, NRC, ASME, Hartford, Chevron, Bechtel, etc. Dr. Ayyub is the recipient of several awards from ASCE, ASNE, ASME, NAFIPS, the Department of the Army, and the Governor of the State of Maryland. Dr. Ayyub is the author and co-author of more than 600 publications including 8 textbooks and 14 edited books. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the ASCE-ASME Journal of Risk and Uncertainty in Engineering Systems.

Date: February 11, 2015

Time: 11am - 12pm

Location: Malone Hall, Room 328

This event is free and open to the public

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