



**Floodplain Management Association
2009 HOGG-OWEN AWARD
FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT**

**Presented to Susan Lien Longville
Director, Water Resources Institute at California State University San Bernardino**

The Water Resources Institute at California State University Bernardino, led by Mrs. Susan Lien Longville, was chosen to manage the Alluvial Fan Task Force (AFTF) activities with the primary Southern California stakeholders. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) convened the Alluvial Fan Task Force (AFTF) in 2007 with Pre-Disaster Mitigation funding from FEMA and a state cost share match. The AFTF was charged with reviewing the state of knowledge of alluvial fans, examining the flood risks, and developing local planning tools including a Model Ordinance for voluntary local adoption. The Director of DWR appointed Task Force members from Southern California that represented a broad range of interests and stakeholders including local government, development, the environmental community, flood managers, and representatives from state and federal agencies.

Ms. Longville, while working on the 2002 California Floodplain Task Force representing Southern California Council of Governments, had long before identified the need for additional analysis of alluvial fans and planning tools for communities near them. She has been instrumental in advocating and implementing this effort: managing the Task Force technical consultants from public agencies, the private sector, and the academic community, and engaging university representatives from University of California Riverside, Cal Poly Pomona, and University of Southern California. She has also worked with Water Resources Institute staff to develop a flood history of Southern California that the AFTF reviewed as part of their efforts and which DWR will incorporate into the California Water Plan.

Over the past 21 months, the AFTF has held nine Plenary Meetings in Southern California to review the state of knowledge and develop local planning tools and Model Ordinance. The AFTF examined more than a half century of flooding events involving development on alluvial fans in Southern California, the geomorphology of alluvial fans, the flood hazards including alluvial fan flooding, debris flows and post-fire flooding, the flood management challenges, the risk reduction strategies, the economic issues associated with future development and the ecology of alluvial fans. Then the AFTF began developing a set of local planning tools that could be integrated with existing federal, state and local regulations for flood hazard protection and resource protection to support sustainable development. The tools are aimed at reducing life, property, and natural resource losses to human, built and natural resources resulting from the natural hazard of flooding in future development. They are designed to help communities take a deliberate step towards sustainable development on alluvial fans that will not compromise future generations. When the AFTF completes the tools and Model Ordinance, they will be offered to cities and counties to use at their own discretion.

The AFTF project is nearing successful completion due in large part to the professionalism and vigor with which Mrs. Longville and the Water Resources Institute have managed and assisted it.