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*Attention:*  
**Legislative Assistant for Science  
Legislative Assistant for Emergency Preparedness  
Legislative Director**

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## ***A National Hurricane Research Initiative: Meeting Society's Needs***

**Briefing for Senate Staff**  
**With an introduction by Senators Nelson and Martinez**  
**3:00 p.m. -- Tuesday, July 10, 2007 -- 325 Russell**  
**[Ice cream will be served]**

Legislation before both the House and Senate would implement the recommendations of the January 2007 National Science Board (NSB) report *Hurricane Warning* by creating a National Hurricane Research Initiative. A panel of experts will discuss recent advances and future priorities for hurricane research, and benefits for real-world needs including improved operational forecasts, warnings and emergency response.

Hurricanes are the most destructive and disruptive storms on Earth and, as Katrina showed in 2005, can overwhelm communities and public institutions. Major hurricane impacts are not confined to coastal communities -- heavy rainfall and flooding often result in severe impacts well inland, and damage to major coastal facilities (such as the New Orleans oil refineries) can have national implications. It is clearly in the nation's interest to undertake research and development of tools to improve hurricane forecasts, anticipate likely impacts and reduce vulnerabilities, and to improve warnings and emergency response.

**Senators Nelson and Martinez** will give welcoming remarks. Panelists are:

- **Max Mayfield**, WPLG-TV Hurricane Specialist, and former Director of the National Hurricane Center
- **Shuyi Chen**, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami
- **Judith Curry**, School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology
- **Craig Fugate**, Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management
- **Greg Holland** (moderator), Director of the Mesoscale and Microscale Meteorology Division, National Center for Atmospheric Research

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***Co-Hosted by Senators Bill Nelson and Mel Martinez***

***Event sponsored by:  
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR)  
American Geophysical Union (AGU)  
National Weather Center  
The Weather Coalition  
Congressional Hazards Caucus Alliance***

***RSVP by Thursday, July 5, to Laura Curtis at  
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