



RESEARCH PARTNERS LUNCH SERIES

Coordinated by the Center for Advanced Public Safety ◊ Hosted by the College of Engineering

IDEAS FOR IMPLEMENTING A NEW TORNADO WATCH SCALE

**Tuesday, June 30, 2015 from 12:00pm to 1:30pm
NERC (North Engineering Research Center), Room 1012**

RSVP by Friday, June 26, 2015 via the following link:

https://universityofalabama.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_esY7neunDCn3Yzj

You are invited to the June 30th lunch in the Research Partners Lunch Series. The goal of the lunch series is to introduce research topics for the development of research partnerships across disciplines. These partnerships can serve as a foundation for interdisciplinary research endeavors, grant proposal writing, course development, and innovative research applications. Different researchers from across the University are invited to brief a research topic each month for potential research partners. The lunch will begin at noon and the presentation will begin at 12:15pm.

In 2015, a new tornado watch scale (TWS) was introduced based on the likelihood of a high or low-impact tornadic event for a given day. The TWS integrates shelter/refuge recommendations into a color-coded 1-5 scale in an attempt to alert people of potential risk and best shelter strategy before a tornado outbreak. Audio recordings representing an existing National Weather Service (NWS) tornado watch, existing NWS particularly dangerous situation tornado watch, and three proposed levels from the TWS were used in interviews with Alabama residents to determine how changes to the information contained in the watch statements would affect each participant's tornado safety actions and risk perception. Results indicate a strong preference for the TWS when compared to existing NWS forecast products. The TWS was proposed as a discrete scale, but preliminary research is investigating its use with uncertainty ranges to better convey the potential for forecast variables to evolve. Preliminary uncertainty results will be discussed with a goal of generating discussion for future modifications.

Kindly RSVP your attendance by Friday, June 26th via the link below so we can reserve your lunch.

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If you have any further questions about the lunch, please call Valerie Trull at 205-348-4054.

Thank you so much and we look forward to meeting you at the Research Partners Lunch Series.

Laura Myers, *Executive Director*
Center for Advanced Public Safety
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SAVE the DATES for these future 2015 series events!

January 20	April 21	July 28	October 20
February 24	May 26	August 25	November 17
March 31	June 30	September 29	December 15