

Renowned researcher Mead Allison returns to Tulane

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Mead Allison, one of the nation's leading experts on land-creating sediment in the Mississippi River and Louisiana's continental shelf, will join Tulane University as a professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, effective Fall 2013.

Allison's appointment is part of a renewed focus at Tulane on the river and coast and will strengthen the university's partnership with The Water Institute of the Gulf, a not-for-profit research institute where Allison will become director of physical processes and sediment systems. The institute is dedicated to advancing the understanding of coastal and deltaic systems.

Allison will facilitate interaction between his field-based studies and a growing group of Tulane faculty who study a wide range of Earth surface processes using theory, experiments, and a variety of geochemical techniques. Allison will lead researchers in understanding the ways in which coastal environments are affected by processes such as sediment transport, coastal erosion, flooding, sea-level rise, and subsidence. His initial focus will be on the availability, amount, and characteristics of river and coastal sediments and the best methods to use this limited resource for restoration and protection efforts.

"I am thrilled that we were able to create a partnership with The Water Institute of the Gulf to recruit and attract Mead back to Louisiana to work on issues of such critical importance," says Nicholas Altiero, dean of the School of Science and Engineering at Tulane. "The program leadership Mead Allison brings to The Water Institute, along with his Tulane affiliation and New Orleans location, benefits everyone."

Allison was a faculty member Tulane's Earth and Environmental Sciences Department from 1999 to 2007 and currently serves as associate director of the

Jackson School of Geosciences" Institute for Geophysics at the University of Texas at Austin.

For more information on Tulane"s Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences visit <http://tulane.edu/sse/eens/>.