

**The 2008 Hurricane season** is predicted to be another above average season. The 100 year climatology average is 10 named storms, 6 hurricanes, and 2 intense ones. Since 1995 we've been in an active hurricane period and have averaged 15 named storms, 8 hurricanes, and 4 intense ones. The 2008 season should be well above average if the forecasts of near normal sea surface temps in the MDR (main development region), below average wind shear over the tropical Atlantic, a weakening El Nina & no El Nino, and below average African dust are accurate. Dr. Gray (CSU) predicts the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season has a 75% chance of being above normal. He predicts **15** tropical storms, of which **8** would become hurricanes and **4** would be major hurricanes with winds of at least 111 miles per hour. he suggests that it may even go higher.

**2008 NAMES:** Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edouard, Fay, Gustav, Hanna, Ike, Josephine, Kyle, Laura, Marco, Nana, Omar, Paloma, Rene, Sally, Teddy, Vicky, Wilfred.

Forecast Predictions	1950-2000	2007	2007	Apr 2008	Jun 2008
	historical	Actual	NHC	Dr. Gray	NHC
Named Storms	9.6	15	13-17	15	-
Named Storm Days	49.1	115.5	85	80	-
Major Hurricanes	5.9	6	6	8	-
Major Hurricane Days	24.5	47.5	40	40	-
Intense Hurricanes	2.3	2	3-5	4	-
Intense Hurricane Days	5.0	16.75	11	9	-

**2008 Probabilities of at least 1 major Category 3-4-5 hurricane hitting...**

- 1) Entire U.S. coastline: **69%** (**74%** for 2007 & 52% average for last century)
- 2) U.S. East Coast including Florida Peninsula: **45%** (50% for 2007 & 31% average for last century)
- 3) Gulf Coast (FL Panhandle west to Brownsville: **44%** (49% for 2007 & 30% average last century)
- 4) Above-average major hurricane landfall risk in the Caribbean is expected.

The College of Arts & Sciences has a [Tropical Awareness Web link](#) page that provides you with links to the major hurricane monitoring information web pages including the National Hurricane Center, the Rosenstiel Marine Lab, NHC and Navy Satellite Tracking links, How to Prepare for a Storm information, and The College of Arts & Sciences Disaster Recovery Plan. Please feel free to link to the page as desired. <http://fig.cox.miami.edu/~cmallery/cashurricane.htm>

The **2007 Atlantic Hurricane season** was unusual for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year in that **no hurricanes made landfall in the South Florida coastal regions**. Just one hurricane and three tropical storms made US landfall: Hurricane Humberto and Tropical Storms Barry (along the FL East Coast in June), Erin (which flooded Texas and Oklahoma in August), and Gabrielle (NC coastal areas). TS Noel triggered a storm watch for SoFL in October, but it turned away with no ill effects. 15 named tropical storms formed with 6 becoming hurricanes. Of these, 2 strengthened into major hurricanes (category 3+). Dean was the strongest with winds of 165mph. Total confirmed fatalities were ≥356 with total damages estimated at ~ \$ 3.8 billion.

## **PREPAREDNESS (Instructions)**

The College's Hurricane Preparedness Plan 2008 indicates we should expect possible power outages and interruption of normal campus services. Each **Department** and Program should have on file, its own **Hurricane Plan**, which includes emergency contact numbers and what to do as a hurricane approaches. Please locate your plan and update it as appropriate. If you don't remember, every plan contains basically the following steps:

- 1) Ask yourself: What am I going to do? Take a few minutes to note on a piece of paper what you plan to do; who you will contact, and who you expect to report to you, that preparedness has been accomplished.
- 2) Your preparedness should minimally:
  - a) get out your employee contact list - update the phone contact numbers and make sure everyone is on the list.
  - b) make sure you have hurricane supplies on hand; batteries and flashlights; plastic sheeting and tape to cover books, desks, and small equipment.
  - c) back up computer records; department critical mission databases. Remind all faculty and staff to backup their data.
  - d) clear all desktops, cover books, shelves, small equipment, etc.....
  - e) move furniture away from windows and/or doors.
  - f) disconnect all small electrical equipment.
  - g) remove personal belongings.

Department offices and staff should make sure that departmental records - personnel files, student files and records, grade rolls and faculty records, budget records, manuscripts and/or research data books, etc.. are secure from possible water and wind damage.

### **A few reminders:**

- 1) U.M is not a community shelter and therefore offices and labs should not be used as such. Remind your faculty and staff not to seek shelter at the University during a storm.
- 2) Classes will only be cancelled by formal announcement of the University, which will be made on one of the local radio stations: WVUM 90.5 fm, WZTA 94.9 fm, and WINZ 940 am. No faculty member is to cancel classes without your approval and that should be given, only if the University announces it is closing.

After the storm please ask all your people to call in to a central location or supervisor for your department and then you should report in so that we can do a census to insure everyone's safety.

### **Whom to report to:**

- 1) Dean **Michael Halleran** 305-284-4021(o) & 305-456-0115 (h) & 305-582-5955 (c)
- 2) Senior Associate Deans:

<b>Jacqueline Dixon</b>	305-284-6792 (o)	&	305-661-2067 (h)	&	786-473-3476 (c)
<b>Daniel Pals</b>	305-284-4036 (o)	&	305-233-8440 (h)	&	305-546-2500 (c)
<b>Perri Lee Roberts</b>	305-284-4021 (o)	&	305-285-9252 (h)	&	305-903-7549 (c)
- 3) Associate Deans:

<b>Charles Mallery</b>	305-284-3188 (o)	&	305-232-6954 (h)	&	786-449-5442 (c)
<b>Rita Deutsch</b>	305-284-4333 (o)	&	305-271-4946 (h)		

### **For essential University information the U.M. Rumor Control number is:**

**305-284-5151 or 1-800-227-0354.**

### **STORM CRITERIA:**

- a Tropical **Depression**..... is thunderstorms & winds less than **38 mph**  
a Tropical **Storm**..... is an organized storm with circulating winds between **39-73 mph**  
a **Hurricane**..... is an intense storm with cyclonic winds greater than **74mph**  
**categories**..... **1** = 74-95mph **2** = 96-110mph **3** = 111-130mph **4** = 131-155mph **5** = >155mph  
a **Tornado**..... is localized cyclonic winds...  
**F0** = 40-72mph **F1** = 73-112mph **F2** = 113-157mph **F3** = 158-206mph **F4** = 207-260mph **F5** = 261-318mph  
a hurricane **WATCH**..... means a storm may arrive within **36 hr**  
a hurricane **WARNING**... means a storm may arrive within **24 hr**