

**52<sup>nd</sup> Annual PURC Conference:**  
***Resilient Infrastructure in a Changing World:***  
***Technology, Policy, and Preparedness***

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm **Registration**

1:30 pm to 2:40 pm **Keynote & PURC Distinguished Service Award Presentation**

Century A Ballroom

AI and machine learning are changing the utility industry. To understand their full potential, it is important to recognize their roots in a discipline few recognize—econometrics – that provides rigorous analyses of causal relationships and efficient decision making. It also provides insights into future directions for AI-driven energy and water services.

- Gregory Duncan, Senior Principal Economist and Technologist - Amazon

2:40 pm to 2:50 pm **Break**

2:50 pm to 3:50 pm **Panel: New Tech, New Applications for Infrastructure Resilience**

Century A

New technology brings new application opportunities. How are Florida stakeholders utilizing technological innovation to improve the resilience of critical infrastructure?

- Christopher Barrington, Sr. Director, Operations – TECO Peoples Gas
- Seán Twomey, Sr. Vice President – Sunshine Water Services

Session Moderator:

Ted Kury, Director of Energy Studies – University of Florida Public Utility Research Center (PURC)

3:50 pm to 4:00 pm **Break**

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm **Panel: AI’s Impacts on Supply and Demand**

Century A Ballroom

Much has been said about how the growth of data centers is escalating the demand for energy, water, and broadband. What are the realities and what is hype? How did we get here and where might we go? How are we going to pay for it and how are investors considering the opportunities and challenges of AI?

- Dan Aschenbach, Principal Consulting Partner – AGVP Advisory
- Erik Deumens, Director – University of Florida IT Research Computing

Session Moderator:

Mark Jamison, Director and Gerald L. Gunter Professor – University of Florida Public Utility Research Center (PURC)

5:30 pm to 6:45 pm **Reception**

**Thursday, February 20, 2025**

7:30 am to 8:30 am **Registration/Continental Breakfast**

8:30 am to 8:50 am **Keynote Address**

- The Honorable Mike La Rosa, Chairman – Florida Public Service Commission

8:50 am to 10:20 am **Panel: Critical Infrastructure and Cybersecurity in an Era of Increasing Threats**

Century A Ballroom

The current cybersecurity landscape; Understanding the threat: Methods and Tactics; proactive measures and detection strategies; policy and regulation

- Katherine Gronberg, Head of Government Services - NightDragon
- Ari Schwartz, Managing Director of Cybersecurity Services – Venable LLP
- James Andrew Lewis, Senior Vice President, Pritzker Chair – Center for Strategic & International Studies

Session Moderator:

Shane Tews, President – Logan Circle Strategies and Nonresident Senior Fellow – AEI

10:20 am to 10:30 am **Break**

10:30 am to 12:00 pm **Panel: Meeting Demand for Florida’s Future**

Century A Ballroom

As demand for critical services increases, how are stakeholders responding to the challenge of providing safe, reliable service in a dynamic environment?

- Justin Kramer, Director of Innovative Technologies – Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) The Reliable One
- Charles Rehwinkel, Deputy Public Counsel – Florida Office of Public Counsel
- Jacob Sjostrom, Director of Broadband Initiatives – FloridaCommerce, Office of Broadband

Session Moderator:

Ronald Brisé, Vice President & Senior Advisor – Gunster Arrow Group

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm **Conference Luncheon & Award Presentation**

Century B/C Ballroom

**Gerald L. Gunter Distinguished Service Award Presentation**