

Good morning.

My name is Emir Macari, I'm the Dean of Engineering and Computer Science here at Sacramento State. I'm sorry that I had to be a little bit late; kids being dropped off in the morning and then traffic coming into downtown. But it is a great pleasure to be here with you today. It is very important that throughout this symposium, we stress the fact that it is a collaborative meeting; it is a dialogue that we want to have between the federal government, the state government, and local government, to find a solution that best fits our population. And throughout the meeting we will try to make that emphasis, because it is important that we work together to solve local problems, thinking nationally but looking at things locally.

Our next speaker now brings, then -- after our first two speakers brought the national perspective and the state's perspective, our next speaker brings out the local perspective, and that is Mr. Stein Buer, Executive Director of SAFCA, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency.