



**Thomas J. Mason, Ph.D.**

**Professor, Director**

**Global Center for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Action  
Department of Environmental and Occupational Health**

Dr. Mason was commissioned in the U.S. Public Health Service in 1967, and served his first tour at the CDC ( 1967-1969 ). He was attached to the Community Pesticides Program. This was Dr. Mason's introduction to Environmental Medicine and Toxicology. He served Intermittent Tours of Active Duty at the rank of CAPT ( O-6) from 1987 – 2001 at the NCI/NIH, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, and from 2001 – 2010 at the CDC, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Over these 40 plus years, Dr. Mason has come to be recognized internationally in his chosen field of Environmental Epidemiology. He led the team at the National Cancer Institute which published our nation's first 'Atlas of Cancer Mortality for U.S. Counties'. This contribution to our understanding of the role that environmental exposures/contaminants play in disease prompted a number of countries worldwide to pursue research to determine 'local determinants' of disease(s). He has served, and continues to serve on scientific advisory boards addressing environmental concerns.

Recent highlights are that Dr. Mason has been appointed to the **Armed Forces Epidemiological Board/ Defense Health Board effective September 2006**, and has been selected to serve as a Public Member of the Board of Directors for the American Board of Disaster Medicine. In 2008 he was invited to join the **Interstate Chemical Terrorism/ Threats Workgroup**. He also serves as an **Associate Dean of the International Center for Pre-hospital and Disaster Medicine**.

Dr. Mason serves as a member of the **Aerospace Medicine Residency Advisory Committee, Naval Operational Medicine Institute, Naval Air Station Pensacola**, as well as a member of the Science Advisory Board, Robert E. Mitchell Center for Prisoner of War Studies. He was recently appointed as a Senior Scientific Advisor to the Joint Forces Command, Joint Center for Operational Analysis. Dr. Mason has held appointments at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology as a Visiting Scientist, as well as, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics, Uniformed Services University. One of his professional goals is to expand the University of South Florida's education and training programs for the Uniformed Services. To this end he has trained officers from the tri-services at both the Master's and Doctoral level.

Dr. Mason is identified as the point of contact on current USF Memoranda of Understanding with **USCENTCOM, NORAD-USNORTHCOM, USJFCOM, the Pacific Disaster Center/ East-West Center**, as well as, the **Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center**.

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**THOMAS L. CRISMAN**

Prior to becoming the Patel Professor of the Environment at University of South Florida, with a joint appointment in the Patel Center for Global Solutions and the Department of Integrative Biology, Dr. Crisman was a professor in the Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences, University of Florida for 30 years and Director of the Howard T. Odum Center of Wetlands for 11 years. He is a broadly trained aquatic ecologist specializing in water management of the tropics and subtropics and the use of appropriate low technology solutions for drinking and wastewater treatment. His research has focused on water management in Florida, Africa, Central and South America, Asia and the Caribbean and Mediterranean basins, and he has served as a consultant to the governments of Spain, Poland and Greece, the United Nations and numerous international agencies. He is currently Chair of the Board of Advisors of the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation through a State Department appointment.



## **KENT HUGHES BUTTS**

KENT HUGHES BUTTS is Professor of Political Military Strategy and the Director of the National Security Issues Group at the Center for Strategic Leadership, U.S. Army War College. He leads the Center's Combatant Command support efforts, focusing extensively on destabilizing natural resource issues. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, he holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Boston University, an M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Washington, and was a John M. Olin Post-Doctoral Fellow in National Security at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth and the U.S. Army War College, and formerly held the Army War College George C. Marshall Chair of Military Studies. Dr. Butts has travelled widely in Southern Africa conducting research on strategic minerals and has organized and conducted international conferences, workshops or games on natural resources and security in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Latin America. He headed the U.S. delegation and co-chaired the NATO Environmental Security Pilot Study Meetings in Warsaw and Prague, and was a member of the U.S. delegation to the OSCE Economic Forum (Prague). He has been interviewed by the BBC, Time Magazine, Washington Post, Baltimore Sun and other media and twice testified before Congress on the topic of Climate Change and Security. He is author or editor of numerous national security publications, and co-author of the book, *Geopolitics of Southern Africa: South Africa as Regional Superpower*, and co-editor of the book *Economics and National Security: the Case of China*.