

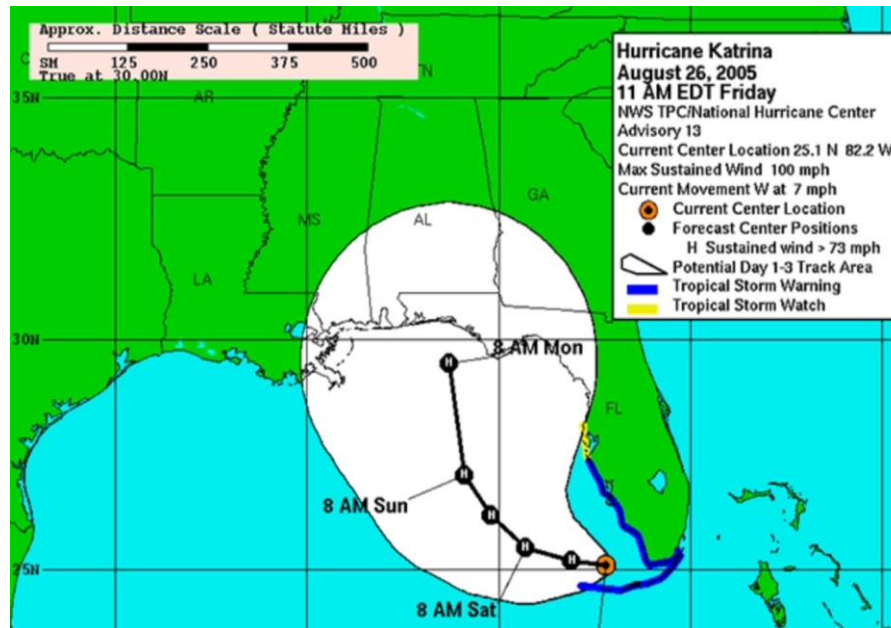
# DEALING WITH A MANMADE CRISIS IN NEW ORLEANS: KATRINA & THE LEVEE FAILURES in 2005

**Jesuit Advancement Administrators  
Conference, July 2016**

# Katrina & the Levee Failures: A Brief Timeline

August 25 (Thurs.): Katrina crosses Florida as a Cat 1 storm

August 26 (Fri.): Katrina's track:

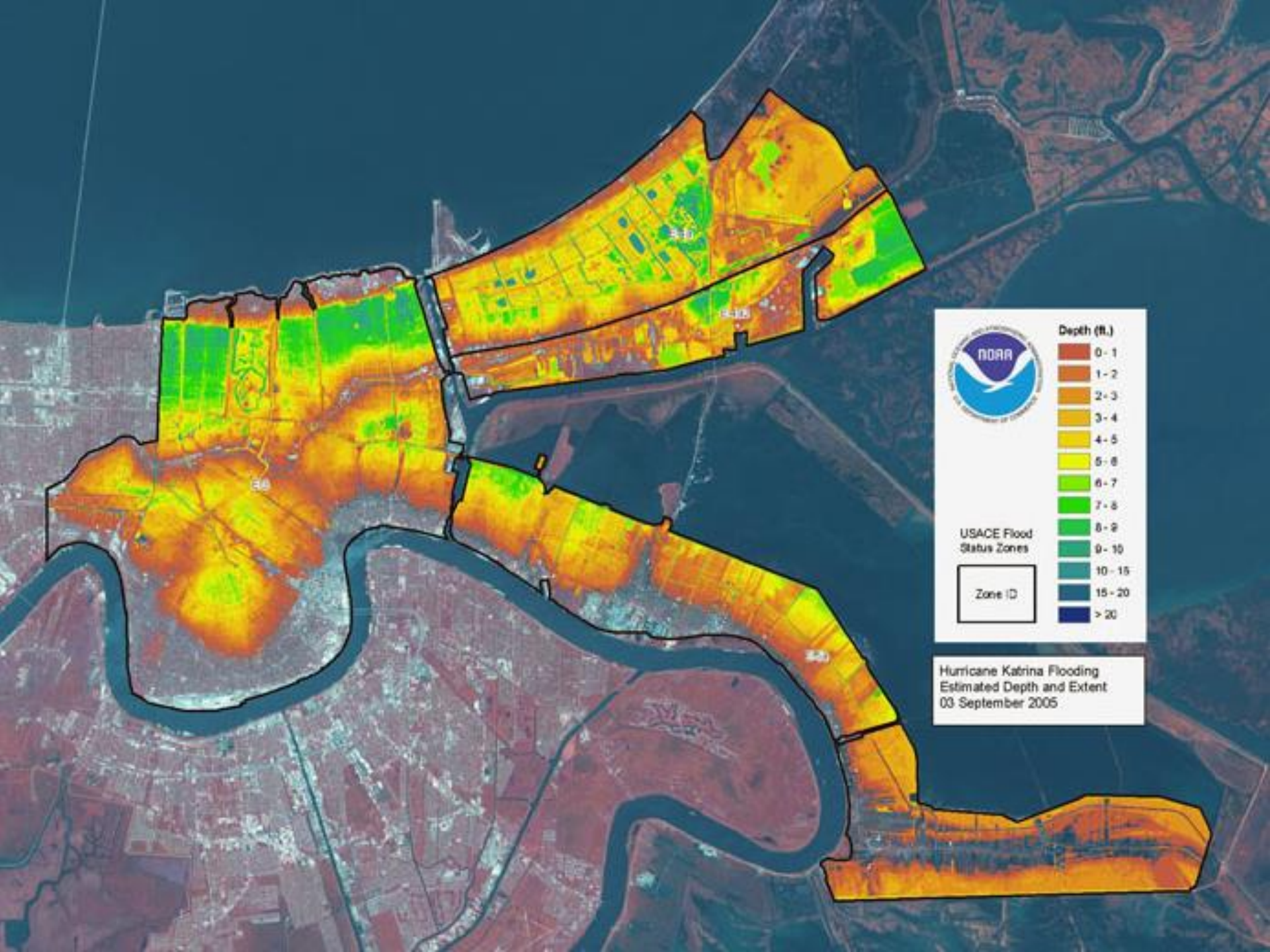



August 29 (Mon.): Katrina hits south of New Orleans with 145 mph winds

# Aftermath of Katrina and the Levee Failures

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- Minimum of 1,833 dead (986 in Louisiana)
- 80 percent of Orleans Parish under water
- More than \$125 billion in damages
- In New Orleans alone, 134,000 single-family homes destroyed, according to FEMA





**Depth (ft.)**

0-1
1-2
2-3
3-4
4-5
5-8
6-7
7-8
8-9
9-10
10-15
15-20
> 20

USACE Flood Status Zones

Zone ID

Hurricane Katrina Flooding  
Estimated Depth and Extent  
03 September 2005



The flag of Texas flies over Thomas Hall on Loyola's campus.



The National Guard set up outside Loyola's Monroe Library



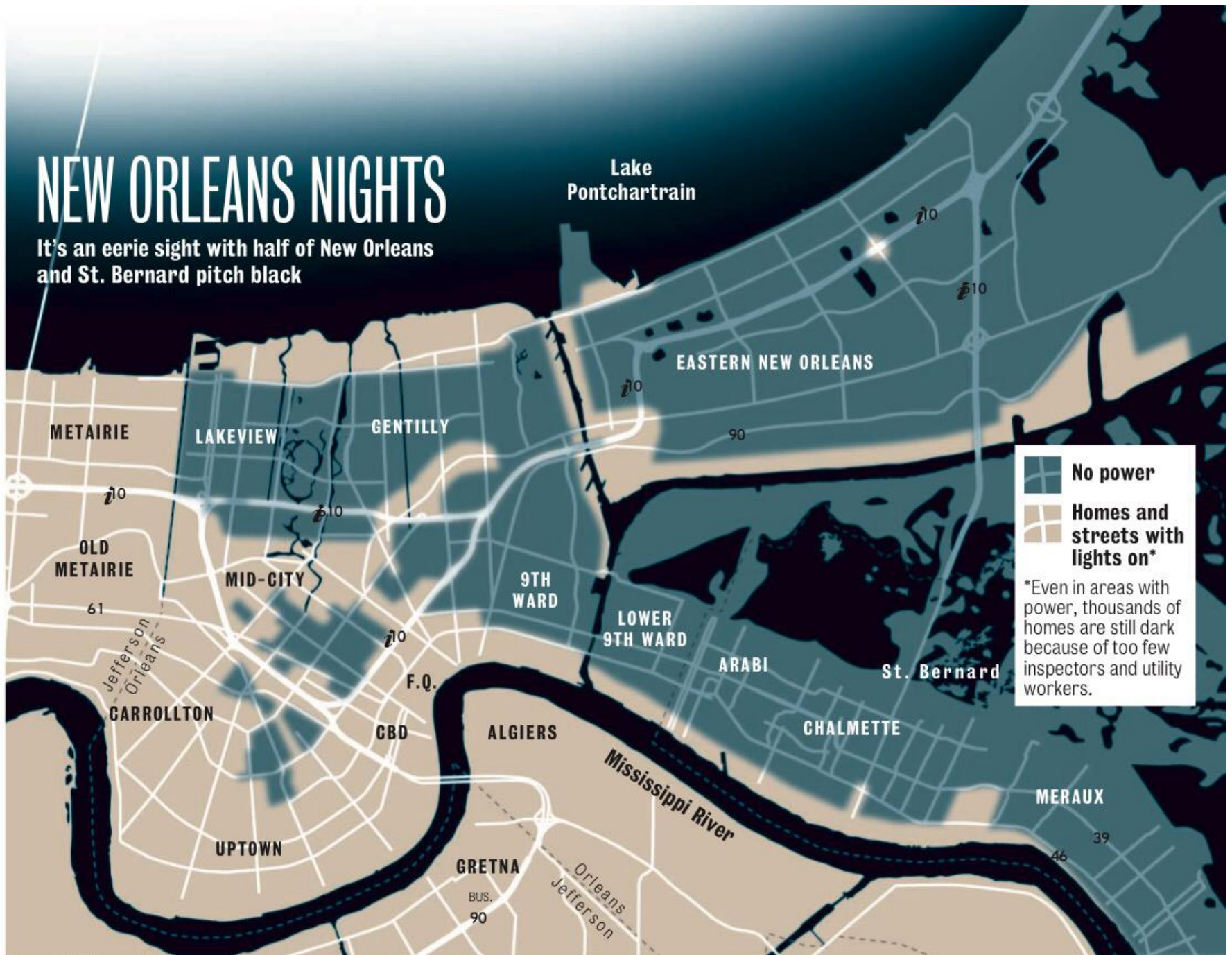






# NEW ORLEANS NIGHTS

It's an eerie sight with half of New Orleans and St. Bernard pitch black



# Loyola 2005: What Didn't Work

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- Our emergency plans did not provide for the eventual of a complete breakdown in electronic communication (including cell phone communication) and our IT system.
- Having 2 administrative offices (Alexandria and Houston) presented logistical challenges. (A second hurricane heading to Houston did not help.)
- Lack of access to emergency contact information for all constituents.
- Inadequate access to backup databases and systems.

# Loyola 2005: What Worked

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- Hurricane Crisis Plan which resulted in the safe evacuation of all students.
- Network of Jesuit colleges and universities was activated: the morning after the storm, our president, Fr. Kevin Wildes, S.J., was in telephone contact with Fr. Charles Currie, S.J., and our two chief communications officers were in touch with the AJCU communications officer. AJCU provided temporary web messages. Loyola students eventually attended other Jesuit institutions in Fall 2005, almost all of them honoring Loyola tuition.

# Loyola 2005: What Worked

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- University of Houston law dean contacted our law dean; Loyola law students started classes in Houston within days.
- Blog initiated with daily updates. Toll-free number set up to handle questions. Fr. Wildes sent weekly updates to Loyola community, eventually including video updates at times. Took 3 weeks to get our regular website re-established.
- Temporary office set up in Alexandria (3 hour drive from New Orleans)

# Loyola 2005: What Worked

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- All fundraising was directed to the Loyola Katrina Relief Fund.
- President went on 16-city tour, meeting with our dispersed students and families, as well as alumni.
- Electronic database constructed of faculty and staff cell #s and alternative email addresses.
- Loyola paid all faculty and staff throughout the crisis



St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote:

“ . . . as far as we are concerned, we should not want health more than illness, wealth more than poverty, fame more than disgrace, a long life more than a short one, and similarly for all the rest, but we should desire and choose only what helps us more towards the end for which we are created.”