

Chakraborty receives Multi-year Research Grant from NSF

Dr. Jayajit Chakraborty, Associate Professor of Geography, received a research grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF)'s Infrastructure Management and Extreme Events Program for a three-year project entitled *Advancing Environmental Equity Research: Vulnerability to Air Pollution and Flood Risks in Houston and Miami*. This is a collaborative research award (\$389,992) with Dr. Timothy Collins and Dr. Sara Grineski from the University of Texas, El Paso. Their project aims to address several limitations associated with current research on social disparities in the distribution of environmental hazards, and advance knowledge of social and spatial influences on residential exposure to hazards. The research involves parallel analyses of two high-impact hazards—air pollution and flooding—conducted in the two largest coastal metropolitan areas in the U.S. South: Houston, Texas and Miami, Florida. The study will provide a comparative, multi-level, multi-method framework for modeling exposure to both technological (air pollution) and natural (flooding) hazards, and transform current understandings of factors contributing to environmental and social injustices. The results are expected to enhance public knowledge of environmental risks, inform practitioner communities, contribute to education at university and K-12 levels, and increase the participation of underrepresented groups in hazards research and practice.