



## UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Department of Mathematics

### Applied Mathematics and Scientific Computing Seminar

**Location:** Lippitt Hall 205

**Time:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 1:00pm  
(refreshments at 12:50 p.m.)

### Plucking the Universe's Heartstrings

by **Dr. Mihan McKenna**

US Army Engineer Research and Development Center

**Abstract:** Using examples from airline safety, combat situational awareness, and search and rescue operations, this talk will illuminate how fundamental research into physics and math translates from equation to action, and the associated impact for warfighters, emergency first responders, and the civilian public.

**Bio-Sketch:** Dr. Mihan McKenna is a Senior Scientific Technical Manager with a specialty in Geophysics at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), a group of 7 R&D laboratories for the US Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the US Army.

Recipient of the 2013 USACE Researcher of the Year award for innovative remote monitoring of structures, Dr. McKenna's area of expertise in geophysics, both atmospheric as well as solid earth, near surface phenomenology, and sensors with research focused on force projection and force protection issues of remote battlefield assessment, hard target defeat and strategic imaging and monitoring of trans-national threats. She directs integrated analytical, computational modeling, and experimental research with ERDC in partnership with multiple Department of Defense laboratories, Department of Energy, Defense Intelligence Agency, international defense partners, and academic institutions.