This presentation will highlight a personal perspective on technical advances and systems management towards secure water supplies for water-scarce cities. The speaker came to Berkeley as a freshman in fall 1963, a transitional year on campus. Just as there was revolution on campus, important changes were occurring in how we manage water resources for the growing cities in California. Old ways of coping with California’s water needs—overdraft of groundwater, stream depletion, and greater imports—no longer meet the needs of the 21st Century. The solution to the challenge of urban water security will comprise a combination of conservation, desalination, stormwater capture, water reuse, and water banking.

Bio
Dick Luthy is the Silas H. Palmer Professor of Environmental Engineering at Stanford University. He directs the NSF Engineering Research Center for Re-inventing the Nation’s Urban Water Infrastructure (ReNUWIt). His area of teaching and research is environmental engineering and water quality. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, an inductee into the CEE Academy of Distinguished Alumni, UC Berkeley, and a Fellow of the Water Environment Federation.