

Georgia Tech Hyatt Leadership Lecture
The Ten C's of Academic Leadership

Reginald DesRoches
Provost, Rice University

Reginald DesRoches is Rice University's Provost and serves as Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. As the University's chief academic officer, DesRoches works closely with the president to advance the University's teaching, research, and service mission. The Provost leads the strategic efforts to ensure that the academic and research programs are world-class, and aligned with the university's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equity. These responsibilities include leading academic programs and initiatives across the University's 7 schools, which serve 7000 students, and numerous centers and institutes.

He previously served as the William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering at the George R. Brown School of Engineering at Rice University. In this position, he provided leadership to a top ranked engineering school with 9 departments, 137 faculty, and 2500 students. Prior to assuming this role in 2017, he served as the Karen and John Huff Chair in the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech.

His primary research interests are in design of resilient infrastructure systems under extreme loads and the application of smart materials. His research is highly interdisciplinary and spans micro- to macro-scales. He has published approximately 300 articles and delivered more than 100 presentations in over 30 different countries. Dr. DesRoches served as the key technical leader in the United States' response to the 2010 Haiti earthquake, taking a team of 28 engineers, architects, city planners, and social scientists to study the impact of the earthquake.

Dr. DesRoches received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) in 2002. Most recently, he was a recipient of the Distinguished Arnold Kerr Lecturer Award in 2019, the John A. Blume Distinguished Lecturer in 2018, as well as the 2018 Earthquake Engineering Research Institute Distinguished Lecturer Award – one the highest honors in the earthquake engineering field. He is a recipient of the Georgia Tech Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Advisor Award (2010), and the Georgia Tech ANAK Award (2008). He is a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Structural Engineering Institute.

In 2020, DesRoches was elected as a member to the National Academy of Engineering.