Higher Education Program Updates
Message from Wendy Walsh, Higher Education Program Manager

It’s always inspiring when the community gets together. This week, several members of the emergency management and the homeland security higher education communities joined up at a pre-summit workshop hosted by the FEMA National Training & Education System (NTES) and Center for Homeland Defense & Security (CHDS).

The purpose of our gathering was to learn more about NTES as a unifier of Homeland Security & Emergency Management academic, training and analytic communities of practice. The session focused on the potential common ground and efficiencies of homeland security and emergency management academic program efforts that explore and implement program-level accreditation to improve academic program quality and standardization.

Accreditation Special Interest Group (SIG) members Daryl Spiewak, Kay Goss, Stacy Willett and Dave McEntire did an outstanding job conveying the work in which the emergency management higher education community has been engaged. Jim Ramsay, lead of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Unity of Effort SIG, facilitated discussion of the homeland security higher education efforts. Mike McCabe from the National Fire Academy presented the efforts of the Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) recognition program, and Rich Suttie from CHDS shared how the Department of Defense has approached accreditation and joint professional military education.

My great thanks goes to Steve Recca from CHDS for providing us with the space and opportunity to co-host this workshop as well as ensuring great representation from the homeland security academic community of interest. We are working on writing up the proceeding of the workshop to share with the broader community in the near future.

The Homeland Defense & Security Education Summit has been underway this week. As I wrote this message, we were half way through two information-packed days of plenary speakers, panels and breakout sessions. I learned a lot in attending sessions on teaching strategies, perspectives on climate change, hometown security and cybersecurity. I also had the opportunity to make a presentation about the FEMA Higher Education Program in a plenary session and received a lot of interest in collaboration and opportunities to share efforts.
Other Summit topics included artificial intelligence, adaptive manufacturing, social networking, drug interdiction, border security to name a few, as well as a session that will take a hermeneutic phenomenological exploration to defining the evolution of the term, homeland security.

As with our upcoming Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium, there is a lot to take in and an abundance of smart and interesting people to learn from. I hope that we will see several of these attendees join us in June.

Webinar: The Higher Education Program will host “Academic Perspective On Increasing Engagement With Faith-based Organizations in Disaster Preparedness,” April 12, 2017, 2:00–3:30 p.m. EDT. The webinar is a collaborative effort between the DHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships and the FEMA Higher Education Program to help to ensure emergency managers, faith-based and community organizations are aware of academic partner resources and engagement opportunities.

Registration link: https://fema.connectsolutions.com/e4eg8e383ze/event/registration.html
Conference Call-In: 800-320-4330, PIN: 376368

The Higher Education Program hosts a webinar each month. If you have a topic or idea, contact Wendy Walsh.

Would you like to be eligible for future Hi Ed projects such as focus groups, student internship opportunities and course revisions? If interested, visit our link for instructions, or contact Barbara.

College List - The EMI Higher Education Program keeps a list of colleges and universities that offer emergency management, homeland security, and related programs. EMI staff do not provide college recommendations or discuss the relative merits of the colleges and universities listed. Send information updates to FEMA-emi-collegelist@fema.dhs.gov.

Mark Your Calendar for the next Hi Ed Symposium! The 19th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium will be held June 5-8, 2017 at FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Go to the website to download an invitation package, call for posters submission form, and student volunteer information.

The Next EM Higher Education Community Conference Call is Thursday, April 20th, from 2:00-3:00 PM EDT. Please join us. Learn from the emergency management academic community what is new and exciting in their world. Find out about ongoing projects and discuss higher education community needs that we can address. Let me know if you have topics you would like to discuss. 800-320-4330, PIN: 376368.
Employment
Vacancy announcements posted for other Emergency Management/Homeland Security Positions:

- **Emergency Management Specialist (Individual Assistance Branch Director)**, AD-0089-03/03, CLOSE 3/27/2017, FEMA-17-JMW-156209, Oakland, CA
- **Emergency Management Specialist (Response)**, GS-0089-12/12, CLOSE 3/27/2017, FEMA-17-KN-132127-DE-V, Atlanta, GA
- **Supervisory Emergency Management Specialist (Mitigation)**, GS-0089-14/14, CLOSE 3/27/2017, FEMA-17-KN-132144-DE, Atlanta, GA
- **Physical Security Specialist (Electronic)**, GS-0080-9/12, CLOSE 3/26/2017, PH-17-LM-10006494-DEMP, Washington, DC; Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Philadelphia, PA; Nashville, TN; Auburn, WA

Higher Education Vacancies:
- **Auburn University Montgomery** – Assistant Professor of Justice and Public Safety

Resources
The Disaster Information Management Research Center’s *Disaster Lit®: the Resource Guide for Disaster Medicine and Public Health* database has recently been updated, and is now available.

Federal Program to Reduce Windstorm Impacts Requests Comments on New Strategic Plan

“The collection of resources below were compiled through a variety of sources and are included here as perhaps interesting and relevant resources for research or classroom use. These links are provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute any endorsement or approval by FEMA or the Higher Education Program”

Report Shows Potential Ground Shaking Hazards in U.S. in 2017. Induced and natural earthquakes are forecast to be hundreds of times more likely than before 2008.

Floods and hurricanes predicted with social media – Study

Calendar
31st Governor's Hurricane Conference, May 14-19, 2017. If you have registered for training and have not sent in your training session selection form, please do so now. Download the training session selection form.

Building the Case for Business Resiliency with the University of Chicago and BRPA (Business Resumption Planning Association) a day-long training event Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM CDT

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“FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.”

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