Higher Education Program Updates

Well, it’s here, the last month of the calendar year! This year has been another productive and learning experience for our program. Our community has grown in programs and products and we have a lot to be proud of in what we have accomplished. As we enter into the next calendar year of 2019, we are focused on how can we expand our reach and implement some of the successful practices and approaches we have surfaced and developed over the past few years. We expect that implementation will only be achieve in collaboration, and to this end we are focusing our efforts on better understanding and building diversity of perspective, fully including and making space for critical friends so we can authentically develop opportunities for unity of effort.

This notion of critical friends was first introduced to me in a workshop on empowerment evaluation a few years back. Dr. David Fetterman emphasized the importance of creating a space of trust to provide honest feedback with the purpose of promoting the improvement of the programs, people and/or processes. At the An Innovation Experience in Mutual Learning: Building Cultures of Preparedness to strengthen societal security and resilience last week in Sweden someone had mentioned the phrase, “I am going to be the devil’s advocate” and I immediately felt compelled to convey that I would like to suggest we welcome the critical friend instead. This exchange got me thinking more about the framing of how we provide critical and productive feedback. In both the U.S. and Sweden workshops we discussed the challenges in authentically conveying lessons learn to produce real change in emergency management environments. In both settings there was the authentic sharing of the fear in revealing broken systems or a lack of capabilities and competencies. Emergency management can be riddled with complex and wicked problems. We need to raise awareness to foster environments that promote thoughtful examination to design and test new approaches and support improvement rather than create contentious, defensive and fearful environments that result in covering-up and blame.

As educators, trainers and practitioners, how do we welcome and build a community of critical friends? Where do we teach this skill? How do we teach, practice and reinforce this skill? If you have examples of teaching, practicing and reinforcing this skill, I welcome your ideas.

Over the next 30 days, as we reflect on what we accomplished this year and look toward what we will address and improve in the coming year, the Higher Education Program will continue to think about this concept as a foundation for successful implementation. I look forward to learning more from you and continuing to grow our learning community in 2019.
Higher Education Program Webinars - The Higher Education Program regularly hosts webinars for the emergency management higher education academic community. If you have a pertinent topic or idea, contact Wendy Walsh.

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The next EM Higher Education Community Conference Call is Friday, December 21, 2018, from 2:00-3:00 PM ET, 800-320-4330, PIN: 376368. Please join us. Learn from the emergency management academic community about what is new and exciting in their world. Find out about ongoing projects and discuss higher education community needs that the Higher Education Program can address. Contact Wendy Walsh with your discussion topics.

The 21st Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium, June 3-6, 2019, at FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD. In the coming months, we will post additional information to the Hi Ed website as it becomes available.

College List

The Higher Education Program keeps a list of colleges and universities that offer emergency management, homeland security, and related programs. Higher Education staff do not provide college recommendations or discuss the relative merits of the colleges and universities listed. If you have a new or updated program to include, send an email to FEMA-emi collegelist@fema.dhs.gov.

Updated:
- Alphabetical Listing of Emergency Management Collegiate Programs
- Listing of Emergency Management Collegiate Programs by State
- Listing of Emergency Management Collegiate Programs by Type

Special Interest Groups (SIGs). FEMA’s Higher Education Program encourages the organization of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to support the increased exchange of knowledge in specific areas and applications of emergency management education. A SIG will provide a forum within the Higher Education community of interest to pull together people who have a common curiosity. The SIG will serve as a focal point for community development in their special area. SIGs can potentially become involved in co-
authoring/researching, and serving as mentors to students and subject matter experts to practitioners. For more information and a list of SIGs.

**Internship, Scholarship and Training Opportunities**

**Class is in Session: The Education Evidence Brief.** As the leading federal agency and largest grant maker for service and volunteering in the United States, Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) helps millions of Americans through sustained investments in students, schools, parents, teachers, and communities across the country. CNCS-supported, education-focused programs have produced favorable and measured outcomes in the areas of kindergarten and school readiness, improved socioemotional skills, emergent literacy skills, and improved reading and math achievement, among many others. Further, these programs serve low-income, low-performing, and at-risk target groups with diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds in communities across the nation.

Read the Office of Research & Evaluation’s (ORE) new report brief, [Effective CNCS-Funded Education Programs](https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/evidence), to see how CNCS-funded interventions and national service programs are making a big impact in the education field.

**Teach Me Your Ways - Check Out the Evaluation Technical Assistance (TA) Portal.** CNCS offers a free evaluation technical assistance (TA) portal. All competitively funded AmeriCorps State and National grantees and state commission grantees can register to access the portal. The TA portal enables grantees and subgrantees to submit requests for evaluation TA support to address a variety of needs, including evaluation design, implementation, and reporting. The TA Portal offers help with your evaluation needs, whether by consultation, connecting with a topic-area expert, providing document review, or evaluator-to-evaluator technical consultation.

**E0361 Multi-hazard Emergency Planning for Schools.** The course provides school district teams with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to develop, review, enhance, and sustain an all threats/hazards school emergency operations plan (EOP). Emphasis is placed on working with the whole community, including
parents/guardians, and outside agencies such as law enforcement, fire, and emergency management, on planning for, and mitigating all threats and hazards, including active shooter/mass casualty incidents.

Employment
Federal Emergency Management/Homeland Security Vacancies:

- Emergency Management Specialist- Mitigation (Hazard Mitigation Floodplain Management Specialist), IM 01, CLOSE 12/12/2018, FEMA-19-TLW-257539-RSV, Location Negotiable, Many Vacancies
- Emergency Management Specialist (Geospatial), IC 13, CLOSE 12/13/2018, FEMA-19-TT-258746-DE, Oakland, CA
- Deputy Superintendent, GS 15, CLOSE 12/14/2018, FEMA-19-TM-259925-DE, Anniston, AL
- Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy, Program Analysis, and International Affairs, ES 00, CLOSE 12/30/2018, FEMA-19-MH-DOPPA-SES, Washington, D.C.

Higher Education Vacancies:

- George Washington University – Assistant or Associate Professor, Epidemiology
- Oakton Community College – Faculty, Dual Credit Fire Science
- Southern Utah University – Assistant Professor, Geography/GIS
- University of New Haven – Assistant Professor, Public Health
- Iowa State University - Assistant Emergency Manager

Resources

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Program

Snapshot: S&T Dam-breach Simulation Software Helping Communities Plan for Emergencies

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks new proposals and supplemental funding requests to existing awards that support flexible personalized learning to prepare the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workforce of the future. NSF envisions projects that collectively apply to all learners, from young children to those already in the workforce. In particular, NSF would like to support research that
complements an anticipated future funding opportunity made possible by a gift from the Boeing Corporation, which was announced on September 24, 2018. For more information.

FEMA Releases PrepTalk on Public Works and Emergency Management: Restoring Lifeline Services

FEMA released Philip R. Mann’s PrepTalk “Public Works & Emergency Management: Restoring Lifeline Services,” the fourth PrepTalk release from the Sept. 6, 2018 symposium. Mann is the Public Works Director for Gainesville, Florida. He is the past Chair of the American Public Works Association’s (APWA) Emergency Management Committee and is APWA’s representative to the Public Safety Advisory Committee working on the FirstNet project.

In his PrepTalk, Mann shares a career’s worth of public works experience, including response and recovery from many disasters. Mann explains that the lifelines managed by a public works department are essential to “allow the community to survive” before and after a disaster. These systems include transportation; supporting utilities to restore power and communications; water for homes, businesses, and fire suppression; waste and stormwater management; and solid waste management including debris removal.

Mann's PrepTalk discussion guide, and additional reference materials are available at https://www.fema.gov/preptalks/mann. Additional PrepTalks from the Sept. 6 symposium held in Washington, D.C. will be released in the coming months.

PrepTalks are a partnership between FEMA, the International Association of Emergency Managers, the National Emergency Management Association, the National Homeland Security Consortium, and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

Winterize Your Car: If you use a car to get around and live in an area that experiences winter weather, it’s important to prepare your car for winter. Here’s what you should know if you drive during winter weather:

- Stay off the road during and after a winter storm.
- Install good winter tires. Make sure each tire has enough tread.
- Keep your gas tank full. A full tank keeps the fuel line from freezing, and it’s also a good idea in case you lose power.
- Build an emergency kit with winter essentials. Include weather clothes, a blanket, and an ice scraper. For the full list of items to keep in your car emergency kit, visit: https://www.ready.gov/car.
Keep Food Safe After A Disaster: You could lose power for a few days after a disaster or severe winter weather. If you lose power, keep your refrigerator and freezer door closed as much as possible to keep the inside cold. Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if needed, and monitor your fridge and freezer temperatures with a thermometer. When in doubt—throw it out! Throw away any food that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.

Remember refrigerated medicine. If you lose power for more than a day, you should throw away any medication that should be refrigerated unless the label says otherwise. Make sure to check with your doctor to find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures before a disaster. For more tips to keep food safe and survive after a power outage, visit https://www.ready.gov/power-outages.

Webinar: Financial Preparedness: FEMA will hold a financial preparedness webinar on Thursday, December 13 from 12-1 p.m. EST. Jeffrey Waters, Managing Member of OFC Financial Planning, and Devin Kerins, Community Preparedness Officer for FEMA Region II, will present. The webinar will cover topics such as roadblocks to savings and how to deal with them, how to be a better saver, how to reduce debt, and the importance of investing. The webinar will give you tools to prepare for a better financial future. To register for this webinar, click here.

The resources below compiled through a variety of sources and included here as interesting and relevant resources for research or classroom use. The links provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only. They do not constitute any endorsement or approval by FEMA or the Higher Education Program.


Does Logging California’s Forests Actually Make Them Burn Faster?
Will More Logging Save Western Forests From Wildfires?
Louisiana’s 2016 flood offered as evidence of climate change in new White House environmental report

Calendar
Navigating the Restyled NFIP Flood Insurance Manual webinar sessions. In October, FEMA released a new, easy to use Flood Insurance Manual. FEMA designed the manual with insurance professionals and other stakeholders in mind. The newly redesigned manual aims to make flood insurance issues and NFIP processes more understandable. The webinar is not intended to teach you the manual’s content. FEMA’s goal is to facilitate the understanding of its processes and product from the points of view of the agent, insurer, and policyholder in order to enhance reliability of service from insurance professionals to their
policyholders. The new edition of the manual does not change flood insurance coverage or supersedes the terms and conditions of the Standard Flood Insurance Policy (SFIP).

December 11 - 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CST - REGISTER
December 11 - 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CST - REGISTER
December 14 - 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CST - REGISTER

To register, use the registration links above. The webinars are free however spaces are limited so please register early. Choose one session only.

Preparedness Summit, March 26-29, 2019, St. Louis, MO. This year’s theme is “Preparedness Summit 2019: The Evolving Threat Environment.” The Preparedness Summit is the first and longest running national conference on public health preparedness. The summit presents new research findings, shares tools and resources, and provides a variety of opportunities for attendees to learn how to implement model practices that enhance the nation’s capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and other emergencies. This year’s theme is “The Evolving Threat Environment.” For more information and to register.

Wildland-Urban Interface Conference, March 23-28, 2019, Peppermill Resort, Reno, NV. The International Association of Fire Chief’s Wildland Urban Interface conference offers hands-on training and interactive sessions designed to address the challenges of wildland fires. Attendees include those responsible for protecting local forests or educating landowners and communities about the importance of land management. For more information and to register.

Joint Interagency Field Experimentation (JIFX) 19-2, February 4-8, 2019, Camp Roberts National Guard Base, Paso Robles, CA. The focus areas for this event are humanitarian assistance and firefighting operations. Experiment proposals for this event are due December 14, 2018. To submit a proposal or register for this event, visit www.nps.edu/web/fx/jifx-live

The Future of Emergency Management: Exploring How Technology Will Impact Public Safety, December 11, 2018, 2:00 PM ET / 11AM PT. Autonomous cars. Proliferation of connected devices. Enhanced computing power. Changing weather patterns. The changing technological landscape has big implications for the practice of emergency management, including threat monitoring, communications, evacuations, and resource planning. For additional information and to register.

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Sign up via our free e-mail subscription service to receive notifications and information updates.
FEMA’s mission is helping people before, during and after disasters.
FEMA and the EMI Higher Education Program do not endorse any non-government websites, companies, or applications.