

# FEMA HIGHER EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

### **DEADLINE FOR PRESENTATION SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 1, 2024 (5:00pm ET)**

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The 26th Annual Federal Emergency Management Agency Higher Education Symposium will be held on June 3-5, 2024. The symposium is hosted by FEMA's Higher Education Program and held at the National Emergency Training Center campus in Emmitsburg, MD.

#### **FEMA Higher Education Program Mission**

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The mission of the Higher Education Program is to engage emergency management academia, professional organizations, and practitioners to work together to foster a culture of continuous learning and innovation through education and research to meet the challenges that confront the Nation.

#### **FEMA Higher Education Symposium Mission & Vision**

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##### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the FEMA Higher Education Program's Symposium is to cultivate a collaborative space for emergency management academia, professional organizations, and practitioners that promotes a culture of continuous learning and innovation.

##### **Vision Statement:**

Our vision is to establish the Symposium as a dynamic platform where diverse ideas and practices in emergency management higher education are explored and exchanged. We are committed to celebrating the spirit of innovation, education, and community resilience. The Symposium serves as a nexus for emergency management professionals, academics, students, and government officials, facilitating a robust exchange of knowledge and ideas. Together, we aspire to empower communities to navigate and overcome the complexities of disasters and emergencies by educating the next generation of emergency managers.

#### **About the Symposium**

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The 26<sup>th</sup> Higher Education Symposium theme, "Pioneering Ideas and Practices in Emergency Management Higher Education: Building More Resilient Communities," is a focal point for an event that celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Higher Education Program. This theme encapsulates the core mission and objectives of FEMA's Higher Education Program, emphasizing innovation, education, and community resilience.

#### **The key elements of this theme:**

- "Pioneering Ideas and Practices":  
This aspect highlights the importance of exploring innovative concepts, methodologies, and strategies in the field of emergency management. The symposium seeks to bring together academics, researchers, and practitioners to share and discuss groundbreaking ideas that can drive progress in this critical area.
- "Emergency Management Higher Education":  
This part underscores the role of education and academia in the realm of emergency management. It recognizes the significance of educating a diverse generation of emergency management professionals and researchers, as well as fostering continuous learning and improvement in the field.
- "Building More Resilient Communities":  
The goal of emergency management is to enhance community resilience in the face of disasters and emergencies. This aspect of the theme highlights the importance of practical outcomes and equitable approaches. The symposium will explore strategies and initiatives that help communities become better prepared and more resilient in the face of various hazards.

The symposium will feature a wide range of presentations, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. Participants will include emergency management professionals, academics, students, government officials, and community leaders, all coming together to exchange knowledge and ideas that can lead to more resilient and better-prepared communities in the face of disasters and emergencies.

**Submissions should fit within the theme and may address relevant topics such as:**

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in Emergency Management
- Progressive Teaching Practices
- Bridging Practice and Research
- Ethics
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
- Climate Change and Environmental Impacts (research, curriculum, or practice)
- Technology in EM: Practice, Academia, and Research (e.g., Artificial Intelligence, Chat GPT)
- Future Direction of the Emergency Management Profession

**Submission Guidelines:**

You will be asked to include details pertaining to the presenters, type of presentation, length, and a brief summary of the activity or presentation topic. Be sure to complete all required information fields. Carefully review and edit your responses prior to submitting your completed proposal. Incomplete proposals will not be reviewed.

**Compensation:**

There is no financial compensation or travel expenses for presenters. There are no registration fees and free housing is available on campus for presenters and attendees.

**Review Process:**

Each proposal will be reviewed by a group of academics, researchers, and practitioners. The review rubric addresses the following criteria:

Relevance: the proposal should demonstrate alignment to the conference theme and relevant topic(s), we appreciate those submissions that can address more than 1 topic in this conference;

Clarity and Quality: the proposal should clearly outline the topic(s) that will be featured in the presentation as well as its main concepts/ideas. (Please quality control your proposal for spelling and grammar);

Innovation: the proposal introduces new ideas, methods, and/or approaches that promote new knowledge and have the potential to contribute to the field;

Focus: the proposal contributes to knowledge on broader issues of evaluation methods, theories, policies and practices that have value to a wide community in contrast to presenting findings of a specific evaluation.

**Important Dates:**

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Deadline for Submissions: **February 1, 2024**

Notification of Acceptance: **April 1, 2024**

Submission of Final Presentation: **May 1, 2024** (if applicable)

## **Submission**

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Send Completed Submission Forms for Presentations to: [fema-hied@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-hied@fema.dhs.gov) no later than 5:00 pm ET on February 1, 2024.

## **Contact**

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For Additional Information or Assistance Please Contact:

### **Christine Spangler**

Higher Education Program Manager

PH. 240-586-1713

Email: [christine.spangler@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:christine.spangler@fema.dhs.gov)

### **Dr. Ray Chang**

Symposium Planning SIG Co-Chair

PH: 703-321-6737

Email: [changr2@erau.edu](mailto:changr2@erau.edu)

## Submission Form

Send Completed Forms to: [fema-hied@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-hied@fema.dhs.gov) no later than 5:00 pm ET on February 1, 2024.

### SESSION TITLE

*Title is limited to 100 character maximum – no more than 10 words. Titles should briefly identify the content and audience and should be able to stand alone and give a clear idea of what will happen in the session.*

### PRESENTER INFORMATION

*Name and Professional URL must be provided for each presenter. (URL must be from a public source such as a college, university, or other professional affiliation.)*

*PANELS: For panels, the moderator should be listed as Presenter 1. This is required for submission. Please include any confirmed panel members on the submission form. If the panel is not fully formed, please include a list of potential panelists in the detailed description section of the submission. Panel members should be listed under Presenters 2-6. For additional members, please include them as an attachment.*

	Presenter Name	URL
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

### ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS

*The abstract/synopsis should be limited to 50 words. This is the information that will be published in the program so that participants will understand the purpose of the presentation.*

## ALIGNMENT TO THEME

Which of the key elements of the theme does your presentation align (select all that apply)

- “Pioneering Ideas and Practices”
- “Emergency Management Higher Education”
- “Building More Resilient Communities”

Describe how the key elements in the proposed presentation align with the symposium theme.  
*Should be limited to 200 words.*

## PRESENTATION STRUCTURE

*Select presentation type*

Traditional	A traditional presentation utilizes one or two primary presenters giving a formal lecture style presentation. Typically, done with a PowerPoint or other visual aid with time allotted at the end for questions.
Panel	The purpose of the Panel session is to engage a group of panelists in an interactive discussion or debate. Proposals for panel discussions should include clear descriptions of the topics to be discussed and the procedures that will be used to manage the discussion among panelists and with the audience. “Presenter 1” should be used for the session moderator, if the moderator will also be participating on the panel, please include in the detailed description. Panelists should be listed under Presenter 2-4, additional panelists may be included at the end (please make sure to include all information for each panelist).
Roundtable	A roundtable is a group discussion on a particular theme or topic. Roundtable presentations typically include a 5-10 minute presentation by the organizer to introduce the topic, followed by discussion and feedback from participants. Presenters should bring targeted questions to pose to the participants.
Workshop	A workshop is a platform for colleagues to share knowledge and expertise and foster the professional development of workshop participants.
Other	If the presentation structure does not fit into one of the above categories, please select “Other” and explain the presentation structure in the detailed description portion of the submission form.



## SESSION OUTLINE/DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Provide a description of the topical content and delivery plan. This should be 300-500 words.