

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

NATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION DIVISION • NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS DIRECTORATE
NATIONAL EMERGENCY TRAINING CENTER • EMMITSBURG, MD



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Message from the Higher Education Program Manager

Dear Emergency Management Higher Education Academics & Friends,

Last week, I attended the 45th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop, with the theme “Active Hope.” The [Natural Hazards Center](#) did a wonderful job in creating space for community networking in a virtual environment. The opening keynote was delivered by Chris Johnstone who co-authored the book, *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We’re in Without Going Crazy*, with Joanna Macy. Johnstone asked us to start where we are and recalibrate by identifying what we hope for and taking steps in that direction. He shared four stages of hope: gratitude, honoring our pain, seeing with new eyes and going forth. These stages are not linear but rather a “spiral of work” that reconnects us. This is a great message as we navigate life in this pandemic environment. Many people from our academic community of practice participated in the workshop and it was wonderful to see the merging of so many efforts.

It’s this sort of merging that enriches our efforts and learning. Since the close of the workshop I have had several follow up communications, expressing interest in joining our special interest groups (SIGs) and participating in the Higher Education (HiEd) Program efforts. I also was able to share some of the International Association of Emergency Management (IAEM) Training & Education efforts with the [Impact 360 Alliance](#) members who are interested in supporting the translation of research to support practice. The Impact 360 Alliance delivered a wonderful session at the workshop on the use of design in emergency management and hosts a useful [website](#) about inclusive problem solving to reduce the impact of hazards and risks.

As the end of the fiscal year is quickly approaching, we are firming up all of our supported research inquiries for 2020. The Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL) SIG is building a handbook on conducting SoTL research in the emergency management and homeland security teaching environments. The Case Study Teaching and Learning SIG is developing a sustainable, searchable resource repository to support faculty in developing and incorporating cases into their courses. They are also developing special collections for COVID cases and cases that highlight the experiences of underserved communities with hazards and disasters. This work builds on work which resulted in the classification of 1,116 scholarly articles suitable for supporting the preparation of teaching cases for emergency management.



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If you are interested in learning more about this case study effort as well as additional research examining [regional academic practice collaboration](#) and the implementation of the [research agenda](#), then please join us this coming Tuesday, July 28 from 2-3:30 PM for the New Resources & Research webinar. You can register at <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/resource-research/event/registration.html>. Hope to see you.

Wishing you all a good weekend and continued health!
--Wendy Walsh, HiEd Program Manager

Higher Education Program Update

The Hi Ed Community conference call is Friday, July 24, 2020, from 2-3 PM ET on ZoomGov. [Link to the community call](#). Meeting ID: 160 4678 0270, Password: 621901. Learn from the emergency management academic community about what is new and exciting in their world. Find out about ongoing projects and discuss community needs that the Hi Ed Program can address. Contact [Wendy Walsh, wendy.walsh@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:wendy.walsh@fema.dhs.gov), with discussion topics.

**Webinar: *New Resources & Research 2020:*
“Case Study/Research Agenda/Regional Engagement Inquiries”
July 28, 2020, 2 – 3:30 PM ET**

Case Study Development Process Product: Faculty and doctoral students from Jacksonville State University conducted a literature review and internet search for the time period of January 2017 to December 2019 to catalog published disaster and emergency management case studies. The 1,116 case studies were classified according to type of case, hazard, and emergency management focus (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery). They also developed case study templates and teaching note guidance to facilitate integrated case studies into courses.

Regional Engagement Trend Analysis: Faculty from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University analyzed the regional academic practitioner collaborations sessions hosted by the HiEd program from 2016-2019 with all 10 FEMA Regions. The analysis examined common threads, unique aspects, strengths and challenges of the individual regions, participants and the overall process.

Research Agenda Implementation: Faculty from the University of Colorado Boulder conducted research to improve understanding of the dissemination, use and utility of the research agenda developed in 2017. They examined the past five years of Natural Hazards Center Quick Response Grants to discern alignment with the proposed research agenda, document any additional thrust areas that emerged, and any barriers or incentives to conducting research in the proposed thrust areas that were documented in the final report.

Presenters:

Jane Kushma, Ph.D. – Jacksonville State University

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Ray Chang, Ph.D. – Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Nnena Campbell, Ph.D. - Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder
Wendy Walsh – Higher Education Program Manager

Registration: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/resource-research/event/registration.html>

Participants must use the adobe audio – conference call line is not available

Webinar: *An academic professional development learning opportunity*

“Designing Online Courses for Student Engagement”

August 6, 25 PM ET

This webinar is sponsored by the FEMA National Training and Education Division (NTED) HiEd Program in partnership with the University & Agency Partnership Program (UAPP) at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security (funded by NTED).

Whether you’re designing your first online course, transitioning a Face-to-Face (F2F) class to an online environment, or looking to increase student engagement in your online courses, join Dr. Caroline Hackerott and Professor Beth Gray for an afternoon exploring multiple strategies to increase student engagement, including Team-Based Learning (TBL). Participants will examine challenges and opportunities that online learners and environments offer to EM/HS educators. Working within empirically supported frameworks, participants will have the opportunity to develop learning activities designed to enhance student engagement no matter what the subject matter. Fully participatory, this workshop will also support the creation of personal peer networks and activities designed for your own class and context. Opportunities for developing SoTL research in your own course will also be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identification of factors influencing online learners and environments to address in instructional design
2. Identification of benefits of collaborative and/or TBL strategies in online environments
3. Creation or modification of learning activities to reflect collaborative and/or TBL strategies in an online course
4. Development of a peer network to support participants’ personal professional development in online instructional design
5. Ability to design an online course based on existing empirical SoTL and incorporating SoTL opportunities into their own courses

The discussion & learning will continue August 13, 2–3:30 PM ET

Registration Link (capacity 100 participants):

<https://www.chds.us/c/academic-programs/eep/rsvp?event=2896>

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Special Interest Groups (SIGs). The Hi Ed Program encourages the organization of SIGs to support the increased exchange of knowledge in specific areas and applications of emergency management education. SIG members can potentially become involved in co-authoring/researching and serving as mentors to students and as subject matter experts to practitioners. [Click here for more information and a list of SIGs.](#) To join a SIG, send an email to Rebecca Burns at Rebecca.Burns@associate.fema.dhs.gov.

The Science and Technology Integration in Emergency Management (STI) SIG is recruiting new members from practice and/or academia who are interested in fostering technology use in the practice of emergency management.

From software like WebEOC to the complex algorithms of machine learning, the demand for computer use in emergency management is increasing at an exponential rate. By focusing on integrating science and technology with existing emergency management pedagogy, the STI SIG aims to teach emergency managers how to use cutting edge computational techniques and to provide strategies and guidance on how to teach them to others quickly and effectively. We are in the midst of organizing communication platforms, establishing repositories to host emergency management technology demonstrations, and gathering best practices for potential case studies about technology use in emergency management.

Current projects include:

1. Exploring the work of crisis informatics: <https://tinyurl.com/crisisinformatics> and outlining potential vectors of collaboration between crisis informatics academics and emergency management practitioners.
2. Developing EM-specific tutorials through the tenets of software carpentry: <https://software-carpentry.org/> for practitioners, EM and DHS students, and academics interested in potential EM Technology.
3. Outlining a list of technology-oriented core competencies based on the platforms, programming languages, and STEM-oriented skills needed for current and next generation Emergency Management professionals.
4. Re-evaluating the 2018 Report: “Facilitating Collaboration between the Higher Education and Practitioner Communities to Promote Advancements in Scientific and Geographic Literacy” in light of the work of crisis informatics, human-computer interaction, and other software-oriented research.

Those interested in learning more about the Science and Technology SIG can email the Co-Chairs:

Nick LaLone, Co-Chair
University of Nebraska at Omaha
nlalone@unomaha.edu

Sean Ryan, Co-Chair
Northern Arizona University
sean.ryan@nau.edu



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College List

The **College List**, located at <https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/collegelist/>, is a comprehensive online resource that outlines programs at all levels of study in emergency management (EM), homeland security (HS) and related fields including public health, international disaster relief and humanitarian assistance. Information is stored in a program database for analysis and management. HiEd Program 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.

New Programs:

- [Capitol Technology University](#) - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Emergency and Protective Services

Employment

Federal vacancies are posted on USAJOBS at <https://www.usajobs.gov>. When you save a search, they will automatically send email updates with new jobs that match the criteria.

Higher Education Vacancies:

- [Saint Louis University](#) - Adjunct Faculty - Epidemiology
- [The University of Iowa](#) - Assistant, Associate or Full Professor Epidemiology Faculty Position
- [Saint Leo University](#) - Adjunct - Criminal Justice
- [Southern Illinois University Edwardsville](#) - Instructor, Criminal Justice (FY20-132)
- [University of California, Irvine](#) - Part-Time Instructor: Cybersecurity (Online)
- [San Juan College](#) - Adjunct Instructor of GIS Technology
- [University of Wisconsin – Madison](#) - GIS Professional Programs Curriculum Manager
- [Georgia State University](#) - Part-Time Homeland Security & Emergency Management Instructor (Applicant Pool)
- [San Jacinto College](#) - Admin Intern, Emergency Management - (Part-Time)

Internship, Scholarship, Research and Training Opportunities

FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) works closely with university and college nursing schools in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee to assist in training triage methods and patient care for individuals exposed or injured from a wide variety of hazards to include chemical, biological, radiological and mass casualty trauma incidents.

Aimed at nursing students, EMTs, paramedics and other responders who may be involved in emergency medical response, the latest collaborative effort is the Emergency Medical Response Awareness (EMRA) course taught through classroom-based and distance learning options such as online and virtual instructor-led training. This 6 to 8-hour course provides knowledge and skills to ensure responders are properly

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protected against hazards from patients contaminated or exposed to a multitude of hazards, including chemicals, infectious diseases or viral pathogens. The CDP will open this course to other nursing schools and organizations across the nation. Continuing education credits are provided through the Emergency Nursing Association if needed.

The EMRA course is a pre-requisite for the Hospital Emergency Response Operations (HERO) course that the CDP holds on campus as an experiential based, hands-on learning activity.

If any college or university nursing program or school of medicine is interested in pursuing a partnership with CDP, please contact Michael Aguilar, Registrar, at michael.aguilar@fema.dhs.gov. Individuals may enroll in the self-directed on-line version at <https://cdp.dhs.gov>.

Argonne National Laboratory

Postdoctoral Appointee - Emergency Systems Scientist (408513). Seeking one or more post-doctoral appointees to support a multidisciplinary disaster research portfolio. The selected candidate(s) will have the opportunity to carry out applied research related to readiness of emergency management systems, effectiveness of recovery and resilience strategies, and/or support preparedness assessment programs. The selected candidate(s) may also lead one or more projects related to the provision of preparedness technical assistance to local and state emergency managers (topics TBD). Candidates should understand that their portfolio will be driven by sponsor office requirements and research will reflect their operational and strategic program requirements.

Postdoctoral Appointee – Modeling (408237). Participates as a collaborative member of a multidisciplinary group of professional staff engaged in the analysis of social, behavioral, and other complex systems that are important to healthcare, epidemics, energy and national security. Applies systems science, simulation and advanced heuristic algorithm methods to develop sophisticated agent-based models and uses them to generate results that inform policy decisions and contribute to scientific advancement. Identifies data sources and manages data resources as required for robust and validated systems modeling and analysis. Innovates in the development and deployment of data analytic tools to solve multidimensional problems. Will conduct analytic studies in domain areas that may include infectious diseases, healthcare interventions, supply chains and energy technologies. Gives seminars, develops conference papers and presentations, and publishes results in peer-reviewed journals/publications.

Resources

The resources below are compiled through a variety of sources and included here as interesting and relevant resources for research or classroom use. The 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.



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FEMA's Ready Campaign promotes National Preparedness Month each September to encourage individual, family and community disaster and emergency planning. The 2020 theme is **"Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today."**

This year the theme and national Public Service Advertisement, done in coordination the Ad Council, will follow the 2019 animation series stressing family preparedness efforts. This year's campaign will also focus on personal preparedness during the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Weekly themes and graphics for September will also be released later this month.

Earlier this year, the Ready Campaign and the Ad Council created a series of animated videos and graphics to slow the spread of COVID-19. Videos such as "Plan Ahead for How to Deal with Disasters During Coronavirus," "Stay Home," and "Evacuate During Coronavirus" are all available at [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov). The full videos can also be downloaded in broadcast quality from the [Ad Council website](#).

FEMA is holding an open comment period for the "Fire Management Assistance Grant Program and Policy Guide." The 45-day public comment period ends on July 31. The draft guide and comments matrix are available on the [FEMA website](#). Submit the completed comment matrix by email to [FEMA](#).

NETC Library, [Research Guide: COVID 19](#). This guide is designed to help researchers, students, practitioners and the general public find materials on the ongoing COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in the NETC Library and on other recommended websites.

Inside Higher Ed

['Ground Zero' for Spreading Coronavirus](#)

[Five Trends Postsecondary Education Leaders Need To Watch This Fall](#)

[Best Way To Stop Cheating In Online Courses? 'Teach Better'](#)

Education Dive

[What's Next: 3 Ways College Campuses Will Look Different This Fall](#)

Route Fifty

[Report: High-Tide Flooding Broke Records Last Year. It will Probably Keep Getting Worse.](#)

Domestic Preparedness

[Probabilities, Not Promises: How Computer Models Are Used in Emergency Preparedness & Response](#)
[A New Way of Looking at Earthquake Plans](#)

FEMA Podcast: [Episode 70: FEMA And The 30th Anniversary Of The Americans With Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#)



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FEMA PrepTalks: [Triage, Ethics, And Operations: Healthcare Emergency Preparedness and Response - Dr. Sheri Fink](#)

Calendar

2020 Preparedness Virtual Summit, August 25-27, 2020

The Preparedness Summit is the first and longest running national conference on public health preparedness. Since its beginning in 2006, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has taken a leadership role in convening a wide array of partners to participate in the Summit; presenting new research findings, sharing tools and resources, and providing 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.

Theme: Fixing Our Fault Lines: Addressing Systemic Vulnerabilities

Registration has re-opened for the 2020 Preparedness Summit. [Registration](#)

The 68th Annual IAEM Conference & EMEX, November 16-18, 2020, is being reimagined as a virtual event, to include all the bells and whistles of an in-person event. While nothing can replace the live experience of a professional gathering, IAEM's new plan will actually give attendees access to more content than they are able to attend in-person. The conference will include top-notch speakers, networking events, exhibit hall live sessions, EMvision Talks, the Poster Showcase, CEUs, and more. Registration fees have been significantly reduced to help with the budget cuts we all are experiencing and to allow for multiple people participating from every organization. The Conference Committee is finalizing plans and information will be posted on the conference [website](#) as details are available.

Download the [FEMA App](#) (URL: <https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app>) **to receive weather alerts from the NWS for up to five different locations anywhere in the U.S. Sign up via our free e-mail subscription service** (URL: https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSFEMA/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDHSFEMA_149) **to receive notifications and information updates.**

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

FEMA and the Hi Ed Program do not endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.