



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS

# THE RESPONDER

## NEWS OF THE IAEM-STUDENT COUNCIL

September 2009

Volume 2 Issue 9

### In Case of Emergency, Please Use Twitter

Written by: Sarah Perez

The Safe America Foundation, a national safety group working with the U.S. government, announced yesterday that text messaging, social networking sites, and Twitter could help families stay in touch in the wake of a disaster. Although Twitter hasn't always been known for its stability, in emergency situations when phone lines and other traditional communication avenues are down, social networking sites like it and others could turn into reliable backup methods for reaching loved ones.

Safe America is an Atlanta-based group working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on a campaign called "Drill Down for Safety." The program's focus is to make people more aware of the alternative methods for communication which are available during emergency situations. According to the group's spokeswoman, Carla Shaw, people should pre-load emergency messages on their cell phones as well as useful communication websites. Families should also discuss among themselves how they will use these tools to contact each other if there is an emergency situation. "We want people to rehearse what would you do, and what other forms of communication would you have at your disposal," says Shaw.

For about a month, starting on September 11th and lasting through mid-October, 20,000 people are expected to participate in emergency training drills where the use of these alternative tools will be practiced. Some of the participants are volunteers who signed up on Safe America's website but the majority will be employees from major companies including UPS, Motorola, Allstate, and Office Depot where testing will be done on the companies' campuses.

For many technology early adopters, turning to a communication platform like Twitter or SMS when the landlines go down would probably be second nature,

but if your friends and family don't know how to access Twitter's website, how to find and follow your account, or how to reply to your posts, then tweeting "Help!" or "I'm safe" isn't going to be all that useful. That's why it's encouraging to see a national safety group like this focusing on training large groups on how modern social networking sites and Twitter can be used to share emergency information even when you can't make a phone call. The only problem with this plan is the fact that when disaster strikes, cellular networks often go down too. That makes wireless communication - whether a phone call, a text, or something requiring data traffic - impossible. And then it's back to square one.

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[www.iaem.com/students](http://www.iaem.com/students)

**Student Council Committees**

Student Council Committees are chaired by a Student Member appointed by the Student Council Board. Members are chosen by Chair subject to Board approval. If you are interested in participating on a Committee, please contact the Chair or SC President.

**Governance:**

Amy Stephenson  
stephenson.resilience@gmail.com

**Communications:**

Eric Sawyer sawyer.en@gmail.com

**Awards:**

Matt Feryan jmferyan@hotmail.com

**Membership & Marketing:**

Brian Silva bsilva05@gmail.com

**Scholarship Commission:**

Matt Feryan jmferyan@hotmail.com

**Student Council Liaison Reports**

**Membership & Marketing:**

Brian Silva bsilva05@gmail.com

Current SC numbers:

June New Members = 52

Total Members (6/09) = 1407

The IAEM Booth will be at the following conferences:

- 9/15-17: GIS In the Rockies (Loveland, CO)
- 9/15-18: China-US Emergency Medical Services Conference (Beijing, China)
- 9/17-18: National Preparedness Summit (Seattle, WA)
- 10/29-11/5: IAEM-USA Annual Conference

**2008-2009**

**IAEM-Student Council Representatives Contact Information**

**President**

**USA Representative:** Brian Silva  
bsilva05@gmail.com

**Vice President**

**Oceania Representative:** Amy Stephenson  
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**Student Council Liaisons to IAEM**

Liaisons are Student Council members who are interested in areas of concern to the entire IAEM. They attend all meetings / teleconferences of their respective bodies and send regular reports to the Student Council Board. If you are interested in being a Student Council Liaison, please contact the SC President.

**IAEM Global Board:**

Brian Silva bsilva05@gmail.com

**Governance:**

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**Communications (Editorial & Website):**

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**Membership & Marketing:**

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**Awards & Recognition:**

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**USA Student Region**

**A Message from the Executive Board**

Christian Lanphere, 2nd Vice President, IAEM-USA SR

Over the course of the past three months, approximately 35 students from across the United States have actively participated in the AEM/CEM program. This program is designed to support students seeking their AEM/CEM credentials. The IAEM hosts a CEM prep course for Emergency Management professionals to help guide them through the application process.

The USA Student Region modeled their program after the prep course with the support from several CEM Commissioners who provided guidance and details to students who had questions. For sixty minutes on the second Monday for the last three months, students get together on a conference call to hear the program. The first month was a general orientation to the AEM/CEM. The second conference call discussed ways for students to make a well rounded essay, followed by the third conference call which discussed the AEM/CEM test. At the end of each call, students were given an opportunity to ask questions about the daily topic or about their particular situation.

Several Commissioners answered questions over email and Frequently Asked Questions were posted to the USA Student Region Board. The final call will occur in mid-September to wrap up this years program and give students an opportunity to ask any final questions. The first twenty-five students to submit and receive their AEM or CEM will be given \$100.00 reimbursement towards their application fees.

**USA Student Region Committees**

USA SR Committees are chaired by a USA Student Member appointed by the USA SR Executive Committee. Members are chosen by Chair subject to Executive Committee approval. If you are interested in participating on a Committee, please contact the Chair or USA SR President.

**Governance:**

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**Communications:**

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**Academic Affairs:**

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**Conference:**

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**IAEM-USA Student Region Executive Board**

**President:** Brian Silva  
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bsilva05@gmail.com

**1st Vice President:** Paul Gorczyca  
(716) 866-1634  
gork315@aol.com

**2nd Vice President:** Christian Lanphere  
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clanphere@challiance.org

**Secretary:** Eric Sawyer  
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sawyer.en@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Shelly Riggall  
(850) 322-0296  
riggalls@hotmail.com

**Past President (Vice):** Dan Hahn  
(850) 983-4606  
danielh@santarosa.fl.gov

**USA SR Liaisons to IAEM-USA**

Liaisons are USA SR members who are interested in areas of concern to the entire IAEM-USA. They attend all meetings / teleconferences of their respective bodies and send regular reports to the USA SR. If you are interested in being a USA SR Liaison, please contact the USA SR President.

**IAEM-USA Board of Directors:**

Brian Silva                   bsilva05@gmail.com

**Bylaws & Resolutions:**

Brian Silva                   bsilva05@gmail.com

**Conference:**

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**Tribal Affairs:**

Vacant

**Special Needs:**

Vacant

**Awards & Recognition:**

Vacant

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**BOOK YOUR HOTEL FOR THE IAEM 57th Annual Conference & EMEX 2009**

“Emergency Management: United We Stand”

Oct. 31-Nov. 5, 2009

**STAY WHERE THE STUDENTS ARE STAYING!**

**IAEM-USA SR DISCOUNT HOTEL**

IAEM-USA SR has secured discount rooms for students at the nearby Days Inn Convention Center.

Days Inn Convention Center

9990 International Drive

Orlando, Florida

www.daysinnorlandohotel.com

Rate: \$69.00/night + tax single or double occupancy

(high speed Internet in guest rooms is included in the room rate)

Reservations: Call 407-352-8700 and reference “IAEM Annual Conference” to secure the \$69.00 single/double rate.

Reservation Deadline: Oct. 11, 2009

Location: The hotel is located 2 blocks from the Rosen Centre Hotel (IAEM Headquarters Hotel). The Days Inn is within walking distance of a variety of fast food and other dining options, and the I-Drive (International Drive) Trolley has a stop one block from the hotel.

Looking to share a hotel room with a fellow student during the conference? Check out the “Share a hotel room in ORL” discussion board on Facebook.

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**Student Chapters****USA****American Public University System / American Military University (APUS / AMU)**

President: Dorian Young 800-841-9877  
dorian@kador.com

**Arkansas Tech University (ATU)**

President: Joseph Hightower 870-834-1161  
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Advisor: Jeanne-Marie Col 212-237-8077  
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**Long Island University - Homeland Security Management Institute**

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**Metropolitan College of New York (MCNY)**

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**North Dakota State University (NDSU)**

President: Blake Bennett 218-349-8760  
218-349-8760 blakebennett17@yahoo.com

**Philadelphia University**

President: Matthew Butler 267-767-2730  
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**University of Akron (UA)**

President: Maurice Thomas 330-459-5539  
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**University of Central Missouri**

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**University of Chicago**

President: Meghan McCallum 847-800-4635  
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Find us on  
**Facebook**

**University of Denver**

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**University of North Texas (UNT)**

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**University of South Dakota (USD)**

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**Virginia Commonwealth University**

President: Patrick Ashley 804-931-2101  
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**OCEANIA****University of Canterbury**

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**EURPOA****Instituto Politecnico de Castelo Branco, Portugal (IPCB)**

President: Joao Luis Tavares Alves Canas  
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**Chapter News**

**Instituto Politechnico de Castelo Branco, Portugal (IPCB)**

President: Joao Luis Tavares Alves Canas  
+351 934796909 joaoluiscanas@hotmail.com

A twitter account has been created for the chapter. "I think that it could be useful to promote and expand the IAEM in our country," said João Canas, the Chapter's President. You can see and follow at:

[http://twitter.com/IAEM\\_Portugal](http://twitter.com/IAEM_Portugal)

The chapter has created a website located at: <http://tinyurl.com/ntt4lh> and is pleased to be 'the first student chapter outside of North America.'

An emergency exercise was held at IPCB , this was the first of its kind and will likely be an annual exercise to test emergency management activities at the college.

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**Newsletter Staff:**

**USA Student Region Editor/Manager:**

Eric Sawyer | [sawyer.en@gmail.com](mailto:sawyer.en@gmail.com)

Individuals, student chapters, regions and allied organizations are invited to submit articles, events, training opportunities and news. Submissions are due by the 24th of each month.

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# Mark Your Calendar!

October 31 – November 5, 2009

## Emergency Management:

# ★ ★ UNITED WE STAND

## IAEM 57th ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EMEX 2009

Orange County Convention Center  
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida



★ **Keynote Speaker—Craig Fugate, FEMA Administrator**

### Featured Sessions Include:

**Amanda Ripley** has traveled the world studying disasters, natural and man-made. Her book, *The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes—and Why*, is the first mass-market book to explain how the brain works in disasters—and how we can learn to do better.

**Robert Stevenson** is one of the most widely recognized professional speakers in the world. He is the author of the best selling book *How to Soar Like an Eagle in a World Full of Turkeys*.

**Dr. Gerald Galloway** is a Professor of Engineering at the University of Maryland. He is a retired U.S. Army Brigadier General and was a Presidential appointee to the Mississippi River Commission. He will explore the public official response to growing losses from hurricanes and floods.

### Breakout Sessions

There will be six tracks of breakout sessions:

- ★ Contemporary
- ★ Infrastructure
- ★ Disaster Related Social Behavior
- ★ Organizations and Management
- ★ Leadership and the Future of Emergency Management
- ★ Technology

For complete session details, visit [www.iaem.com/Conference](http://www.iaem.com/Conference).

### Emergency Management Institute at IAEM



FEMA training offerings are a popular add-on to the IAEM Annual Conference and a great way to maximize continuing education. For announcements and specific courses, see [www.iaem.com/Conference](http://www.iaem.com/Conference)

### Professional Development Hours

IAEM awards certificates of attendance to conference attendees that reflect conference participation hours. These hours may be applied toward the CEM® and AEM® programs.

### Conference Dates:

October 31 – November 5, 2009

### Registration Fees:

IAEM Individual Members: . . . \$450  
USA Military Personnel: . . . . \$450  
Non-Members: . . . . . \$550

**\$50 Early Bird discount available prior to September 1!**

IAEM Student Members: . . . . \$200

### Conference Justification Toolkit

For ways to convince your boss that you need to attend IAEM 2009, download an official invitation, budget-conscious details and more. See [www.iaem.com/ConferenceToolkit](http://www.iaem.com/ConferenceToolkit).

### Headquarters Hotel

Rosen Centre Hotel  
\$166 single/double (plus tax).

### Reservation deadline:

October 7, 2009

### For reservations, call:

1-800-204-7234



This is the show that brings together homeland security and disaster preparedness suppliers in the same building, under the auspices of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM). Many different types of products and services are exhibited:

- ★ Communication Systems
- ★ Damage Restoration Firms
- ★ Detection Devices
- ★ Emergency Management Consulting
- ★ Emergency Management Software
- ★ Emergency Vehicles
- ★ EMS Medical Equipment
- ★ Exercise and Training Products
- ★ Geographic Information Systems
- ★ Hazmat Gear Accessories
- ★ Notification Systems
- ★ Preparedness Equipment
- ★ Protective Clothing
- ★ Risk Management
- ★ Satellite Technologies
- ★ Shelter Supplies
- ★ Warning Systems
- ★ Weather Meteorological Services
- ★ and much more...

### EMEX Hours

November 2	5:00 pm–7:00 pm
November 3	7:00 am–5:00 pm
November 4	7:00 am–1:00 pm

### Sponsorship Opportunities

Maximize your conference participation and on-site product awareness. Flexible sponsor options are available. Contact Melissa Trumbull at 703-538-1795 x 1705 or [trumbull@iaem.com](mailto:trumbull@iaem.com).

**Visit [www.EMEX.org](http://www.EMEX.org) or call 703-538-1795 ext. 6 to reserve a booth today.**

**Newsletter Staff: USA Student Region Editor/Manager:** Eric Sawyer | [sawyer.en@gmail.com](mailto:sawyer.en@gmail.com)  
Individuals, student chapters, regions and allied organizations are invited to submit articles, events, training opportunities and news. Submissions are due by the 24th of each month.