



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS

# THE RESPONDER

## NEWS OF THE IAEM-STUDENT COUNCIL

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### FEMA's Higher Education Program Student Research and Scholarly Papers

FEMA's Higher Education Program is soliciting scholarly papers from students desiring to contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the growing discipline and profession of emergency management. Papers should provide relevant theoretical and practical research applications as they relate to the field of emergency management, and should offer an original and objective review of both past and present issues in emergency management. Preference will be given to research and scholarly papers; however, some abstract submissions will be considered. All graduate and doctoral students are invited to contribute.

These scholarly papers will be peer-reviewed and Daniel Martin will be assisting the FEMA's Higher Education Program with scholarly and technical assistance. Manuscripts meeting the submission and scholarly requirements will be presented to FEMA's Higher Education Program for final approval. Approved papers will be posted on the FEMA Higher Education Web site

#### Manuscript Review Process

Students' scholarly papers will be accepted with the understanding that they are submitted solely to the FEMA Higher Education Program.

All manuscripts will be subject to review for relevancy of content, methodology, grammar, and other scholarly requirements. Papers will be reviewed by at least two reviewers. Students will be advised of the status of their submissions within 90 days.

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

FEMA's Higher Education Program will ensure that the review process is fair and free of any personal biases. It should also be noted that upon submission, unpublished information contained in the manuscripts will remain confidential, and will not be used by those reviewing the manuscripts without the consent and approval of the author(s) of that paper.

Complete details are available at:  
[www.iaem.com/students](http://www.iaem.com/students)

#### **2009-10 Scholarships**

IAEM's Scholarship Commission is pleased to announce that it is now accepting applications for scholarships for the 2009-10 school year. Eligible individuals will be full-time students working towards a degree in emergency management, disaster management or a related field. Please help us spread the word about the scholarships. The application deadline is May 15, 2009. The application with instructions is posted at online at [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com)

Questions about the program may be directed to Dawn Shiley-Danziesen ([shiley@iaem.com](mailto:shiley@iaem.com))

### I-35 Bridge Collapse Review

Written by: Eric Sawyer, information from Rocco Forte and WCSH-6 TV

'Rocco Forte was in charge of the Emergency Operations Center after the collapse of the I-35 bridge in Minneapolis in August 2007. That bridge collapse has led to a lot of criticism about the safety of roads and bridges across the country, but the rescue and recovery effort in Minneapolis has been praised.' (www.wcsh6.com)



'Forte said Minnesota invested a lot of money in both communications equipment and emergency training between 2002 and 2007, after a drill showed big gaps in the state's preparedness. He said the key to a successful emergency response after the bridge collapse was lots and lots of training exercises with emergency responders from different towns and counties.' (www.wcsh6.com)

Nearly 80 City, County and State employees attended an IEMC (Integrated Emergency Management Course) at the EMI. This training helped to identify gaps in their planning and resources.

"There were victims everywhere you could imagine," said Forte. Emergency responders had to be creative in the response, as it was difficult to access victims. "We weren't sure how to best access victims, so we put our heads together in the EOC and decided a crane on a barge would be a workable solution." 110 victims were treated

on-scene or at area Hospitals and there were 13 fatalities.

When the bridge collapsed, it created a number of related incidents. A large piece of the bridge landed on a train car, carrying chemical. (Chemical unknown at the time.) Nearby, the University of Minnesota was conducting nuclear testing in a science lab.

Average daily traffic on the bridge is 140,000 cars. Additionally, for each day the bridge was impassable, it was estimated that there was a loss of \$400,000.

Rocco Forte is the Director of Emergency Preparedness for the City of Minneapolis, MN. Rocco gave a presentation to Emergency Management officials in Maine, sponsored by the Maine Emergency Management Agency. His presentation is available by contacting IAEM-USA SR Secretary Eric Sawyer. The FEMA After Action Report number is 166.

### IAEM-SC University of North Texas



The IAEM group here at the University of North Texas is getting ready to start the new semester with some new officers. President Rob Monaghan, Treasurer Lauren Simmers and Secretary Levi Dartt are all very excited about the semester in front of them. We are currently working on recruiting new members and trying to plan the semester's activities. Some of the activities we will be planning include CPR certification/ First Aid training, ham radio certification, preparation fair on campus, NIMS, guest speakers, and participation in full scale exercises. One of our activities is fast approaching, the Texas Homeland Security Conference, we will be doing a silent auction as a fundraiser.

Rob Monaghan  
President, IAEM-SC UNT

## IAEM-USA Student Region Executive Board

The executive board of the Student Region meets monthly. A student marketing video has been completed and will be available on the website soon. Some other major projects include; the development of a student brochure, AEM/CEM mentorship survey, fundraiser development and representation on all IAEM standing committees.

## Hazards and Disasters Student Paper Competition Now Open

Your research paper could net \$100 and free entry into this summer's Natural Hazards Workshop (<http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/workshop/>) if chosen as one of the two winners of our Fifth Annual Hazards and Disasters Student Paper Competition.

Papers may present current research, literature reviews, theoretical arguments, or case studies on social or behavioral aspects of hazards or disasters.

The competition is open to graduate or undergraduate students enrolled for at least one term of the 2008-2009 academic year. Papers must be March 27, 2009. For more information and application instructions, visit the competition page on the Natural Hazards Center web site at <http://tinyurl.com/c9tk3r>.

## Secretary Napolitano Issues Action Directives on FEMA State and Local Integration and National Planning

Release Date: January 27, 2009

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano announced today two action directives, on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) integration with state and local partners and national planning.

These directives instruct specific offices to gather information, review existing strategies and

programs, and provide oral and written reports back to her in February.

Secretary Napolitano has already issued seven action directives: cybersecurity; northern border strategy; critical infrastructure protection; risk analysis; state and local intelligence sharing; transportation security; and state, local and tribal integration. She will continue to issue additional action directives in the coming days focused on the missions critical to the department: Protection, Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Immigration.

**FEMA state and local integration.** Ensuring the nation's preparedness for all events and all hazards is vital to economic and homeland security and a responsibility of all levels of government.

**National planning.** The department is leading an interagency effort to develop plans at multiple levels to address eight scenario sets, which are based on the 15 National Planning Scenarios crafted by the Homeland Security Council. DHS and the federal interagency are utilizing the Integrated Planning System to develop and adjudicate interagency plans for each scenario.

The full action directives can be found online at: <http://tinyurl.com/ae5vbt>.

## Call for student volunteers

The 12th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Conference is quickly approaching and we need your help in making the conference run smoothly.

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

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Individuals, student chapters, regions and allied organizations are invited to submit articles, events, training opportunities and news.

