

APR 09 ISSUE 23

**"New York is educating the next generation to respond to the unexpected"**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Next IAEM-MCNY General Meeting

April 11, 2009 1:30PM

### IAEM-MCNY Presser Newsletter Accepting Articles

MCNY Students have a great opportunity to become published. The MCNY Chapter of the International Association of Emergency Managers is accepting student contributions for consideration for publishing in the Presser Newsletter!

Please send you original articles to:  
[publicrelations@iemsamcny.org](mailto:publicrelations@iemsamcny.org).

### FEMA's Higher Education Program Accepting Articles

FEMA is soliciting 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 scholarly research but some abstract submissions will be considered. All graduate and doctoral students are invited to contribute.

*\*The Presser Newsletter is published to subscription holders, other IAEM chapters, and FEMA Higher Ed*

## The Future of Emergency Management

### OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TEAM UP TO TEACH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TO STUDENTS

**Terri Thompson**  
*Public Relations & Editor, "Presser"*



OEM Press Release. March 12, 2009 (Photo Credit: Stefano Giovanni)

New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Commissioner Joseph F. Bruno and Department of Education (DOE) Executive Director Mariano Guzman participated in an emergency preparedness workshop with one of the 46 schools participating in a pilot program to educate students about the importance of preparing for emergencies through in-school and after-school workshops and presentations. The pilot program is the second phase of OEM's Ready New York for Kids initiative.

"One in seven New Yorkers is a public school student, so Ready New York for Kids is a great way for us to further the message of emergency

preparedness," said Commissioner Bruno. "It is our hope that students will take the lessons they learn at these workshops and teach their families about the simple steps they can take to prepare for emergencies."

In 2007, in partnership with the Department of Education, OEM introduced two interactive emergency preparedness guides for students – one for elementary school kids and the other for middle and high school students. The Ready New York for Kids program focuses on three key messages: **\*Get Ready:** Make a Plan – Have at least two phone numbers – one local and one

## IEMSA-MCNY FUNDRAISER

**Susamma Seely**  
*IAEMSA-MCNY Alumni Association*

Envision yourself in a crisp new polo, sweatshirt or fleece embroidered with our new IAEM-MCNY logo! All proceeds go toward operating costs for the chapter. Show your school spirit and team pride and place your order today. The shirts are available in the colors below. Each cost \$25.00, which is far less than the going rate for other shirts on the market, and by purchasing one, you are not only buying a shirt but are showing your dedication and loyalty to the present and future of MCNY's local chapter of IAEM. To order your shirts, send an email to: [seeleysue@yahoo.com](mailto:seeleysue@yahoo.com). Please be sure to include the number of shirts you would like to order, the size(s) and color (s) and any other pertinent details of your order. See color selection below:



IAEM-MCNY Chapter Membership Dues are \$25.00 per semester.

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## "Mark Your Calendar"



**APRIL 2009**

**IAEM Bulletin Call for Articles: "Research to Practice"** The IAEM Editorial Working Group is looking for articles for the next special focus issue of the IAEM Bulletin on "Research to Practice." This issue will focus on innovation and new ideas that are put into practice. Also, how have you taken a lesson learned from some event and applied it to a different situation, circumstance, event or organization? Please keep your articles under 750 words, and e-mail articles to Bulletin Editor Karen Thompson at [thompson@iaem.com](mailto:thompson@iaem.com) **no later than April 10, 2009**. Please read the author's guidelines on our Web site before submitting your article.

### Mark Your Calendars

**IAEM-USA 2009 Mid-Year Meeting** ~ June 4-6, 2009 ~ National Emergency Training Center (EMI), Emmitsburg, MD

**National Conference on Community Preparedness** ~ Aug. 9-12, 2009 ~ Washington, DC, USA (Hyatt Regency Crystal City)

**IAEM-USA 57th Annual Conference & EMEX 2009** ~ Oct. 31-Nov. 5, 2009 ~ Orlando, FL, USA (Rosen Centre Hotel and Orange County Convention Center)

**IAEM-USA 58th Annual Conference & EMEX 2010** ~ Oct. 30-Nov. 4, 2010 ~ San Antonio, TX, USA (Hilton Palacio del Rio and Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center)

# MCNY & EMHS NEWS

*Metropolitan College of New York (MCNY) & Emergency Management & Homeland Security (EMHS) Program*

(Continued from page 1)

out-of- state number that you can call in an emergency – and practice the plan with adults in your home.

**\*Get Set:** Prepare a Stay at Home Kit – During emergencies that require you to stay at home, it is important to have extra food and water for everyone in the house, and a battery operated radio for news updates.

**\*Get Ready to Go:** Pack a Go Bag – During emergencies that require you to leave your home, everyone should have a Go Bag with emergency supplies.

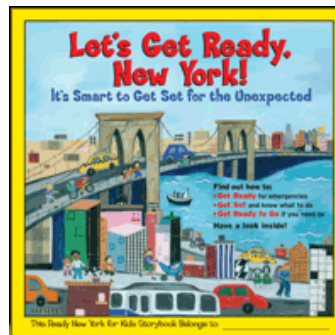
Ready New York has grown dramatically since OEM released its first household preparedness guide in 2003. The program now includes several multi-language publications, public service announcements, a video, an advertising campaign, expanded web content, a speakers' bureau, a reprinting program, corporate partnerships, and extensive community outreach.

Ready New York guides are available in up to 14 languages: English, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Korean, Arabic, Russian Yiddish, Urdu, Japanese, Bengali, French and Italian, as well as Braille and recorded on audio tape.

According to OEM's second annual preparedness survey in 2008, more than six in 10 New Yorkers say they are prepared for an emergency, such as a natural disaster, fire, or power outage. The most common reason New Yorkers do not

prepare for emergencies is that they have not considered it.

OEM and the Department of Education have created two fun-filled, interactive versions of the guide – one for elementary school kids, the other for students in middle and high schools. New York City public schools received packages of guides for teachers to share in their classrooms. Guides are available in nine languages.



### K-5 Curriculum



### Grade 6-12 Curriculum

Download *Ready New York for Kids* (in PDF) or call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) to receive copies by mail.

**Sylvie Cameron**  
Coordinator of Graduate Student Advisement & International Students

**Office of Student Affairs Contact Information and Office Hours:**

**Sylvie Cameron**  
Coordinator of Graduate Student Advisement & International Advisement  
212.343.1234\*2805  
[scameron@mcny.edu](mailto:scameron@mcny.edu)

Tues, Wed, Fri: 10am to 6pm  
Thurs: 12pm to 8pm  
Sat: 9am to 5pm

**Bascillia Toussaint**  
Academic Advisor  
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9am to 5pm  
**Tel: 212-343-1234 Ext: 2805**

"The tragedy in life does not lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach"  
**Benjamin Mays**

### CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES

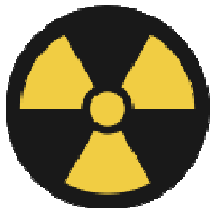
must have on file:

- Official transcripts from each college that you have attended, including that from which your Bachelor's degree was earned
- Graduate exam scores (MBA and MS only)
- Successful completion of 45 credits for the MPA, 48 for the MS, and 51 for the MBA
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Immunization requirements complete
- Complete an EXIT INTERVIEW with a Student Financial Services representative.

## This Month in History...

**Terri Thompson**  
Editor, "Presser"

What do you think of when you see this picture?



The date of April 26, 1986 may not stand out in the memory of many people; but if you say the word Chernobyl it evokes memories of the meltdown of the nuclear reactor that affected millions across the globe. Clearly it was the largest and most devastating nuclear accident in the history of the world. In the aftermath, a generation of Ukraine people were forced to evacuate the uninhabitable and devastated land that is yet unable to support plant, animal or human life.

According to modern science, the radiation fallout was perhaps more than four hundred times more powerful than Hiroshima. I was living in Italy when the radioactive clouds made their way across Europe and North America. I clearly remember being afraid of the unknown as I was thousands of miles away from home when such a far reaching tragedy struck.

This month, we pay tribute to the memory of those who were affected by the Chernobyl accident and we honor the brave emergency responders, physicians, mental health counselors and social workers who responded to the accident.

## HOPE 2009 NYC's Annual Street Survey of Homelessness First Hand Account

**Jean L. Allen**

After seeing the information about Project HOPE posted on the MCNY's Disaster Central Blog and hearing about it from Prof. Longshore in class, I immediately signed up. I chose to stay close to an area where I work so that it would be easier since the hours were 10:30 PM to possibly 4:00 AM. My home base was PS41 in the West Village. After a very thorough orientation and snacks, we were assigned to our groups and given our area to cover. Since I did not sign up with any one else, I was placed with a lovely NYU freshman who was a music major, and two recent college graduates from Michigan who were on their way to medical school but stopped for a year to perform some volunteer medical services in NYC. There were some groups of old friends from the neighborhood and several NYU groups based upon dorms. Do I hear a MCNY group next year?

Thinking that my area would be the West Village, I was surprised to see that our group was assigned to an area around 39<sup>th</sup> to 44<sup>th</sup> Street from 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the West Side Highway. Metrocards were provided for those that had to travel or for those volunteers that had to stay in the subway stations at the end of the line. The next major obstacle was to pick a team leader. I clearly indicated upon my application that I had not participated in the survey before and that I did not want to assume the role of team leader. But one of the sweet medical students posed a very politically correct question..."Who has lived in NYC the longest?" I took that as a queue and stepped forward to become our leader. Cell phone numbers were exchanged with all including the Project Hope Directors and we were off armed with our survey forms, maps, whistles, flashlights and plenty of layers. I took VP-1 Mario Gonzalez's advice and even laced up my Timberland boots for the occasion.

It was a nice night and except for the wind down near the water, it wasn't bad being outside at all. We stopped everyone we came across our path as designated by the maps we were given. The area were given to survey was extremely commercial and there were not too many people to interview. We only found one person who said that he did not have a home of his own to go to that night. Yet he was on his way to work. Another man I approached while he was walking his dog asked me if he looked homeless. I explained to him what we were doing and why we asked him about his situation. He was actually a retired CEO of a Soup Kitchen in NYC and was very pleased to hear about our job for the evening. He thanked us for the good work we were doing.

At the end of the evening, we searched one more area near a construction site and found a man sitting on cardboard wrapped in a blanket. We approached him and I could not help to see how happy he was to see us. He actually was a decoy set up by the program to make sure that the volunteers were performing their duties correctly. After we received his information to bring back to home base, he just had to call in and then he was free to home to a warm bed.

After our assigned route was completed, it was back to home base and then a tally was completed of the different people we found that evening and we were free to go with a great big thank you and a t-shirt. I look forward to participating again next year.

*Jean Allen is class a member of Team India in the MPA Program in Emergency Management & Homeland Security. Mario Gonzalez is the Vice President of the IAEM-MCNY and a fellow team India member. Both Jean and Mario are is due to graduate in December of 2009.*

## Membership

For information on joining IAEM – MCNY and / or IAEM, please contact the current IAEM – MCNY Treasurer, **Lisa Ellison**, at [treasurer@iems-mcny.org](mailto:treasurer@iems-mcny.org) or at MCNY during class.

Membership supports the groups' goals of fostering academic excellence, professional development, networking and alumni relations, camaraderie and organizational growth. It also includes social events, field trips, guest speakers, workshops, and free lunch at monthly meetings.



**Michael Agnew**  
*Vice President 2 IAEM- MCNY Chapter*

Michael Agnew is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs with a B.S. in Public Affairs. He is currently pursuing an M.P.A. in Emergency Management and Homeland Security at Metropolitan College of New York. Mike has completed numerous emergency management certifications through FEMA.

## OFFICER LOG BOOK: Michael Agnew

Mike Agnew has over five years experience in Emergency Communications, Emergency Response, Incident Command System, Human Services, Training & Exercises and Security Management.

He has held emergency management positions at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and as an Exercises Contractor for an Emergency Management consulting firm. He is presently the Senior Coordinator for Disaster Drills and Exercises at the American Red Cross in Greater New York.

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## Featured Presenter

### MCNY MPA in Disaster and Emergency Management



By **Terri Thompson**,  
*Editor, "Presser"*

## Featured Presenter

"Professor George W. Contreras was an invited speaker at The Third National Emergency Management Summit held on March 4-6, 2009, in Washington, D.C.

His presentation was entitled, "Case studies: The use of non-traditional space as surge capacity and alternate care sites during an emergency".

Professor George W. Contreras is an expert in the field of Public Health who currently serves as the Director of the Office of Emergency Management at NYU Hospitals Center and is an Adjunct Faculty member for the Continuing and Professional Studies program at NYU. He has been involved in the fields of

Emergency Medical Services (EMS), public health, emergency management and hospital administration for 20 years.

He serves as a certified instructor in multiple fields including Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), and Advanced Hazardous Materials Life Support (AHLS). He teaches at St Vincent's Hospital, works as a paramedic and is a Certified Emergency Manager.

Professor Contreras is well versed in all aspects of emergency management and is a frequent guest speaker on the national and international level.

mcny.edu/emergency

1-800-33-THINK ext. 5001

# When the unforeseen happens, who will lead?



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