



The Guardian

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the International Emergency Managers Student Association

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Upcoming Chapter Teleconference Dates:

Date	Time
Sat., 20 Jun	1200 ET
Sat., 18 Jul	1200 ET
Sat., 15 Aug	1200 ET
Sat., 19 Sep	1200 ET
Sat., 17 Oct	1200 ET
Sat., 21 Nov	1200 ET

Toll Free Access Number

1-877-643-6951

Canadian Access Number

1-877-722-6536

International Number

1-302-607-2017

Participant Passcode

21082304#

New Leadership Takes the Helm

By Dawn Heyse

APUS IEMSA Vice President

Polling for the 2009-2010 chapter officers concluded at midnight ET, Sunday, 29 March 2009. When all votes were counted, the following members had been selected to lead the APUS IEMSA chapter into the next year:

President: Dorian Young
Vice President: Dawn Heyse
Secretary: Darren Endris
Treasurer: Jeremy Beck

The new officers met for Executive Board meetings on 17 and 24 April 2009 to begin planning for their term of office. They formally took office on 1 May 2009, and are looking forward to a great year for the chapter.

The new officers would like to extend their appreciation to the outgoing Executive Board for all their hard work and dedication in the face of adversity:

President: Robert Ellis
Vice President: Cory Mero
Secretary: Evelio Matos
Treasurer: Dan Niederman

Professor Rovins Earns Ph.D.

By Dawn Heyse

APUS IEMSA Vice President

EDM faculty member Jane Rovins successfully defended her dissertation this past April at Tulane University Law School to earn her Ph. D. in International Development. Her dissertation was entitled "Stand-Alone Mitigation Plans and Recovery Costs: A Study of the Florida Local Mitigation Strategies". Dr. Rovins' degree conferral is scheduled for August 2009.

Dr. Rovins has taught Natural Disaster Management, Mass Casualty Incident Management, Weapons of Mass Destruction Incident Management, Emergency Planning, and Interagency Disaster Management at APUS for the past year and a half. She is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) and a Florida Professional Emergency Manager (FPEM).

Please join the Executive Board of IEMSA in extending your sincere congratulations to Dr. Rovins on her signal accomplishment!

The Guardian

A quarterly publication of the
American Public University
System Chapter of the
International Emergency
Management Student
Association

Officers**2009-2010***President*

Dorian Young

Vice President

Dawn Heyse

Secretary

Darren Endris

Treasurer

Jeremy Beck

Faculty Advisor

Michael Kemp

Program Director

Dr. Christopher Reynolds

The Guardian**Staff***Interim Editor*

Dawn Heyse

Chief Contributors

Dr. Christopher Reynolds

Dorian Young

Message from the President**By Dorian Young***APUS IEMSA President****Get involved! Make it happen!***

These are actions which I appeal to you please to make in regard to our IEMSA Chapter. Although our Chapter has one of the largest memberships in IAEM and is a uniquely recognized student organization of AMU/APUS, it can only be as strong and successful as its membership makes it. Of late, it has been waning. The Chapter must now be re-invigorated. And to do this, we need your help.

By its very nature, the field of EDM involves working and dealing with people in various situations. Consider that successful teamwork during a crisis can make all the difference and save lives. And from a career standpoint, securing a job and/or advancing in the field can be facilitated through networking with other EDM colleagues. With such a large compliment of EDM students at APUS, many of whom concurrently hold responsible positions in the field, there is a prime opportunity presented during your studentship to build relationships of both kinds: working and social. Here is where the APUS IEMSA Chapter comes in to play by providing a primary vehicle for networking, interacting, teamwork, sharing & dispersing EDM information, and socializing.

Get involved and make it happen!

Our Chapter is supported by two fantastic Faculty Advisors at APUS, namely Dr. Chris Reynolds and Adjunct Instructor Mike Kemp, M.S. Both these chaps clearly want it to succeed. During its three previous years, they have been encouraging the EDM student body to build our Chapter into an active, growing and successful organization; undoubtedly, seeing it as a useful vehicle for increasing student involvement, awareness and interaction in our chosen field of study.

To bring this about, we, the newly-elected Chapter Executive-- Dorian Young, President; Dawn Heyse, Vice President; Darren Endris, Secretary; and Jeremy Beck, Treasurer— hereby ask for your involvement and assistance. Please do not leave the work for the many to be carried on by the few. It is far better to spread and share the load for the good of all. Sharing is caring.

If this appeal for involvement has hit home, you are probably wondering:

How may I presently get involved with the Chapter?

There are three immediate ways to *make it happen*:

1) Attend Chapter meetings to keep abreast of what is going on, and to voice your concerns, provide ideas, and offer suggestions, -- for organizing and implementing Chapter activities. The next general Chapter meeting (teleconference-style) to which you are invited will be held on June 20th, 2009 at 12:00 noon EST. It will be well-publicized with an agenda released beforehand as well as easy instructions on how to participate. Please join us.

2) Regularly monitor, learn and post your thoughts at:

- The IEMSA Chapter Classroom Discussion Boards (currently being revamped— keep your eye on it!)
- The Student Lounge/University Common/EDM discussion boards (well over 4000 views made by EDM students over the past 2-3 months!)
- The new LinkedIn.com group for EDM students at AMU/APUS (recently started by Dr. Reynolds and set to grow by leaps and bounds).

3) When directly approached for assistance and support by your friendly Chapter Executive member, please do your best to concur. You will find *getting involved* to be fun, rewarding, fulfilling and much appreciated! *Make it happen!*

Let us set our goal of making our IEMSA Chapter into something of which we EDM students can all be proud, that is nothing less than the most active, productive & successful IEMSA Chapter in IAEM! ***Get involved! Make it happen!***

Finally, a big “thank you” and “congratulations” are in order to Dawn Heyse who graciously acted as the editor for this issue of *The Guardian*. Further gratitude is expressed to all those who also contributed content to this publication. We now have a great standard set from which we can advance *The Guardian* in future publications across the coming months. Well done.

American Military University EDM alumnus receives Harvard fellowship

By Dr. Chris Reynolds, CEM

Program Director

William H. Sugiyama, who graduated with his Master's Degree in Homeland Security with an Emphasis in Emergency and Disaster Management in May 2009, was selected as the International Association of Emergency Medical Services Chiefs (IAEMSC) Harvard Fellow for 2009.

Sugiyama was chosen from a competitive pool of highly qualified candidates from throughout the United States for this highest honor for leaders in the field of Emergency Medical Services. His longstanding contributions to the discipline of EMS and commitment to the advancement of the EMS discipline distinguished him from his peers.

IAEMSC President Paul M. Maniscalco said, "Coordinator Sugiyama represents the best of EMS leadership in the United States today. Over the course of his distinguished career, he has helped to advance the discipline as we know it today. His involvement in EMS organizations such as Alameda County EMS Agency, the San Francisco Paramedic Association and IAEMSC has resulted in contributions that have further refined and advanced the discipline. We are proud to recognize William Sugiyama for his accomplishments. We look forward to his continued contributions to the IAEMSC and the EMS community of the nation."

I had the honor and privilege of being one of Bill's professors while he was a student in our EDM program. I am not at all surprised by his selection. Bill represents AMU and our Emergency and Disaster Management program in a superlative manner. Bill will be participating in the Harvard University – John F. Kennedy School of Government's Senior Executives in State and Local Government program in the summer of 2009.

Young recognized by OAEM

By Dawn Heyse

APUS IEMSA Vice President

IEMSA President Dorian Young was recently presented with the 2009 Award of Recognition of a Graduate Student by the Ontario Association of Emergency Managers. This honor, which includes a presentation, a certificate, and a cash prize, is usually bestowed upon a full-time Canadian graduate student attending a Canadian university. Young, a part-time student at an American institution, was selected based on his academic achievements, contributions to the community, and potential for helping in the advancement of the profession.

The Ontario Association of Emergency Managers, a well-respected provincial EM association, strives to promote, support and enhance the profession of emergency management in Ontario. The OAEM awards program supports this mission by recognizing individual and industry contributions to the profession of emergency management.

EDM alumnus winner of 2009 James P. Etter Award

By Dr. Chris Reynolds, CEM

Program Director

Wayne Odachowski was selected to receive the American Public University System's 2009 James P. Etter Award for Outstanding Creativity and Innovation. Named for APUS's founder and first Chancellor, this award is presented to an individual who clearly thinks out of the box, someone who possesses the drive and passion to turn dreams into reality. It is awarded annually to a member of the APUS community: a student, a faculty member, a member of the staff, or even a member of the Board. A graduate of the Master of Arts program in Emergency and Disaster Management, Odachowski worked in his area of study while maintaining a 4.0 cumulative GPA. He also assisted the APUS Marketing Department with the EDM program print advertisement campaign.

Odachowski clearly embodies the qualities sought in recipients of the James P. Etter Award, demonstrating that he is an innovator and acting as a catalyst for organizational growth and change within his company. A leader in every sense of the word, Odachowski is unquestionably deserving of this distinction. His work is respected by the APUS community and valued by our virtual learners. He describes APUS's experiential-based approach to learning as being instrumental to his success, and believes his education has provided him with "an invaluable foundation for his future" in EDM, regardless of whether that future is in the private or public sector.

Twitter now part of disaster communications

From *Canadian Security*, April 2009 (p.8-9)

Reprinted with permission

When disaster strikes, can online information sharing networks like Facebook, MySpace and Twitter be trusted to help spread the word? According to researchers at the University of Colorado Natural Hazards Center, the answer is yes, and it's time those in emergency management start thinking about how they can use these technologies.

"Social media is going to revolutionize the way we communicate during a crisis," says Jeannette Sutton, research coordinator at the Natural Hazards Center and guest speaker at the upcoming World Conference on Disaster Management, to be held in Toronto, June 21-24, 2009. "Public officials can't stop it. They can't control it. So the best they can do is to figure out a strategy so that they can start interacting with it," she adds.

Sutton and her colleague Leysia Palen, a computer scientist at the university, have been studying the use of online communication networks during disasters since 2007, beginning with the school shooting incident at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) in April, when an undergraduate student gunned down 32 of his fellow students and professors. According to their research, by the time the names of his victims were released to the public a day later, the online community on Facebook had already published that information.

"People on Facebook did their detective work collaboratively," notes Sutton, explaining that Palen's computer science lab began monitoring websites within hours of the shooting to create a detailed timeline of both official and unofficial communications. "It wasn't just a local effort; it was a national effort through the Internet as people started to exchange information about the deceased and the injured."

Surprisingly; the researchers also found that the information posted online was accurate. People were so concerned about getting it right that they established their own social norms to verify or disprove information before sharing it, a finding that goes directly against common perception, says Sutton.

"One of the biggest concerns shared by those in emergency management is that there's going to be a lot of rumor in the information that's posted through these types of social networks," she says. "Instead, from what we've seen so far, the information is actually self-correcting."

The second crisis monitored by Sutton and Palen was the outbreak of wildfires in Southern California in the fall of 2007. Again, the researchers turned to news websites and online forums to see who was communicating and what they were saying. They also conducted an online survey to determine how local residents were using technology and once again they were astonished by what they learned.

"The public perception was that the government was putting out misinformation," reports Sutton. "People were sharing information online because they felt they could provide a more accurate picture of what was going on."

The wildfire disaster was also one of the first instances where Twitter - a free social messaging utility that uses micro blogs (messages of only 140 characters in length) - surfaced as a popular communications tool. Postings on Twitter are called "tweets." When a second user takes an original tweet and forwards it, it's referred to as "re-tweeting" - a process that enables a very fast flow of information between mobile devices as well as computers.

"The people who were familiar with Twitter became an information hub where they were receiving information from people and pushing it out through their Twitter network," explains Sutton. "It became a kind of broadcast mechanism at the local level."

As part of her current research, Sutton is examining the use of Twitter during the Tennessee Valley Authority coal ash incident in December 2008, when a coal mine sludge pond broke and flooded the valley:

"Disaster communications used to be very top-down, hierarchical and linear where public officials and experts were the one who pushed the information out," she says. "Now we have these new kinds of citizen communications tools that are decentralized, flat and lateral, creating the potential for a brand new way of communicating altogether."

Groups like the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are already working on ways to actively use social media to reach people and Sutton hopes to see emergency management authorities follow suit. "It's no longer top-down communication; it's communication where the public has to be a part of the conversation," she says. "It's happening whether we want it to or not."

“Masters of Disaster” — It’s not just a slogan, it’s a t-shirt!

By Dr. Chris Reynolds, CEM

Program Director

What started as a snappy slogan, “Masters Of Disaster” turned into a true group effort in the University Commons of the Student Lounge. Back in February in the “Emergency and Disaster Students Sound Off” thread, a recommendation was made that we consider an EDM t-shirt. EDM students developed several designs and then a poll was established to capture the preference of the student body. Over 300 votes were cast for the various designs, but only one could win. It is my pleasure to introduce our IEMSA and EDM students to the APUS EDM t-shirt:



We are in the process of purchasing the shirts now and I will alert all IEMSA members and EDM students when they will be available. Shirts will be sold in the Campus Online Store.

Honor Society for EDM and HLS majors

By Dawn Heyse

APUS IEMSA Vice President

Are you an undergrad with a 3.2 overall GPA and a 3.5 GPA in your major? Are you a grad student with a 3.75 overall GPA? Then Epsilon Pi Phi may be for you!

Epsilon Pi Phi is an academic honor society established by the Foundation of Higher Education for Disaster/ Emergency Management/ Homeland Security in 2006. This specialized honor society is for emergency management, disaster research and science, homeland security and business continuity disciplines.

The mission of Epsilon Pi Phi is to strive for the reward, advancement and recognition of disaster/emergency management/homeland security as a discipline and profession and to encourage a high standard of excellence in these related fields of practice and study. Our vision is that Epsilon Pi Phi will provide a foundation for excellence in the development of exceptional professional and academic leaders for emergency management, homeland security, disaster research and business continuity. To learn more, see the Epsilon Pi Phi website at <http://ffhea.org/1815.html>

IEMSA members get LinkedIn!

By Dr. Chris Reynolds, CEM

Program Director

I want to encourage our IEMSA and EDM students to begin building their professional network and join our **AMU Emergency and Disaster Management Faculty and Students** group at LinkedIn. This is an opportunity to join an area where faculty, current students, and alumni can connect and network. So far, we have 52 members. There are over a dozen EDM job opportunities posted and several ongoing discussions regarding the current trends in emergency management. Our LinkedIn site is also a perfect area to share job intelligence, assignment discussion, current trends in emergency management, and just plain chat. As IEMSA members and EDM students, we need **YOUR** participation in this area. Please take a moment to join—it’s free!

Here is the link: <http://www.linkedin.com>

CEM/AEM Corner

Got questions about earning the CEM or AEM credential? Just ask! We'll find the answer and publish it here!

Q. Do college classes in EM (such as those offered through AMU) have the ability to count as required training hours needed for the AEM or CEM?

A. Yes, they can count. HOWEVER, you MAY NOT USE THEM if you plan to claim your bachelors degree to meet the degree requirement. Often times people use their Masters degree to meet the general management training requirements because they have a bachelor's degree to meet that requirement. I do not encourage people to use course from their undergrad if they plan to use them to claim a Bachelor's degree. This includes any class that is included as part of a Bachelor's degree transcript.

—Answered by Nick Crossley, MSW, CEM, ABCP, Chair, CEM Commission

Q. Also the IAEM website only gives a example of what the required training might be. Where can I find a concrete list?

A. There is no concrete/complete list. The majority of the courses on the list are linked to FEMA/DHS in some way and are common training in the EM field in the U.S. Applicants should follow the directions and submit a training submission form for any course not on that list explaining the course and how it applies to EM or GM training. If you have any questions about the course, you can call IAEM staff or a CEM Commissioner (list on IAEM website).

—Answered by Nick Crossley, MSW, CEM, ABCP, Chair, CEM Commission

A. The "Sample Training Allocations Chart" posted on the certification section of the website is just an example - it is not an all inclusive list of training courses. Any courses which a candidate has taken (whether it be online or in person) can be submitted for consideration by the CEM Commission for credit within their credentials submission. The candidate would need to submit individual training submission forms for each course, provide certificates of completion or transcripts showing they completed the course as well as a course syllabus or description from the course catalog. Note that any course that makes up a baccalaureate degree cannot be used also under the training section. However, any college course outside the BA degree or towards an advanced degree may be used under the training section as long as they were within the last 10 years.

—Answered by Sharon Kelly, Membership Director, International Association of Emergency Managers

Special Message from Christian Lanphere, Second Vice President of the IAEM USA Student Region:

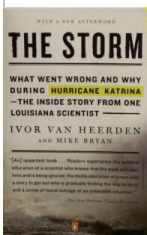
Are you interested in obtaining your Associate Emergency Manager or Certified Emergency Manager credentials before leaving school but you are just not sure how to go about it? Join me in a conference call (dial **1-877-643-6951**, passcode **21082304#**) on June 8, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. EDT to learn how!

Go to the IAEM student website (address below) for the necessary handouts to follow along on the call. Bring any and all questions that you may have.

On behalf of the IAEM USA Student Region we look forward to your participation!

<http://www.iaem.com/students>

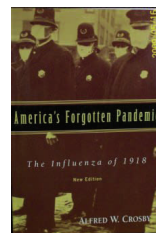
Books of Interest



***The Storm: What Went Wrong and Why During Hurricane Katrina—The Inside Story From One Louisiana Scientist*, by Ivor van Heerden and Mike Bryan.** Penguin Books, 2007. 326p. *From back cover:*

As a leading expert in disaster preparation and cofounder of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Center, Ivor van Heerden had, for years, been warning of the looming threat of catastrophic flooding in New Orleans. In the aftermath of the tragedy, he was the most prominent voice challenging the official version of events, and as head of the official Louisiana state investigation in the levee failures, he helped break the news about their shoddy construction. Now in the ultimate inside story of the Katrina tragedy, van Heerden lays out in full detail the stunning incompetence among the bureaucrats, the politicians, and the Corps of Engineers that culminated in the catastrophe that crippled, perhaps forever, a great American city. He also lays out in full detail the plan that could prevent any recurrence of that tragedy, of only the political leadership and will can be found.

***America's Forgotten Pandemic: The Influenza of 1918, New Edition*, by Alfred W. Crosby.** Cambridge University Press, 2003. 337p. *From back cover:* Between August 1918 and March 1919 the Spanish influenza spread worldwide, claiming at least 30 million lives, more people than perished in the fighting of the First World War. It proved fatal to at least a half-million Americans. Yet, the Spanish flu pandemic is largely forgotten today. In this vivid narrative, Alfred W. Crosby recounts the course of the pandemic during the panic-stricken months of 1918 and 1919, measures its impact on American society, and probes the curious loss of national memory of this cataclysmic event. In a new edition, with a new preface discussing SARS, *America's Forgotten Pandemic* remains both prescient and relevant.



Principles of Emergency Management *A series of explorations*

In March of 2007, Dr. Wayne Blanchard of FEMA's Emergency Management Higher Education Project, at the direction of Dr. Cortez Lawrence, Superintendent of FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, convened a working group of emergency management practitioners and academics to consider principles of emergency management. This project was prompted by the realization that while numerous books, articles and papers referred to "principles of emergency management", nowhere in the vast array of literature on the subject was there an agreed upon definition of what these principles were. The group agreed on eight principles that will be used to guide the development of a doctrine of emergency management.

This series on the Principles of Emergency Management will introduce the concepts behind each principle as well as encourage thought and discussion about them. For more information on the Principles of Emergency Management, visit <http://www.iaem.com/EMPrinciples/index.htm>

This issue's featured principle is "Comprehensive". Emergency management must be Comprehensive, meaning that emergency managers consider and take into account all hazards, all phases, all stakeholders and all impacts relevant to disasters.

Students and faculty were asked to share their thoughts on this principle of emergency management. Their impressions follow below:

Dorian Young, MA student: I cannot but think of the "comprehensive principle" without relating it to the question of the optimum background and training for an emergency manager. It speaks directly to the design of education programs for EDM students. If EM is comprehensive by nature, then arguably so must its training. EM programs should offer a broad, interdisciplinary and "comprehensive" spread of courses. EM managers would be well-served by having a diverse and varied background and education. Thus for example, graduate courses should accept suitably qualified candidates from a wide variety of fields such as: EDM, military, first response, health sciences, international relations, mediation, politics and government, business in a related field (emergency, safety, security)... etc. Many do. The strength of the field benefits directly by the "comprehensiveness" in the training of its management. And an EM's ability to deal with a disaster or emergency in a comprehensive manner is of course dependent on such training. The circularity of the argument is unavoidable.

Dr. Tom Phelan, Associate Professor: Regarding the principle, "comprehensive," it is more than addressing the all-hazards approach. It includes communicating, budgeting, scheduling, exercising, planning, recruiting, managing personnel, and evaluating, among others. A comprehensive emergency manager is skilled in management, politics, human relations and finance as well as supporting all aspects of planning, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and restoration.

Member Spotlight



Name: Matt Shilk
Program: BA, EDM
Grad Year: 2011
Current Location: Las Vegas, NV
**Current Job Title/
 Employer:** Survey Team

Chief, 92nd Civil Support Team (CST)-WMD, Nevada Army National Guard
Educational/Professional Achievements: Member, Golden Key International Honor Society

Family Life/Hobbies/Interests: Married with two children (3 yrs and 3 months), shooting, working out, mixed martial arts and spending time with the family

Email: 4032141@online.apus.edu



Name: Dr. Randall Cuthbert
Courses: EDMG540, EDMG560, EDMG565, EDMG612
Years with APUS: Just over one

Current Location: Manhattan, KS
Educational/Professional Achievements: Ph.D., Saybrook Graduate School & Research Center; M.S. Organizational Systems Management, University of Denver; B.S. Industrial Engineering, Oregon State University; USAF (Ret.)

Family Life/Hobbies/Interests: American Red Cross Disaster Reserves: responded to Hurricane Katrina, San Diego wildfires, Hurricane Ike

Email: rc1511@online.apus.edu

Upcoming Conferences

- 1-4 June 2009, 12th Annual All-Hazards Higher Education Conference, Emmitsburg, MD
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/educonference09.asp>
- 5-6 June 2009, IAEM-USA Mid-Year Meeting, Emmitsburg, MD
<http://www.iaem.com/events/MIDYEAR/INTRO.htm>
- 21-24 June 2009, World Conference on Disaster Management, Toronto, Canada
<http://www.wcdm.org/>
- 29 June—1 July 2009, Chemical Sector Security Summit, Baltimore, MD
http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/gc_1176736485793.shtm
- 11-14 July 2009, 2009 ESRI Homeland Security GIS Summit, San Diego, CA
<http://www.esri.com/hssummit>
- 9-12 August 2009, 2009 National Conference on Community Preparedness, Arlington, VA
<http://www.iaem.com/NCCP2009.htm>
- 16-20 August 2009, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) 75th Annual Conference & Expo, Las Vegas, NV
<http://www.apco2009.org/>
- 31 October—5 November 2009, 57th IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX 2009, Orlando, FL
<http://www.iaem.com/events/Annual/intro.htm>