

Express Your Views on A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management!



2017 International Association for Emergency Manager's Global Student Council Essay Competition

Information: In December 2011, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) introduced a document “A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management – Principles, Themes and Pathways for Action.” The whole community is a philosophical approach in how to conduct the business of emergency management. The whole community seeks to engage the full community. It is the means by which residents, emergency management practitioners, organizational and community leaders, and government officials can collectively understand and assess the needs of their respective communities and determine the best ways to organize and strengthen their assets, capacities, and interests. By doing so, a more effective path to societal security and resilience can be built.

The benefits are a shared understanding of community needs and capabilities, greater empowerment and integration of resources from across the community, stronger social infrastructure, establishment of relationships that facilitate more effective prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery activities, increased individual and collective preparedness, and greater resiliency at both the community and national levels.

In its second annual essay competition, the IAEM Global Student Council wishes to understand the perceptions of students regarding the practicality of FEMA’s Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management.

Essay Question

Write an essay discussing personal perceptions of the practicality of FEMA’s whole community approach to emergency management concept. Can a more effective path to resilience be built through the whole community? Is the whole community approach to emergency management practical or just theory? Is there a more effective approach to emergency management? What are your views?

Selection of Winners and Prize

Submissions will be read and assessed by a five-member panel of academics, practitioners and a member of the IAEM Global Student Council and scored according to a matrix. The scores will be averaged together for a final score used to rank the essays.

One undergraduate and one graduate paper will be selected as a winner. The prize for each will consist of a complimentary student membership for IAEM. Certificates of Participation

will be awarded to all participating students. The winning essay and a photo of the winner will be published in the IAEM Bulletin.

Essay Rules and Requirements

- Students submitting essays must be in good standing with the IAEM.
- Submissions are due August 1, 2017, at 16:59 hrs UTC.
- Submissions should be emailed to: iaemgsc@gmail.com.
- The format is as follows: Please save your essay as lastname_gscessay_date of submission. A notification that your submission has been accepted will be sent within 24 hours of submission being received at this address.
- Students must include a cover page that lists their name, school, email address, telephone number, and whether they are a graduate or undergraduate student. This information should only be included on the cover page and nowhere else in the paper as the cover page will be removed for assessment purposes.
- Complete APA or MLA formatting, including use of proper referencing, is required. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and is against the IAEM Code of Ethics. Papers are subject to verification with turnitin.com or other plagiarism software.
- Submissions should be between 1200-2000 words (in APA format).
- Whether or not a submission follows the above instructions will be reflected in scoring.
- Questions may be directed to iaemgsc@gmail.com.