Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Lunch Speaker

Time of Session: 12:00-1:30 PM

Session Title: Campus Roles in Emergency Management

Speaker: Frannie Edwards, Mineta Transportation Institute, San Jose University

Room: 236

Head Count: 75

Note Taker: Nandini Seth
Dr. Edwards in her presentation emphasized campuses as cities which has basic attributes like: infrastructure like roads, buildings, residents, commuter etc. Since campuses are like mini cities, it should be able to equip itself and prepare for disasters just like a city does. It should use resources to make the campus safer. Facilities like fire department should be a part of emergency management. Emergency drills and exercise can also be a core part in the school curriculums. Campus emergency management plan should be in line with the larger community and resources which should include mutual aid with other universities.

Secondly, Campuses are also considered to be a continuously operating business. The speaker emphasizes on employee-preparedness and how human capital can be very resourceful at the time of a disaster.

The campus Emergency Plan can have unique campus challenges.
- It is questionable if the young adults will be able to make good decision by themselves.
- Training of the faculty (new orientation) can help during an emergency situation.
- Students that avail on campus housing- how do we prepare them to behave during an emergency situation.
- Few internal responders: who knows how to use and extinguisher?
- Automated systems should generate notifications for the campus staff, faculties, and workers.

Campus can take up few emergency measures such as:
- Buying appropriate insurance for known risks (Business interpretation of the insurance policies)
- Inventoried the campus resources.
- Use buses as temporary shelters, shelter ambulance, these could be one of the creative application.

Role of transportation on campus emergency management plan:
- It will include helicopter operations.
- It will include Emergency Operation Plan checklist set that will integrate transportation assets appropriately through both operations and logistics section.