Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Workshop Session I

Time of Session: 11:00-12:00pm

Session Title: Strengthening Multi Hazard Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Capabilities: Leveraging Campus Resources for System-Wide Results

Speaker(s): Toby Osburn, McNeese State University
Joseph V. Pons, IV, University of Louisiana Lafayette

Room: 256
Head Count: 26
Note Taker: Laurýn T. Minter

Notes:

Higher Education in Louisiana using the Louisiana Board of Regents

4 college systems in Louisiana

LS University System

U of LA System

Over 80,000 students within this system

Southern University System

LA Community and Technical College Systems

Virginia Tech incident changed everything

Active Shooter Training for all University police

Adoption of the Ready Campus Concept (which started in PA see www.readycampus.org)

Campus Physical Security Assessments

Development of an Emergency Notification System (ENS)

Legislative Involvement through Senate Resolution 8 (2007) during regular session
To develop and implement comprehensive emergency response and crisis communication plan

Networking needed within entire system

Higher education serves as an emergency support function and post emergency capacity

ULS EPSC

Steering committee tasked with specific functions related to system wide emergency planning, coordination and mutual aid

Multidisciplinary group of campus officials meets once per quarter via video conference

Diversity of ULS EPSC

Includes traditional planners/responders, quasi traditional (student health services, etc) and non traditional (public info and governmental affairs, academic affairs, student affairs)

Leadership in ULS EPSC

University system liaison, group always chaired by campus-level official

Strength and effectiveness is driven by multi-disciplinary membership

All hazards preparedness and planning

Representation from all staff levels within institutions

Deliberately avoid over representation of traditional responders

Success to date

Consultation and information sharing regarding best practices: H1N1, hurricanes, communicable diseases

Hurricane Gustav, all 64 parishes declared a FEMA federal disaster area

Role of ULS EPSC before, during and after the storm

Post a universal request from other universities

Back-up communication in lieu of telephones
Keys to Successful Implementation

System and campus executive buy-in a must

Diverse composition at the campus level validates broad range of issues

Hands-off approach to coordination by system officials increases buy-in by campus participants

Best work occurs bottom up, rather than top down approach

Practical Starting Points

Identifying campus stakeholders who will be effective liaison

Consider possible resistances, keep initiatives undertaken manageable

Avoid excessively requesting meetings or cumbersome reporting meetings

Question (s):

Has there been much faculty engagement?

A. Academic affairs is enough, do not want too many faculty.

Any outside support from community?

A. Some, all schools should have support from community.

Is there direct representation from finance?

A. Yes, the CFO is included on the team.

Cost Benefit Analysis created?

A. No, but grants are offered so it would be good to create such a document.

Are evacuation plans made public?

A. Not all plans are made public, for safety purposes. The more complex procedures are not releases, however students receive packet at orientation as do international students and students with disabilities.