Thursday, March 21, 2013

Workshop Session 4

Time of Session: 3:30-5:00PM

Session Title: The University Setting

A. Building the University—Community Partnership in Disaster Management

   Speaker: Benetta Robinson, Jackson State University
            Coastal Hazards Center of Excellence

   Speaker: Rachel Dowty Beech, Louisiana State University

B. Building a More Resilient University Campus: Lessons Learned from Six Emergency Management Service Learning Projects

   Speaker: Claire Connolly Knox, University of Central Florida

Room: 257

Head Count: 21

Note Taker: Olivia Burchett
Building a More Resilient University Campus: Lessons Learned from Six Emergency Management Service Learning Projects: Claire Connolly Knox, University of Central Florida

- A Journal article on this project will soon be available in the Journal of Public Affairs Education
- Focused on trends in service learning in the emergency management field to provide education at the practical level
- Service learning as a part of coursework
- She provided her story of coordinating service learning in an online class
- The UCF evacuation plan was out of date due to heavy growth so there was very little data and students thus started from the beginning.
- The suggestions made by her students came in handy during a recent shooter situation at the school
- Pre and post tests were utilized in the project to give validity to the project.
- Most projects were well liked by the clients and students felt their research was validated because it has been put to use.
- Project structure: project management to learn practical skills
  - Each group had 5 students
  - Did not pick own groups – were based on strengths, interests and skills
- Lessons Learned: Mandatory meetings between students and clients
- Questions:
  - How to source new clients and projects?
  - Having a strong service learning center on campus to provide support
  - Time commitment for students?
  - No final, structure for assignments due, kept in mind course load with project workload – tried to blend and students appreciated this
  - (Comment) If have a service learning center, look to see if they are making it an essential part of the masters degree. If representing community, force universities to have service learning center
  - How to incorporate practical learning in emergency management?
    - Tests, certification courses, creation of a writing portfolio, having an EOC on campus