



Emergency Management in Higher Education: Key Considerations within the Four Phases of Emergency Management



Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness
University of Georgia



Session Objectives

- Discuss key considerations within the four phases of emergency management
- Review challenges in higher education emergency management
- Discuss useful emergency management resources





UGA Campus Profile

Location: Athens, Georgia

Town Population: 112,000

Students: 35,000

Faculty/Staff: 10,000

Number of Buildings: 380 (main campus)

Main Campus Size: 615 acres (42,010 total)

Other campuses: 4

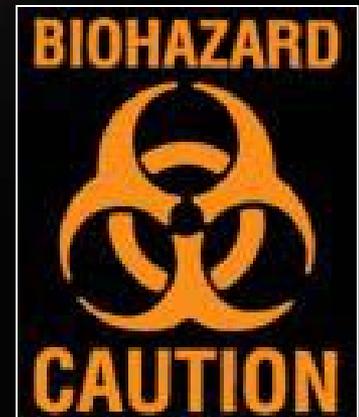
Research labs: 1,300

Annual Budget: \$1.3 billion (FY 2009)

First State Chartered University – 1785

Sanford Stadium: 5th largest in the U.S.

Campus Transit: 2nd largest in GA





Human and Environmental Challenges on College Campuses

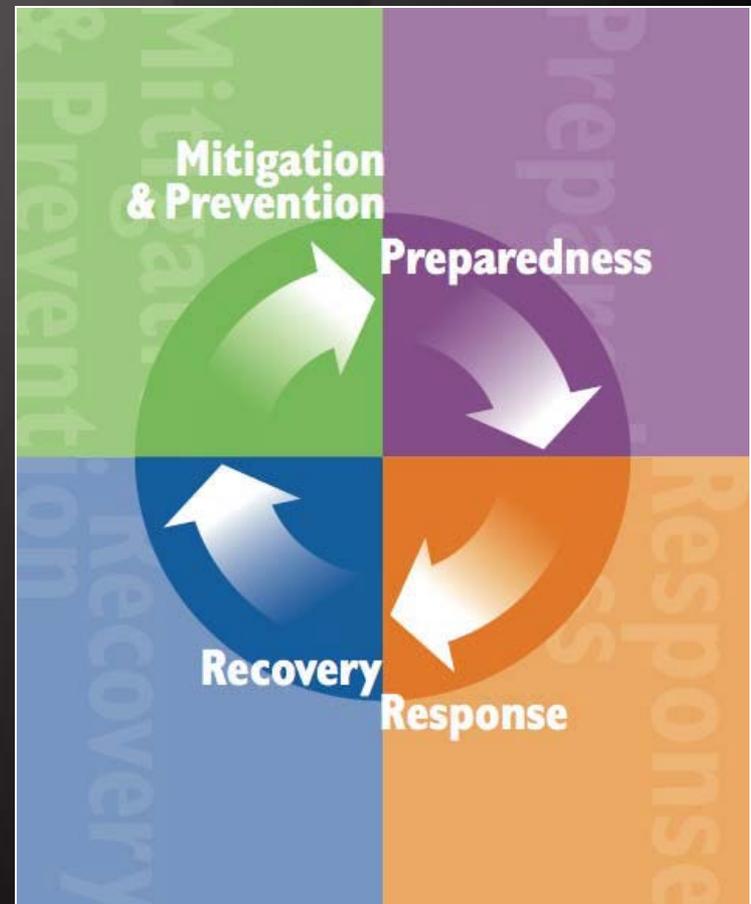
- **Campuses are open environments**
- **Misconception that college campuses are immune to emergencies**
- **Retraining of thousands of new students, faculty and staff each year**
- **Large and primarily young population with limited life experiences (particularly in regards to emergency situations and individual preparedness)**
- **“Helicopter parents” – Do these parents stifle student decision making skills?**



What is Emergency Management?

4-phased organized process:

- Prevention/mitigation
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery





Prevention/Mitigation

- Prevention – Actions taken to decrease the likelihood that an event or crisis will occur
- Mitigation – Actions taken to eliminate or reduce the loss of life or property damage related to an event or crisis

Examples:

- Reviewing existing campus and community data
- Assessing facilities and grounds
- Assessing culture and climate



Community Partnerships

- Campus security/public safety/law enforcement
- Campus environmental safety (biosafety, fire safety, chemical safety)
- Campus health center or hospital
- Academic groups (public health, criminal justice, emergency management, international affairs, etc.)
- University system office
- Local public safety (emergency management, fire, EMS, law enforcement, 911)
- Local hospitals
- Public health
- Military installations
- Other local technical colleges, colleges, and universities
- State agencies (EMA, homeland security, public health, L.E.)
- Federal agencies



All-Hazards Approach to Planning

- Severe weather (tornadoes, flooding)
- Utilities disruption
- Winter storms (snow/ice)
- Information security issues
- Mass casualties incident
- Major structure fires
- Hazardous materials incidents
- Workplace violence/Active shooters
- Domestic terrorism
- Other threats and hazards specific to your jurisdiction





All-Hazards Emergency Planning

**Campus-wide
Planning &
Preparedness**

**Departmental & Building Level
Planning & Preparedness**

**Individual Planning &
Preparedness**



Preparedness

- Establishing an Incident Command System (ICS) consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Developing all-hazard policies, procedures, and protocols with input from community partners
- Collaborating with community partners to establish mutual aid agreements
- Developing a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and Business Continuity Plan (BCP)
- Exercising campus emergency plans



National Incident Management System (NIMS)

- NIMS is a national framework for incident response and recovery
- Colleges and universities are required to comply in order to receive disaster reimbursement and apply for federal public safety/emergency management grants
- Institutions should develop a campus NIMS policy in coordination with state and local laws, policies, and regulations
- Determine who needs to be trained
- Training records should be maintained by one department on campus





Exercises and Drills

- Drills, tabletops, functional, and full scale exercises
- Coordinate with community partners and follow HSEEP
- Develop scenarios based on threats, need, and historical references
- After action reviews should be completed for improvement





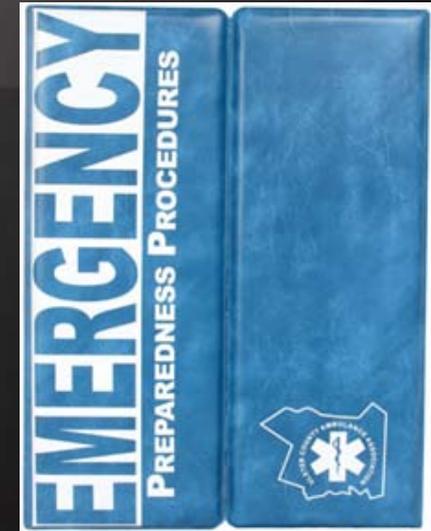
Preparedness - Continued

- Defining protocols and procedures for each type of response strategy (campus and building level)
- Establishing an emergency notification system using multiple modes of communication
- Develop a campus emergency communication plan
- Coordinating campus emergency plans with state and local plans
- Marketing emergency procedures and training staff, faculty, and students
- Establishment of a behavioral threat assessment process



Emergency Action Plans (EAP) – How do You Convey Information?

- Building personnel
- Flipcharts in classrooms/offices
- Website procedures
- Classroom safety cards
- Instructor briefings
- Brochures
- Drills





Sample – EAP Summary



EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN SUMMARY



IMPORTANT EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

UGA Police : (706) 542-2200 or 911 Emergency line
(706) 542-1188 (TTY Hearing Impaired)

The University of Georgia Police Department is the primary contact for all campus emergencies. Calls will be routed to the appropriate campus and local responders from UGA Police Communications.

Emergency Response Actions:

Fire – When the fire alarm is activated, evacuation is mandatory • **Evacuate the building immediately** • Do not use the elevators • Take personal belongings with you (keys, purses, wallets, etc.) • Call the UGA Police • Follow directions given by your building's emergency coordinator, fire department or the police • Help those needing assistance to move from the area • Do not re-enter the building until authorized to do so by emergency personnel

Tornado/Severe Weather – Monitor local TV stations, radio stations, NOAA weather radio, weather related internet sites, etc. • Be prepared to take shelter on the lowest level of your building • Stay away from windows • Move to an interior hallway • Wait for an all clear notification prior to returning to your work area or classroom • If outdoors, lie in a ditch, low-lying area, or crouch near a strong building if shelter is not available or if there is no time to get indoors

Medical Emergency – Call the UGA Police • Provide your name, location, number of people injured, and description of the medical emergency • Stay on the phone for instructions of what to do

Armed Intruder – Call the UGA Police • In case of an immediate life-threatening event, each individual should take whatever actions are necessary to protect his or her own life • If it is possible to flee the area safely and avoid danger, do so • If flight is impossible, lock (or barricade) all doors and secure yourself in a safe area • Remain in place until an "all clear" is given by an authorized person or law enforcement official

Chemical Spill/Hazardous Materials Emergency – Call the UGA Police • Provide information on the type of chemicals (if known), size of the spill and possible exposures • Evacuate the area and the building based on instructions from emergency personnel • The evacuated area should remain evacuated until an all clear indication is given by the appropriate authorities • Do not leave the area as decontamination may need to be conducted

How Will You Be Notified of a Campus Emergency?

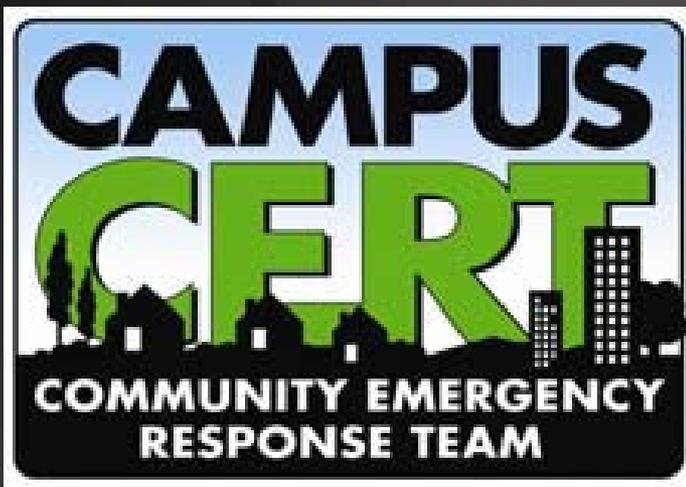
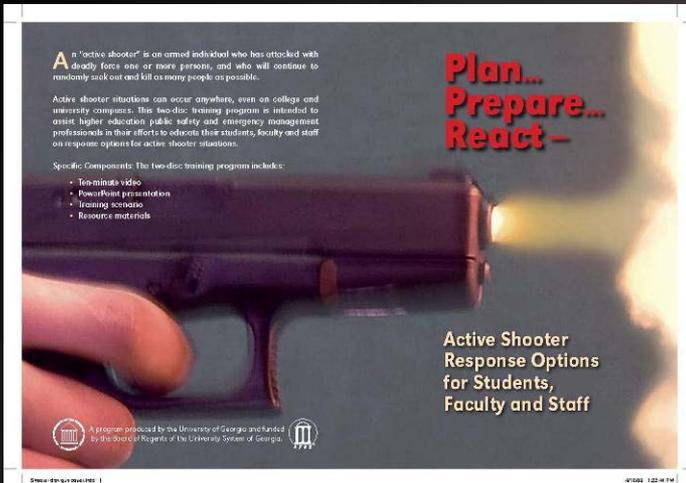
- UGA Alert System – Emergency notifications via phones and email (www.ugaalert.uga.edu)
- Campus T.V. Emergency Alert System – Emergency notifications on campus cable T.V. stations
- Outdoor Tornado Warning Sirens – Audible sirens to alert people outdoors of a tornado warning
- Building Notification Systems – NOAA Weather radios, Arch News, phone trees, local radio stations

The University of Georgia Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness
Phone (706) 542-5845 | FAX (706) 542-4664 | Email: osep@uga.edu | Web site: www.osep.uga.edu



Additional Training Ideas

- “Mandated” online training
- Emergency information in syllabi
- Freshman seminar courses
- Special events for students
- Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Social networking
- Videos
- Student leadership groups





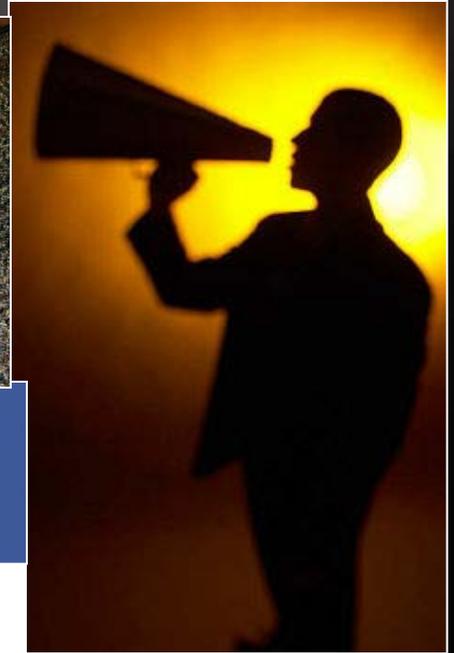
Response

- Activating the Incident Command System (ICS)
- Coordinating with appropriate first responders
- Establishing an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as needed
- Activating communication plans
- Determining and executing the appropriate response strategy
- Accounting for students, faculty, and staff
- Conducting an after-action as a tool for modifying and improving the emergency management plan



Emergency Notification

- Bullhorns
- Call boxes
- LED signs
- E-mails
- Building Intercoms
- Outdoor loudspeakers
- Phone trees
- Desktop messaging
- Radio/campus T.V.
- Social media
- Text messaging
- Weather radios
- Web announcements





Emergency Notification Challenges

- Expectations
- Voluntary vs. mandatory
- Policies – Higher Ed. Act
- Education efforts
- Updating information
- Homepage for more information
- Other campuses
- Parents
- Testing
- Non-university personnel
- “Purging” former students/staff



Are we creating an expectation that everyone will be notified immediately of every emergency situation on campus?



Recovery

- Physical and structural recovery
- Business recovery
- Restoration of the Academic-learning environment
- Psychological and emotional recovery



Other Planning Considerations

- Develop written emergency plans that include protocols for persons with disabilities, language barriers, and cultural differences
- Develop a written plan for infectious disease outbreaks (short-term and long-term implications)
- Develop a written campus violence prevention/response plan addressing the mental health needs of students who may be at risk to others and themselves
- Continue to develop a culture of awareness and emergency preparedness on campus



Questions?



Steve Harris
Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness
706-542-4119
sharris@uga.edu
www.osep.uga.edu
www.ugaalert.uga.edu

EMHE Resources

Vulnerability Assessments:

<http://www.edfacilities.org/> - checklists

<http://rems.ed.gov/> - “A Guide to School Vulnerability Assessments”

Emergency Action Plans:

http://rems.ed.gov/index.cfm?event=higher_education - “Action Guide for Emergency Management at Institutions of Higher Education”

<http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov/> - planning information for disabilities

www.osep.uga.edu – UGA version of the one-page emergency action plan

Emergency Mass Notification:

<http://public-alert-radio.nws.noaa.gov/> - Public Alert Radio for Schools

<http://www.campusafety.com/MassNotification/> - *Campus Safety Magazine* mass notification center

www.ugaalert.uga.edu – UGA mass emergency notification site (FAQs and policy)

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training:

<http://rems.ed.gov/index.cfm?event=NIMS> – NIMS Implementation Activities for Schools and Higher Education

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm> - NIMS Resource Center

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp> - FEMA online training

Exercises and Drills:

<http://www.hseep.dhs.gov/> - Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) – resources and templates

www.llis.dhs.gov - Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS) – resources and templates

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp> - FEMA online training (IS 120A)

Business Continuity Planning:

<http://www.oseh.umich.edu/buscont/bc-main.html> - University of Michigan planning guidelines

<http://ocp.berkeley.edu/plan/tool> - UC Berkley “UC Ready Planning Tool”

http://www.osep.uga.edu/campus/Pandemic_Planning.html - UGA departmental BCP planning template

http://www.vaemergency.com/library/coop/higher_ed/index.cfm - Virginia Department of Emergency Management Higher Education COOP planning materials

Campus Threat Assessment:

<http://www.uga.edu/studentaffairs/barcfolder.htm> - UGA Behavioral Assessment and Response Committee Faculty/Staff 911 Guide