

FEMA Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium

June 5-8, 2017

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B. Restatement of Professional Enhancement Opportunity

I was awarded a Professional Development Grant that allowed me to attend and present at the FEMA Emergency Management Institute Higher Education Symposium is held annually in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The 19th annual meeting convened June 5-8 and provided “an environment to network with other academics, gain exposure to successful programs and research, learn about new resources and approaches, and hear from practitioners and policy makers” (EMI Symposium announcement). The PDG award of \$1451 covered my travel costs to this Symposium and allowed our ATU team to travel together from BWI to Emmitsburg.

C. Brief Review of the Professional Enhancement Opportunity

I participated at the 19th Annual FEMA Emergency Management Institute Higher Education Symposium in Emmitsburg, Maryland by co-presenting and facilitating 3 different sessions during the 4-day symposium. The sessions I either presented or facilitated were:

- “Development of Internships” [Presentation during June 8 Plenary Session]
- “Next Generation Core Competencies: Refinement and Measurements”
- “Challenge Met: Graduate EMHS Curriculum and Assessment Development”

Included with this report is the Agenda for the Symposium. The sessions I led were on June 6, 7, & 8.

D. Summary of Outcomes and Experiences

The FEMA Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium provided our faculty team a venue to not only present and share about our program’s graduate curriculum but also a means for our team to dialogue with others committed to emergency management education. Additionally, I was able to co-present with Dr. Feldmann-Jensen and Dr. Jensen from the University of Southern California at Long Beach our research regarding the Next Generation of Emergency management Core Competencies. As the symposium was 4 days, it provided me with numerous opportunities to visit with a number of scholars in the field as well as to network with other emergency management department heads. On Monday, June 5, the emergency management department heads across the country met to specifically discuss issues in the area of EM education.

E. Conclusions and Recommendations

The 2017 FEMA Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium was highly successful at achieving its goals and my goals for presenting and participating at the symposium were achieved as well. The emergency management department heads that met on June 5th agreed to develop an on-going network with one another and we are now meeting virtually 4 times a year to continue to move EM education onward. Additionally, the opportunity for our ATU

faculty team to continue to learn from others and one another have been immensely helpful as the fall semester is unfolding.

FEMA is in the process of adding *The next generation core competencies for emergency management professionals: Handbook of behavioral anchors and key actions for measurements* to its website. This is an outcome from my work with Dr. Feldmann-Jensen and Dr. Jensen at FEMA Higher Education Symposiums. Proposed journal publications are continuing to be refined from the papers we/I presented at this symposium.

I want to thank the University and the PDG Committee for allowing me to participate fully at this Symposium.