

# The Mitigator



February 2004

Emergency Administration and Planning Program  
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## Professor Examines Damage Assessment in Recent Quake

EADP Program Coordinator, **Dr. David A. McEntire**, and PADM graduate student, **Jill Cope**, recently traveled to **Paso Robles, California** as part of a Quick Response Grant funded by the **National Science Foundation** and the **Natural Hazards Center** at the University of Colorado. The San Simeon earthquake killed 2 people, injured 40, and caused an estimated \$220,000,000 in direct damages and losses. Dr. McEntire and Ms. Cope examined the damage assessment function in this 6.5 tremblor. Questions investigated in the research project included: Who is involved in damage assessment? What types of damages assessments are there? What methods were utilized to conduct the assessments? What problems were encountered during damage assessment? And, what lessons were learned for emergency managers? Dr. McEntire found that damage assessment is a very complex and repetitive process that occurs throughout the response and recovery phases of disaster. Another finding is that damage assessment can be a very political phenomenon, requiring the involvement of many different organizations and volunteers. Finally, it was discovered that damage assessment can be very problematic in earthquakes as structural damage is not always evident. Planning and flexibility are essential if this activity is to be conducted in an effective manner. Research on this disaster will be published shortly on the **Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado 'Quick Response Program'** website at [www.colorado.edu/hazards/qr/](http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/qr/).

## Kendra Shares Research Findings in Japan

Dr. James Kendra has been invited to speak at the 4th Workshop for Comparative Study on Urban Earthquake Disaster Management on January 29-30 in Kobe, Japan. His presentation will focus on organizational adaptation in extreme events and will include examples from the emergency response to the attack on the World Trade Center, in particular the waterborne evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people from lower Manhattan.

Dr. Kendra and his colleague Tricia Wachtendorf, Research Coordinator at the University of Delaware Disaster Research Center, are also continuing their research on organizational creativity and improvisation. They recently published a book chapter, "Creativity in Emergency Response after the World Trade Center Attack," in *Beyond September 11th: An Account of Post-Disaster Research* from the Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Their paper on post-disaster convergence "Reconsidering Convergence and Converger Legitimacy in Response to the World Trade Center Disaster" appeared recently in *Research in Social Problems and Public Policy*.

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## UNT on the Cutting Edge

'Computers in Emergency Management' Promises to be a Different Kind of Class

By W. Kirk Driver, CEM, TEM, MPA

**Have you ever wondered** what it would be like to work inside a State Emergency Operational Center responding to a disaster of historic proportions? What would it be like to have to prioritize objectives that could mean the difference between life and death? Do you have the courage to approve or decline resource requests and explain your reasoning to the Governor? Could you write situational reports, develop briefing materials and manage resource requests and provide leadership and direction against all odds? The students enrolled in the **EADP 4060 class, Computers in Emergency Management**, will be able to find out for themselves. This course will provide them with an understanding of a crisis management computer system while conducting a simulation of the State of North Carolina's response to **Hurricane Floyd** from 1999. Computers in emergency management are enabling jurisdictions to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from large-scale emergencies and everyday incidents. This class will use a real **crisis management system** donated from **E-Team**, the leading provider in the industry, which has been proven in real events including New York City's response to 9/11 and the 2002 Winter Olympics among others.

Throughout this semester, each class session will serve as an actual day of the Hurricane Floyd disaster. The students will be organized into five functional groups to mirror the NC State Emergency Response Team. They will manage actual resource requests from the disaster provided by the NC Division of Emergency Management. The students will learn how to develop **Incident Action Plans and Situational Reports** relating to their group's activities. The students will also take turns each week coordinating their group activities culminating in the delivery of their group briefing at the end of each class. Moreover, students will be able to compare their progress and management each week to North Carolina's response thanks to their actual reports and incident action plans. The utilization of E-Team in this class will greatly enhance the learning experience of the students. It will also allow us to simulate real life situations far above normal classroom activities as well as provide students with hands on training in crisis management software.

This class is an example of a unique collaboration between the Public, Private and Academic sectors to offer students practical experience in the profession of emergency management and it is believed to be the first ever of its kind. The EADP program at the **University of North Texas, E-Team**, and the **North Carolina Division of Emergency Management** have graciously committed to provide an educational experience unattainable in any other program.

### EADP History Published

FEMA Higher Education Program Manager, Wayne Blanchard, recently contracted with Dr. David McEntire to write a White Paper about the historical development of the Emergency Administration and Planning program. The paper discusses how the program started, identifies some of the changes that have taken place over the years, and mentions some of the developments that have occurred recently. The paper looks at the proposal to start the EADP program, and provides an interesting examination of the growing pains and successes of the EADP program. Regarding the White Paper, Wayne Blanchard states: "I highly recommend this material to all those who have, or are developing, a hazards, disasters and emergency management type program on their campus." The paper is currently available at FEMA's EMI webpage: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/highpapers.asp>

**Contact Us - [eadp@unt.edu](mailto:eadp@unt.edu)**

**Dr. David McEntire**

Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor - [mcentire@unt.edu](mailto:mcentire@unt.edu)

**Dr. James Kendra**

Assistant Professor - [jmkendra@unt.edu](mailto:jmkendra@unt.edu)

**Dr. Robie Robinson**

Assistant Professor - [robinson@unt.edu](mailto:robinson@unt.edu)

**Ms. Janay Tieken**

Internship Coordinator - [jtieken@unt.edu](mailto:jtieken@unt.edu)

**Mr. Rich Weber**

EADP Professional Development Coordinator - [WeberR@unt.edu](mailto:WeberR@unt.edu)

### Robinson and Weber Study Shuttle Disaster

Following the February 1<sup>st</sup> breakup of the **Space Shuttle Columbia** over Texas, **Dr. Robie Robinson** and **Rich Weber** received a grant from the **Natural Hazards Center** at the **University of Colorado** at Boulder to examine the wide area debris field. Robinson and Weber conducted field research throughout the search area. They interacted with responders, searchers, and emergency management personnel from local, state and federal agencies. They attended briefings for incoming federal incident management teams as well as NASA personnel and other federal agencies.

The analysis of data collected and should be submitted for publication by the end of January. Some preliminary findings of this unique event deal with the financial and logistical arrangements (due to the multitude of agencies responding which previously had not been involved in disaster response), policy adjustments needed, and law enforcement considerations over an approximately 7,500 square mile area. Overall, it was a substantial test for the first response of the new Department of Homeland Security and provided more than enough data for academic research.

## Faculty Publications

Kendra, J.M. and T. Wachtendorf. 2003. "Creativity in Emergency Response after the World Trade Center Attack." In Beyond September 11th: An Account of Post-Disaster Research. Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, Public Entity Risk Institute, and Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems. Special Publication No. 39. Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, University of Colorado. pp. 121-146.

Kendra, J.M. and T. Wachtendorf. 2003. "Reconsidering Convergence and Converger Legitimacy in Response to the World Trade Center Disaster." Research in Social Problems and Public Policy 11: 97-122.

McEntire, David, Robie Robinson and Richard Weber. 2003. "Business Involvement in Disasters: Corporate Roles, Functions and Interaction With the Public Sector." Chapter 18 in Beyond September 11<sup>th</sup>: An Account of Post-disaster Research, pp. 431-258. Special Publication #39. Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, University of Colorado.

McEntire, David and Melissa Marshall. 2003. "Epistemological Problems in Emergency Management: Theoretical Dilemmas and Implications." ASPEP Journal. 10: 119-130.

McEntire, David and Dorothy Floyd. "Applying Sustainability to Emergency Management: An Assessment of Strengths and Weaknesses." (forthcoming). Sustainable Communities Review.

McEntire, David. "Tenets of Vulnerability: Assessing a Fundamental Disaster Concept." (forthcoming). Journal of Emergency Management.

McEntire, David and Jill Cope. "Damage Assessment After the Paso Robles (San Simeon, California) Earthquake: Lessons for Emergency Management. (forthcoming). Quick Response Report, Natural Hazards Center.

McEntire, David and Amy Myers. "Preparing Communities for Disaster: Issues and Processes for Local Government." (under review). Disaster Prevention and Management.

## Upcoming Conferences and Seminars

### North Central Texas Council of Governments Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-The Trainer Courses

February 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>  
contact: Phillip Mongeau  
pmongeau@nctcog.org, 817/608-2318  
www.txregionalcouncil.org/cc\_cert/cert.htm

### Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) Training

March 4-5, 2004  
Arlington, TX  
Texas Dept. of Health  
817/264-4559  
karel.borre@tdh.state.tx.us

### 43rd Emergency Management Training Conference Division of Emergency Management

March 7-10, 2004  
Waco, TX  
www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/conference\_2004\_index.htm

### Spring World 2004 Disaster Recovery Journal (DRJ)

March 7-10, 2004  
Orlando, FL  
www.drj.com/conferences/orl2004/24pg/

### 14th World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM)

June 20-23, 2004  
Toronto, Canada  
www.wcdm.org/

Additional conference information is available on the EADP website at: [www.unt.edu/eadp/conferences.html](http://www.unt.edu/eadp/conferences.html)

## Student Orientation

A brief orientation for new EADP majors is scheduled for THURSDAY, JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>, at 6:30pm in WH 322. The orientation will introduce EADP faculty and cover information pertaining to degree requirements, advising, internships, IEMSA and Rho Epsilon Mu. The EADP Student Handbook will also be distributed at this meeting. All new EADP majors, or those considering EADP as a major, are invited and encouraged to attend.

### Tentative EADP Summer '04 Schedule

#### Maymester (May 10-26, 04)

EADP 3010 - Intro to Emerg Mgmt	MTWR	8a-12n
EADP 3025 - Distr Response	MTWR	8a-12n

#### SSI (May 31-July 2, 2004)

EADP 2700 - Images of Distr in Film	MTWR	2-3:50p
EADP 3050 - Hazard Mitigation	MTWR	10-11:50a
EADP 4800 - Practicum	<i>by arrangement</i>	
EADP 4980 - Public Health & Distrs	MW	6-9:50p

#### SSII (July 5-Aug 6, 2004)

EADP 3020 - Emerg Preparedness	MTWR	10-11:50
EADP 4040 - International Distrs	TR	6-9:50p
EADP 4800 - Practicum	<i>by arrangement</i>	

### COURSE CHANGES

**Beginning Fall 2004**, there will be significant curriculum changes in the EADP program. (These changes **will not** lower the total number of required courses for students in the major.)

**Hazard Mitigation (EADP 3050)** and **Emergency Preparedness (EADP 3020)** will be combined into one new class.  
**Disaster Response (EADP 3025)** and **Disaster Recovery (EADP3040)** will also be combined into one new class.

Please be aware that the summer semester will be the last offering for any of the above courses. Please contact the EADP Academic Advisor, **Lynne Bell** (565-4115, Chilton 289) with any questions you may have concerning these courses or your degree plan.

## Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The deadline for the **Tom Joslin Memorial Scholarship** in Emergency Administration and Planning is **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. The scholarship carries a \$1,000 award for Emergency Administration and Planning majors. Information and eligibility requirements are available on the EADP website at [www.unt.edu/eadp/scholarships.html](http://www.unt.edu/eadp/scholarships.html). Applications forms are available in the EADP office. (WH 367).

## New IEMSA Mission Statement

**The International Emergency Management Student Association (IEMSA)** is a professional organization for students majoring in, or interested in, Emergency Administration and Planning. This organization will benefit students that are interested in the Emergency Preparedness field whether they are seeking jobs in the public, non-profit, or private sector areas. Our Mission is to increase disaster resilience on the University of North Texas Campus by providing life saving training to students, faculty, and staff through Disaster Planning Seminars, Red Cross CPR and First Aid, and Public Safety organizational programs through the Denton Fire and Police Departments including Public Health and Safety. Our organization is dedicated to providing advancement opportunities for students through certifications in Emergency Management, Tours at Emergency Management facilities, training, internships, and job opportunities. Being a member of IEMSA will also look great on your resume due to your level of commitment in the Emergency Administration Program at UNT.

### Goals

IEMSA would like to provide three levels of training to the population of UNT. This includes disaster preparedness seminars that would teach students and staff basic precautions to take before and during a major disaster through public agencies and EADP students and staff. One step above that would be the incorporation of First Aid and CPR along with the Community Awareness Program through the Red Cross. Finally our organization would like to introduce the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) as the most advanced level of training to the University through the Department of Homeland Security.

### Long Term Goals

IEMSA would be honored to provide long-term training and disaster preparedness to all students, faculty, and staff on campus through the help of the University. Our organization is willing to coordinate all emergency training and disaster preparedness on campus to provide a continual service to the University of North Texas.

## IEMSA Spring 04 Officers

**President - Derek Shackelford** [ds0064@unt.edu](mailto:ds0064@unt.edu)  
**Vice President - Diane Foster** [fosterd302@charter.net](mailto:fosterd302@charter.net)  
**Secretary - Noel Camberos** [oberfurher@yahoo.com](mailto:oberfurher@yahoo.com)  
**Treasurer - Sarah Williamson** [sarahleigh40@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahleigh40@hotmail.com)



## IEMSA Upcoming Events

### January

Monday Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm CERT Orientation Matthews 311  
Thursday Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm First IEMSA Meeting WH 222  
After Intro class  
Friday Jan 30<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm CERT Orientation Matthews 311

### February

Tuesday Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322  
Monday Feb 9<sup>th</sup> First CERT Class at Central Fire Station #1  
Thursday Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting WH 222 After  
Intro Class  
Tuesday Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322  
Saturday Feb 21<sup>st</sup> New Student Party (Bowling) TBA  
Thursday Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting WH 222 After  
Intro Class

### March

Tuesday Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322  
Friday Mar 5<sup>th</sup> Final CERT class and Emergency Exercise  
Sunday Mar 7<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday Mar 10<sup>th</sup> DEM Conference  
Thursday Mar 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting WH 222 After  
Intro Class  
Monday Mar 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday Mar 19<sup>th</sup> Spring Break  
Thursday Mar 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting WH 222 After  
Intro Class  
Saturday Mar 27<sup>th</sup> Emergency Management Tour TBA  
Tuesday Mar 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322

### April

Thursday April 8<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting WH 222 After  
Intro Class  
Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322  
Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament (Tentative)  
Thursday April 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:00pm IEMSA Meeting and Elections  
WH 222 After Intro Class  
Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm IEMSA Alumni Mixer, Lake  
Lewisville  
Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00pm Officer/Senate Meeting WH 322.

[untiemsas@yahoo.com](mailto:untiemsas@yahoo.com)  
[www.iemsa.org](http://www.iemsa.org)

# Alumni News

EADP is very proud to announce that we currently have **640** graduates who have earned the **B.S. degree in Emergency Administration and Planning** at UNT. Contact information may be found on the Alumni link of our EADP website at [www.unt.edu/eadp/](http://www.unt.edu/eadp/). Please send us your personal and career updates, to [eadp@unt.edu](mailto:eadp@unt.edu), and your business cards for our 'EADP Professionals' display case to: **EADP, Box 310617, Denton, TX 76203.**

- Karen **Adkins** (2001) and her husband, Brian, welcomed their first child, McKeni Justine Adkins, born on Sept 15, 2003, weighing 7lbs. 3oz. Our warmest congratulations to Karen and Brian!
- Allen **Applegate** (2003) has a position with the Tarrant County Public Health Department, Ft. Worth, TX, working on an 'all-hazards's bioterrorism plan, and coordinating efforts for the Strategic National Stockpile.
- Lindsey **Burke** (2000) completed her MAPA in Public Policy in August 03 and took a position as Risk Management Specialist for Metro Temp In Des Moines, Iowa.
- Eric **Carter** (1993) has the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for City of Arlington Fire Department, PO Box 90231, MS 04-0260, Arlington, TX.
- Tom **Castleman** (1997) is currently serving in Iraq as Captain with the 332 Expeditionary Operations Group at Tallil, AB, Iraq.
- Michael **Clanton** (2002) has the position of Emergency Management Planner for the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG), Kilgore, TX.
- Melissa **Collins** (2003) has the position of Safety Specialist II for Housing and University Center at the University of Texas at Arlington.
- Dena **Demaret** (2000) has the position of Emergency Management Program Analyst, State and Local Govt Programs, at Titan Corporation, Fairfax, VA.
- Richard **Gaston** (1992) has the position of Coordinator, Homeland Protection Division, of E & E, Inc., Houston, TX 77024.
- Jim Irish **Hancock** (2003) is currently employed under the Department of Homeland Security with FEMA as a Stafford Act Employee, under the Operations Branch in the position of Operations Specialist.
- Jason **Kingsley** (2001) has the position of Operations Manager for American Medical Response, Bozeman, MT.
- Max **Koch, III** (1997) is President of Diabetic Testing Supply LLC, dba Med Link Metro, Mansfield, TX.
- Jennifer Johnson **Lafleur** (1998) has the position of Assistant Director with Computing Center Planning and Administration at the University of North Texas, and is responsible for disaster recovery planning for the UNT Computing Center.
- Jason **Lane** (2003) has the position of Environmental Investigator, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Ft. Worth, TX.
- Adam Benatar **Lewin** (2002) has the position of Public Safety Telecommunicator for the Richardson Police Department, Richardson, TX.
- Andrew **Lewis** (2002) has the position of Analyst at Titan Systems, Rockville, MD.
- Cindy **Mohat** (1998) has the position of Southeast Regional Coordinator for the Colorado Office of Emergency Management, Pueblo, CO.
- Chris **Noah** (2001) has the position of Deputy Coordinator for the City of Pasadena Office of Emergency Management, Pasadena, TX.
- Juan **Ortiz** (1994) has the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Ft. Worth, TX.
- Jodi **Ouellette** (2003) has the position of Associate Internal Controls Analyst, responsible for disaster recovery planning, at First American Real Estate Information Services, Dallas, TX.
- Kyle **Page** (2003) has the position of Assistant Emergency Manager with the Carrollton Fire Department, Carrollton, TX.
- John **Patterson** (1996) has the position of Emergency Management Officer, City of Coppell, 500 Southeastern Blvd, Coppell, TX.
- Kevin **Pigg** (2002) has the position of Disaster Preparedness Coordinator for Putnam County Emergency Services, Division of Emergency Management, Palatka, FL.
- Martin **Riojas** (2001) has the position of Site Disaster Manager for Raytheon Systems, Inc., McKinney, TX.
- Raymond **Rivas III** (2001) has the position of Emergency Management Officer for the City of Fort Worth, TX.
- Christopher **Rotell** (2003) has the position of Business Continuity Specialist for Starbucks Coffee Company, Seattle WA.
- Kevin **Rutledge** (1998) is currently serving in Iraq as Sergeant First Class with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division in Tall Afar.
- Kevin **Starbuck** (1996) has the position of Project Specialist for BWXT Pantex Emergency Management, Amarillo, TX.
- Rae **Varian** (1993) has the position of Senior Analyst at Titan Systems Corporation, Reston, VA.
- Daniel **Watkins** (2002) has the position of Assistant Disaster Management Coordinator/Program Manager for Texas Instruments, Inc., Security and Emergency Services, Dallas, TX.
- Michael **Webb** (1988) has the position of City Administrator, City of Argyle, Argyle, TX 76226.
- John **Wellborn** (1991) has the position of Vice President, Director of Emergency Management, Guaranty Bank, Dallas/Austin, Texas.