



READINESS RULES

“Readiness Saves Lives”

<http://www.osep.uga.edu>

Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness Bulletin

April 2008

Featured Article

Welcome Pete Golden



Pete Golden joined the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness (OSEP) in December 2007 as the Emergency Operations Coordinator. Pete will assist Steve Harris, Interim Director, and John Newton in overall emergency planning and training on campus.

Pete comes to the University from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) where he served as the Area School Safety Coordinator for Northeast Georgia. Previous experience included serving as a patrol Sergeant at Georgia College and State University and as a deputy in the Richmond County Sheriff's Office where he worked on the road patrol and traffic division. Prior to leaving Richmond County, Pete was the D.A.R.E officer.

Pete received a Bachelor degree of Sociology from Augusta State University. Welcome Pete, we're glad to have you aboard.

UGAAlert and Severe Weather Awareness Drill

UGA conducted a test of the UGAAlert emergency notification system in conjunction with the Statewide Severe Weather Drill on Friday, February 8, 2008. The Weather Drill was initiated by the National Weather Service (NWS). Severe Weather Awareness Week was kicked off by Governor Sonny Perdue who issued a Proclamation proclaiming the week of February 3-9, 2008, as SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

UGAAlert is used to send emergency messages to the UGA campus community when immediate action is needed due to life threatening emergencies and is tested twice a year. This test was the largest test of the system to date. At the time of the test there were 47,106 individual users in the system. This is an increase from the 11,163 users that were in the system during the last test on September 26, 2007. In November of 2007, students, faculty and staff who had not signed up to use UGAAlert had their information placed in the system. For students, their UGA e-mail address and their local phone number was placed in the system and for staff, their UGA e-mail address and office phone number was placed in the system. Users are encouraged to update their contact information at <http://www.ugaalert.uga.edu>.

UGAAlert played an important role in the weather drill by providing feedback on UGA's ability to send out emergency messages to the UGA campus.

In order to get feedback from the drill, a survey form posted on OSEP's web site, contained spaces

for respondents to enter times the message was received from various methods.

The test of the *UGAAlert* system resulted in approximately 56,527 phone calls being placed of which 86% were placed in the first 15 minutes of activating the alert test. Another 55,664 e-mails were sent out.

OSEP wants to thank all those who participated in completing the drill survey. Feedback from the survey will provide valuable information that will help improve future drills and emergency alerts.

The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness will continue to evaluate the *UGAAlert* system and educate the campus community in order to provide a comprehensive emergency notification system for the University of Georgia.

UGAAlert Activated

UGAAlert was activated for the first time on Saturday, March 15, 2008, for two tornado warnings in Clarke County. A tornado warning means that a tornado has been spotted in the area or a tornado is indicated on radar in the area. When a tornado warning is issued, people in the warning area should immediately move to a shelter location. A total of four alerts were issued – one alert and one all clear message for each tornado warning. The alert was initiated by the UGA Police Department on a Saturday after spring break when many students, faculty and staff were not on campus. OSEP received a large amount of positive feedback after the alerts.

The connection statistics for the first tornado warning activation are listed below:

- 45,469 Athens campus contacts (faculty, staff and students) were notified of the tornado warnings
- 54,732 phone calls were placed and 49,081 calls were successful deliveries (87% delivery rate)
- 23,848 phone contacts received a live delivery of the message and 25,233 were reached via voicemail or answering machine
- 54,732 e-mails were sent to users (no tracking data provided by the vendor)

- 11,094 SMS “text” messages were sent to users (no tracking data provided by the vendor)
- Campus e-mail systems were not overwhelmed as a result of the activations
- Local cell phone providers did not report unusual “spikes” in their systems during the activations

Building Safety and Security Representative (BSSR) Program Update

A brief informational sheet *Quick Notes for BSSRs* is now available from the “Building Safety Reps/downloads” link on OSEP’s homepage www.osep.uga.edu. The sheet provides BSSRs with brief up-to-date training and planning information. The February 2008 issue included a link to the BSSR orientation video as well as NIMS training classes.

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training

NIMS establishes a single, comprehensive approach to domestic incident management to ensure that all levels of government across the nation have the capability to work efficiently and effectively together using a national approach to domestic incident management. NIMS provides a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state and local governments to work together to prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of the cause, size or complexity. Those agencies that do not establish such system shall not be eligible for state reimbursement for any response or recovery related expenses.

Effective March 28, 2006, the University of Georgia (UGA) adopted the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as established under a Presidential Directive and the Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A. 38-5-57) as its system of preparing for and responding to disaster incidents and directs all incident managers and response organizations within the University of Georgia to train and exercise and use these systems in their response operations.

OSEP manages UGA's NIMS compliance and coordinates on-campus training sessions. All NIMS online training class certificates should be sent to OSEP for recordkeeping purposes.

Who should receive NIMS training?

UGA personnel who directly respond to campus emergencies or those who directly or indirectly make incident management decisions regarding building or campus emergencies should participate in NIMS training. This includes Deans, Directors, Department Heads, Building Safety and Security Representatives, UGA Emergency Response Team and others who are responsible for coordinating emergency planning, safety and security initiatives for campus buildings. Additionally, emergency response personnel and building services personnel should receive NIMS training.

NIMS Training Options

► Quarterly Training & Development Classes

OSEP will offer NIMS training through the UGA Training and Development (T&D) Center. Online registration is available at: <http://www.hr.uga.edu/careerdev/career.html>

May 2008 NIMS Classes Offered:

UGA Training and Development Center

- IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS): An Introduction
Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
- ICS-100 Introduction to Command System
Thursday, May 29, 2008 9:00 am - 11:30 am

► Customized Training Classes

The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness will offer NIMS training classes to specific departments as well as large groups of staff who require this training. Classes are provided on an "as needed" basis. Times and locations will be determined as training schedules are finalized. Affected class participants will be notified of the class information. Call OSEP at (706) 542-5845.

► Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Online courses are available on the FEMA Emergency Management Institute web site: http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/nims_training.shtm.

Note: NIMS training levels for UGA personal as well as BSSRs are listed on the *NIMS Training Profile Sheet* which is available for downloading from OSEP's web site www.osep.uga.edu under the NIMS Training link.

From the Homepage
What's New on OSEP's Web Site:
www.osep.uga.edu



COMMENTS / FEEDBACK

We'd like to hear from you. Can you find what you need from our web site? Do you have any questions about services that our office provides? How can we better serve the University Campus? Please e-mail the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness at: osep@uga.edu or call (706) 542-5845



KNOW BASIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIONS IN CASE OF:

- Fire
- Severe Weather
- Medical Emergency
- Armed Intruder
- Chemical Spill or Hazardous Materials Emergency

A one page **Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Summary** flyer provides actions to take for these events and is available for downloading from OSEP's homepage.

Reminder: Emergency Preparedness Class, May 13, 2008
UGA Training & Development Center – 9:00 am – 11:30am
See www.osep.uga.edu for details.