Emergency management at Syracuse University is a continuous team-based process to prepare, respond and recover from an incident that threatens life, property, operations or the environment. The Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC), chaired by Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Dr. Louis G. Marcoccia, is responsible for overall emergency planning. The following is an update of the emergency management activities that have taken place or are planned for the 2009-10 academic year at Syracuse University.

**Flu/H1N1**

Flu preparedness planning/implementation is in full swing with emphasis on communication and readiness. With the novel H1N1 virus circulating in North America, college and university campuses and local public health officials have joined together to share surveillance data and strategies in preparation for a flu season that is likely to involve both seasonal flu strains and the novel H1N1 virus strain. A new core group of the University’s Pandemic Planning Committee has been formed to identify issues and implement strategies. This group is composed of representatives from Academic Affairs, Environmental Health, Health Services, Human Resources, Risk Management, Student Affairs and News Services. A recently created University “flu” website (http://flu.syr.edu) is accessible from the University’s home page and numerous other locations within the University’s internet network.

A communication campaign is underway utilizing SU mascot Otto the Orange in various flu-related caricatures emphasizing risk reduction strategies; the campaign includes broadcast e-mail messages, 1,200 posters, 600 dining center table-top cards, and graphics appearing on television monitors and computer cluster desktop screens. Residence Life, Health Services, Student Affairs and Food Services have teamed to develop a plan to deliver “get well” meals to students (by request) who believe they are not well enough to go to a dining center. SU Abroad has been working with center directors around the globe to provide students abroad with advice on staying healthy to minimize the risk of contracting the flu or H1N1. Health Services has distributed 4,000 doses of seasonal flu vaccine to students in clinic type settings and through appointments. The H1N1 vaccine has cleared clinical testing and will be delivered to the University. Health Services, working with the Onondaga County Health Department, will plan distribution of the H1N1 vaccine in accordance with allotments received and prioritization as established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**Campus Emergency Notifications**

The University places communication during an emergency situation as an important component of its emergency management program. Currently, the University uses an email/text message/voice message system to provide emergency notification to University community members in the event of a campus emergency. Two Omni-directional sirens have been installed on the roof of the Shaffer Art Building on North Campus and on a 60-foot pole near the Sky Halls on South Campus. The siren on the Shaffer Art Building is not readily visible from the Quad. The sirens look like a vertical cylinder with cones protruding in each direction. The sirens are an enhancement to the Orange Alert notification system that will also alert community members and visitors who may not be enrolled or have immediate access to electronic media needed for notification. For information on procedures to follow in the event of an Orange Alert, refer to the University’s Public Safety website at http://publicsafety.syr.edu/orange_alert/.
Hosting the NCAA Men’s Basketball Regional

Arenas chosen to participate in the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament have much to prepare for prior to the event. For Syracuse University, preparations include a risk and security assessment and corresponding plan which will be submitted to the NCAA in December 2009. Preparations will also include a planned tabletop exercise and setup of the University’s Emergency Operations Center. Senior Associate Athletics Director Patrick Campbell is spearheading this responsibility at the University. Mr. Campbell has organized a task force that includes University personnel from Athletics, Risk Management, Public Safety, Environmental Health, Parking, Safety, News Services, and Health Services, plus representatives from National Grid and emergency medical services, as well as government officials from the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York State and several federal agencies. Work on the tournament’s emergency plan is ongoing, with the event scheduled for March 25 and 27, 2010.

International Travel

In support of the University’s continuing global initiatives, the University has renewed its contract with International SOS (ISOS) for fiscal year 2010. The ISOS program provides worldwide medical and security assistance and evacuation services for faculty, staff and students traveling outside the United States for University business or sanctioned academic work or research. ISOS services will serve to enhance safety and to help facilitate communication in the event of emergency situations overseas.

For more information about ISOS, refer to the Risk Management Department website at http://riskmanagement.syr.edu/RiskManagement/display.cfm?content_ID=%23%28%28%29%2F%0A.

Additional information about the University’s emergency management program can be found at the Emergency Preparedness website at http://emergencypreparedness.syr.edu/.

Upcoming Workshops

Minors/Youths on Campus - The Risk Management Department is hosting a Minors on Campus Risk Awareness Workshop on Thursday, October 29th, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in room 500 Hall of Languages. The workshop will focus on legal liabilities and risk management best practices for programs involving minors/youths. Presenters are Linda Egerbrecht, Insurance and Claims Manager (Risk Management), Tom Smith, Esq. (Bond, Schoeneck & King), and John Watson, Executive Director, Higher Education Practice Group (Arthur J. Gallagher). Registration details can be found on the Risk Management Department website at http://riskmanagement.syr.edu.

International SOS Staff 2 Staff Session - The University has contracted with ISOS to provide worldwide medical and security assistance and evacuation services for faculty, staff, and students, traveling outside the United States on or for University business, and sanctioned academic work or research. Join, Linda Egerbrecht, Insurance and Claims Manager (Risk Management) and Laura Angelone, Director of Scholastic Programs (International SOS) to learn more about the services provided by International SOS (ISOS).

The Staff to Staff session is being held on Tuesday, December 8th, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in room 500 Hall of Languages. To register go to http://humanresources.syr.edu and click on the Staff 2 Staff link.

Years of Service

Congratulations to Scott Kelley, Hazardous Waste Assistant (Environmental Health Office) for 25 years of service, and James Devereaux, Fire/Safety Inspector (Safety Department) for 10 years of service.