The University of Georgia Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) provides a comprehensive homeland security and emergency management program for the University of Georgia in order to save lives, protect property, promote continuity of operations, and reduce the overall effects of large-scale disasters. This annual report reflects major programs, initiatives and training during fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014).

Major Accomplishments

- Partnered with the Disability Resource Center and the Equal Opportunity Office to develop a University-wide program and guidelines on assisting individuals with disabilities during emergencies (alerting, sheltering and evacuating)
- Established a new Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) program on campus in coordination with the UGA College of Public Health to create a cadre of volunteers to support preparedness education and provide possible support during public health emergencies in the community (24 members)
- Obtained a $10,000 grant from the University System of Georgia to update the “Plan, Prepare, React” active shooter response options program to improve the video and move to a web-based platform (120 downloads from 88 different colleges/universities since completion in February 2014)
- OEP participated in over 50 student engagement activities ranging from hosting interns, participating in a new student mentoring program, teaching academic and non-academic classes, conducting media interviews for students, participating in the Grady College of Journalism’s Campaign’s class project and the coordination of the CERT/MRC programs
- Introduced new classroom/office emergency posters (12”x18”) that contain condensed emergency response procedures that are customizable to fit various UGA building environments. Additionally, smaller podium cards were developed to provide information for faculty and instructors
- Assisted the UGA Police and UGA Athletics with the revision of the UGA Sanford Stadium emergency plan and in procuring a new event management software system

Program Initiatives

- Coordinated 29 new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) program additions in campus buildings (total of 142 AEDs on campus)
- Obtained nearly $33,000 in grant funding for the campus CERT and MRC programs, the active shooter project and for emergency app software
- Held two, eight-week UGA CERT training programs which added an additional 27 faculty, staff and students to the 216-member UGA CERT program
- Distributed 784 pocket-sized emergency guidebooks for faculty and staff and 7,579 wallet-sized emergency guidebooks for students

Education, Service and Outreach

- Conducted or participated in 21 emergency drills and exercises on campus and in the community
- Provided training to 20,430 faculty, staff, students, and parents through 153 training sessions
- Distributed 19,653 departmental emergency preparedness materials (brochures, newsletters, NOAA radios, etc.) to faculty, staff, students, visitors and parents
- Managed the Kassinger Scholarship application process and awarded two $900 scholarships to an undergraduate candidate from the UGA Police Department and a graduate candidate from OEP