



Welcome Back!

Members of JSU-IAEM,

We hope you had as calm and relaxing of a summer as anyone working in the field of Emergency Management can have. As we begin to settle into the new academic year we want you to know that we are eager and excited to begin connecting with you again.

Each year brings change, and this year, that change includes a new executive board led by President Alexandra Lindgren and Immediate Past President Antoine Richards. We have spent the past few months preparing to have another amazing year full of educational opportunities for our members. As the board transitioned through the summer, President Richards worked diligently with us to ensure our focus was on Chapter **sustainability, growth and engagement!** Thank you, Antoine!

We look forward to meeting with you throughout the semester and building professional and supportive relationships. With a majority of the board being new, you can find more about us on Pages Four and Five under “*Meet the Execs*”. We would also love the opportunity to get to know you and hear your expectations for the Chapter. If you have not already, please take a moment to fill out this [survey](#) so that we may better serve you and meet the Chapter’s needs!

Thank you,

The 2021-2022 Executive Board

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Meet the Execs!

September is National Preparedness Month...

“National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. The 2021 theme is **“Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love.”**

This year, Ready Campaign shifted its focus in support of President Biden’s Executive Order on Racial Equity and FEMA’s new strategy for cultural competence that includes empowering historically underserved communities to prepare for disaster.

For the first time ever, the agency will feature a series of Public Service Announcements designed to resonate with Latino communities and beyond that will launch during National Hispanic Heritage Month. In fact, the theme “Prepare to Protect” which carries universal meaning and significance, was established based on research and focus groups with Latino communities led by the Ad Council that highlighted the idea of protecting one’s family as a prime motivator to prepare for a disaster.

The White House stated: “During the past year, natural disasters have sent our communities into turmoil, and we have seen the particularly devastating toll they take on disadvantaged, low-income communities and people of color. [...] Therefore, we must all prepare to better protect ourselves and our communities against both immediate crises and their residual effects.”

For more information, please visit ready.gov/september.

Fall 2021 Meeting Schedule

September

National Preparedness Month

Thursday, September 2nd

7PM CST

October

Public Health

Thursday, October 7th

7PM CST

November

Specialties in EM

Thursday, November 4th

7PM CST

December

Virtual End of Semester /
Holiday Party

Thursday, December 2nd

7PM CST

2021	National Preparedness Month Prepare to Protect	2021	Mes Nacional de Preparación Prepárese con el fin de proteger
WEEK		SEMANA	
1	Make a Plan Sep 1-4	1	Haga Un Plan Septiembre 1-4
2	Build a Kit Sep 5-11	2	Prepare Un Kit Septiembre 5-11
3	Low-Cost, No-Cost Preparedness Sep 12-18	3	Preparación a Bajo Costo o Sin Costo Septiembre 12-18
4	Teach Youth About Preparedness Sep 19-25	4	Enséñeles a Los Jóvenes Sobre La Preparación Septiembre 19-25

Melinda Stallworth Speaks to Chapter

Our first meeting of the 2021-2022 Academic Year took place on Thursday, September 2, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. Our guest speaker this month was Melinda Stallworth of the Governor’s Office of Volunteer Services. Ms. Stallworth has worked in many fields from the private sector with Hyundai, to non-profit with the Girl Scouts of America, and now in state government with the Governor’s Office of Volunteer Services! Melinda was an amazing resource who provided detailed insight into her day-to-day work with the GOVS, impacts of/response to Hurricane Ida, stress management, and building lasting relationships.

“Use every opportunity to educate and give people permission to share [that knowledge].”
- Melinda Stallworth

The Governor’s Office of Volunteer Management "works to increase an ethic of service and volunteerism in the State of Alabama, strengthen the capacity of Alabama’s faith and community-based organizations, and promote collaboration among individuals and organizations striving to meet some of the greatest needs in our state, including education, health care, substance abuse, homelessness, and maintaining a healthy environment.”

Ms. Stallworth wanted to leave the Chapter Members with two quotes:

“If you’ve been through one disaster, then you’ve been through one disaster!”

- Unknown



“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

- Martin Luther King Jr.

If you were unable to attend the meeting, but you like to watch the recording, click [here](#). For your convenience, it is also posted in the JSU-IAEM Member Teams discussion.

Meet the Execs!

President **Alexandra Lindgren**

Alex is the new JSU-IAEM Student Chapter President and is in her third semester of the Emergency Management Masters Program. Alex is proud of her Hispanic Heritage as the daughter of a Mexican Immigrant and is a first-generation college graduate, and the first one in her family to attend graduate school. Alex's heritage inspires her to speak out for inclusion in the EM field and in EM practices. Alex has responded to a wildfire, earthquake, severe windstorm, pandemic, and is currently assisting in recovery efforts from Ida for jurisdictions in New Jersey. Alex worked in local government emergency management on a city and county level for three years following the completion of her B.S in EM from Utah Valley University in 2018. Since beginning the EM Masters Program, her interest has shifted to mitigation and recovery efforts. Alex currently works as a Project Manager for a private consulting firm working on recovery for clients. Alex lives in Salt Lake City, UT with her boyfriend, son, and dog. When not working, studying, or collaborating on Chapter items, Alex enjoys emergency management and true crime media, volunteering as her son's soccer team coach, visiting local breweries, and spending time with her boyfriend of 2 years with whom she has been close friends with for 16 years. As Chapter President, Alex hopes to present herself as a personable and resourceful peer that any member can reach out to.



Vice President **Joseph Dunlap**

Joe is the current JSU-IAEM Student Chapter Vice President. Joe began JSU's Emergency Management Doctoral program with cohort 2020. Within the doctoral program, Joe is focused on improving the discipline of emergency management within law enforcement. He currently lives in southern California with his wife, Michelle, and children, Matthew and Madison. His house is busy with two active high schoolers, three dogs, and two fish. Luckily for Joe, his wife is home and tactically manages the domestic operations. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department currently employs Joe as a Deputy Sheriff. In his current role, Joe serves the department and the community as a sworn peace officer, utilizing emergency management principles in preparation, response, and recovery to hazards within the region. Joe has served in this role for nearly four years, emphasizing disaster planning and response. He has responded to three of the largest wildfires in Riverside county's history, multiple search and rescue campaigns, smaller wildfires, burn scar debris flows, and the riots experienced in 2020 while simultaneously responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. He has served as a Deputy Sheriff for nearly 13 years, specializing in patrol operations, courthouse security, mobile command post design and construction, department operations center design and deployment, and complex planning and response to disasters. Joe has a Master's in Homeland Security from George Washington University and a B.S. in Criminal Justice Administration from Union Institute and University. Joe is dedicated to his family, his department, and academic growth through a delicate balance of family, work, and school. None of this would be possible without his faith.



Secretary Noah Maddox

Noah currently holds the position of JSU-IAEM Student Chapter Secretary. Noah is from Piedmont, AL where he lives with his partner, Cameron. Their house is full and stays busy with their two puppies (Lizzy and Leo) and two cats (Sunny and Shady). Noah has been living in Piedmont most of his life. He graduated from Piedmont High School in 2018 and is enrolled full-time at JSU for his Bachelors of Science in Emergency Management. This is his final undergrad semester at JSU! In the Spring, Noah plans to attend JSU Graduate Studies for the Master's of Science in Emergency Management Program. He volunteers with an international VOAD called Team Rubicon which deploys to disaster stricken areas all over the world and assists in disaster trainings and exercises. His volunteerism has taken him around the country and across the world. Noah recently accepted a position with a private consulting firm, where he advises on Emergency Management policy and law. There, he is also Project Lead for any Emergency Management contracts including Emergency Operations Plans, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plans, etc. Noah has many goals for the future, but he specifically strives to work within/around the counter-terrorism aspect of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. When he isn't in class or working, you can typically find him spending time with his family and friends. Noah loves traveling, finding new places, and meeting new people. He hopes that chapter members will feel like they can reach out to him for anything.



Treasurer Michelle Schmeling

Michelle is the former JSU-IAEM Student Chapter Secretary and the current Treasurer. Michelle is working on her Doctor of Science degree in Emergency Management and is part of cohort 2017. She is planning on completing the program in the fall of 2023. Michelle currently works for FEMA Region VII in Kansas City, Missouri. Previous experience includes working for FEMA Region X in Seattle and USDA surveillance, preparedness, & response services (SPRS) doing animal health response throughout the country but based in South Dakota. Prior to getting into emergency management, Michelle was a behavioralist by trade, working in a combination of human services, mental health, substance use/abuse, prevention, social work, and training. Michelle's interests are vast, but are primarily focused on human behavior, mental health, and substance use during the disaster cycle. Michelle's goal is to utilize her degree to obtain a position within FEMA to guide policy change to lead to better processes and policies to help people before, during, and after disasters (FEMA's mission) by integrating academia and the scientific process. Michelle has a BA in Psychology with minors in Chemistry and Mathematics from Augustana University and a Master's in Human Services from Capella University.

