

Background

In November, 2006, COMCARE and the National Partnership met with the National Science Foundation to discuss the possibility of integrating technology and technological concepts into existing educational programs for emergency responders. These revitalized programs would incorporate a mix of existing technologies as well as the introduction of new, cutting edge technologies to show how emergency services could benefit from their use and how they could be used to transform current operations.

Conference Objective

The goal of the conference and the resulting publication will provide specific recommendations that will foster the:

- Integration of emergency services technology into existing community college educational programs with articulation with secondary school programs and four year colleges; and/or,
- Development of new educational degree and/or certification programs that incorporate technology with operational studies.

Who Should Attend

National leaders from educational institutions, representatives from government education agencies, potential employers of the students from these types of programs such as emergency response agencies and private sector technology companies. Anyone with an interest in shaping the future of emergency response. As the event is "invitation only", potential participants should contact either the National Partnership or COMCARE for more information.

Why Attend

Traditionally, the emergency service "enterprise" is slow in adopting technology and thus is far behind the private sector in the use of technology for process improvement and innovation. It is hoped that a technology-based program will result in more technology-aware emergency professionals who will embrace process change which in turn will drive new market growth in this area. Join leaders from the education, public and private sectors to help forge a new future in emergency response.

Conference Venue

The conference is being held at

**The Hilton
Charlotte University Place
8629 JM Keynes Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262**

A special conference rate of \$99 per night (plus taxes and surcharges) is available through February 19, 2007 at the conference site.

The conference rate is guaranteed for the nights of March 4 to March 13, as long as rooms are available; but only if you make your reservation by February 19; therefore, reservations should be made as early as possible. Room cancellations will be accepted up to 72 hours prior to arrival.

To make reservations, call 704-547-7444 or toll free 1-800-HILTONS and refer to the National Conference: Fostering Careers in Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security.

For more information on the hotel, please visit www.Charlotteuniversity.hilton.com.

Directions

Exit from I-85 North or South at exit 45A, W.T. Harris Boulevard East. Hilton Charlotte University Place is 1/4 mile on the left in the University Place complex. The hotel is the high rise building in the complex, totally visible from Harris Boulevard. Then left turn at J M Keynes Drive goes directly into the hotel parking lot.

Local Airports:

Charlotte Douglas Int'l.
Distance from hotel: 15 mi.
Drive time: 15-20 min.

Directions: From airport take I-85 north to exit 45a. Take W.T. Harris Blvd east - hotel is 1/4 mile on the left.

Transportation to and from the Airport:

Type	Typical Minimum Charge
Super Shuttle	Call hotel for information
Taxi	USD 20.00

Conference Sponsors

The **National Partnership for Careers in Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security** works to build and support career development programs and systems that ensure seamless transitions by linking and integrating secondary and post secondary education, professional certifications, and organizational recruitment, employment, training and retention systems. It exists as a true partnership with state, local and federal public safety agencies, secondary and post-secondary education institutions and an array of professional and educational associations. For more information, visit www.ncn-npcpss.com.

COMCARE is a non-profit national advocacy organization of over 100

members, all dedicated to advancing emergency communications. As an organization, its goal is to create an environment of seamless, geographically targeted information sharing to achieve the most advanced response to emergencies. Its mission is to advance emergency response to save lives, reduce injuries, and assist the emergency response professions by encouraging collaboration across professional, geographical, and jurisdictional lines, promoting the adoption of interoperable emergency systems, standards, and forward-thinking policies and procedures and fostering the innovation and success of our members – individually and collectively. For more information, visit www.comcare.org.

With an emphasis on two-year colleges, the **National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education (ATE)** program focuses on the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and employers to promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels. The ATE program supports curriculum development; professional development of college faculty and secondary school teachers; career pathways to two-year colleges from secondary schools and from two-year colleges to four-year institutions; and other activities. A secondary goal is articulation between two-year and four-year programs for K-12 prospective teachers that focus on technological education. The program also invites proposals focusing on applied research relating to technician education. For more information, visit www.nsf.gov.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, March 8, 2007

5:00 pm – 7:00 PM

Informal meeting and buffet dinner

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Organization Meeting for conference on March 9th

Includes a review of the schedule and conference purpose, assignment to task groups, introductions of participants, conference and group facilitators and invited experts

Friday, March 9, 2007

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Continental Breakfast

8:45 am – 9:45 am

Current Emergency Response Issues and Needs

10:00 am – 12:00 Noon

Task Group A:

Advanced Technology and the current marketplace – what it is and what can education provide

Task Group B:

Overcoming resistance to technology and identifying the unique characteristics of emergency preparedness and response. Comparison of current and future skill requirements and what can be done to improve the effective use of technology

Task Group C:

Current education programs for emergency response and related professional standards and certifications – what exists now and what is needed

12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Task Group Reports

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Task Group X:

Proposed courses and curriculum, programs needed to be developed, identify roles and responsibilities

Task Group Y:

Proposes standards and certifications needed or to be modified with corresponding roles and responsibilities

Task Group Z:

Proposed specific preparation for emergency services positions requiring technology knowledge and skills including roles of secondary school programs, community and 4-year colleges and training

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Task Group Reports

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Dinner on your own

7:30 pm – 10:00 pm

Representatives from each task group meet to integrate all proposals

Conference Results

Discussion during the conference will be documented and combined with conference background documents to produce a formal publication outlining the role higher educational programs can play in the transformation of emergency services. The publication will be designed to be used by educational program providers to help design or modify existing programs, both in the technology and emergency services domains, by employers of emergency services professionals and technology companies as guidance when hiring new employees or training existing employees.

REGISTRATION FORM

**Educational Programs for Emergency Services Technology
March 8-10, 2007**

**The Hilton
Charlotte University Place
8629 JM Keynes Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262**

Name:			
Title:			
Organization:			
Mailing Address:			
Email Address:		Work Phone:	
Please indicate which task group you wish you join:	<input type="checkbox"/> Task Group A <input type="checkbox"/> Task Group B <input type="checkbox"/> Task Group C <input type="checkbox"/> Task Group X <input type="checkbox"/> Task Group Y <input type="checkbox"/> Task Group Z		
Please indicate in which category your organization falls:	<input type="checkbox"/> Education Institution <input type="checkbox"/> Government Education Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response Agency Type: _____ Level of Government: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector Type: _____		

Please send completed registration forms to egroell@comcare.org or fax to (202)-296-2962