

We Are All Emergency Managers, Right?

Presentation:

Emergency management as a profession has existed for hundreds of years, even if not in name. Over the past few decades, as emergency managers continue to seek to find their identity, we have witnessed numerous changes. There are now emergency managers in many public and private sector organizations in which emergency management was not a consideration a few decades ago. There are emergency managers in many allied professions with a wide variety of backgrounds. Emergency managers have many opportunities for training and education. Emergency managers can earn degrees from a two year associate degree to a PhD. Many emergency managers have an extensive background, training and experience without higher education, or with a degree that may not be emergency management specific. As we celebrate seventy years of IAEM, we also must look at today, and the next thirty years to work together to continue to grow the profession in a professional manner.

What are the backgrounds of today's emergency managers? Where do today's emergency managers come from? Where will future emergency managers gain their education, training and experience? What will the profession of emergency management look like in five, ten, twenty years and at our 100th anniversary? In this panel discussion, moderator Cathy Clark, IAEM First Vice President will speak with four current emergency managers, who all have different backgrounds, education and experience. How do these four see today's emergency management profession, and what do they see as the Future of Emergency Management?