Strategic Plan

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Hazus Higher Education Resources Consortium

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# Executive Summary

In an effort to promote the use of Hazus in higher education and academia and to provide networking opportunities for Hazus users, the Hazus Higher Education Resources Consortium was created. The Hazus HERC will bridge the gap among other FEMA initiatives such as Hazus User Groups (HUGs), Risk MAP, and mitigation planning. The Hazus HERC is a community of academics, Hazus users, and developers that will promote and grow the use of Hazus in the overall academic community.

# Values

The Hazus HERC will encourage innovation and standards of excellence in all areas of the Hazus Program. It will bring more awareness to the Hazus program.

# Vision

The Hazus HERC is a vibrant networking and information sharing user group serving as the leading Hazus resource for participants in higher education and academia.

# Mission

The mission of the Hazus Higher Education Resources Consortium is to network those within higher education who are using Hazus for research, service learning or education. This may include institutions that are conducting research such as hazard modeling, social impact analysis and other domains that may contribute to Hazus.

# Goals

1. Maintain searchable database of institutions using and teaching Hazus.
2. Bridge the gap between practical and academic Hazus users.
3. Expand research and service learning opportunities on higher education campuses through networking and resource sharing.
4. HERC members will participate in regional HUGs to meet the goals of the HERC and the HUG.
5. Work in collaboration with other FEMA initiatives.

# Objectives

1. Capture curriculum and other related publications, to share between HERC members.
2. Capture data regarding what Hazus related research and service learning projects are being conducted through Higher Education outlets and institutions.
3. Create networking opportunities for FEMA’s Hazus Points of Contact, HUG Leaders HUG members, and those participating in higher education.
4. Generate speakers’ bureau of subject matter experts to provide web-based and in-person presentations.

# Strategies

1. Website <http://www.usehazus.com/herc>
   1. Maintain a current and interactive website and forum threads.
2. Member Database
   1. Maintain a HERC member database
3. Networking Calls
   1. Host bi-monthly conference calls.
   2. Host guest speakers on networking calls, rotating topics between teaching, service learning and research.
4. Conference Participation
   1. Consider participation in national and regional conferences such as the FEMA Emergency Management Higher Education Conference and the Esri Education Users Conference.
   2. Conduct HERC outreach through regional and national conferences
5. Collateral Materials
   1. Success Stories: document instances where universities have utilized Hazus for education, research or service learning.
   2. Flyers
      1. Create fliers with a higher education point of view.
      2. Create fliers describing how higher education can incorporate Hazus into risk assessments.
6. Speakers Bureau
   1. Develop a Speakers Bureau for the HERC and HUGs to use. This will be a “rolodex” of potential speakers.
7. Concept Paper
   1. Develop a concept paper with collaboration from key HERC members that will refine the HERC concept and include a way to leverage the work at EMI.
8. Research
   1. Facilitate FEMA asking broad based research questions to stimulate work by universities.
   2. Develop partnerships for enhanced levels of research.
   3. Host research focused colloquiums that are hazard specific.
   4. Seek specific studies related to levels of risk and share those among local and state governments.
   5. Maintain a list of institutions conducting research that may impact Hazus studies.
9. Service Learning
   1. Identify educational institutions that may be able to provide students with Hazus training to local and state governments with service learning opportunities.
   2. Maintain a database of these institutions.
10. Education
    1. Maintain a database of institutions teaching Hazus in some form.
    2. Work with EMI to maintain and share materials developed by faculty for their courses that include Hazus.