

# Session 44 Overview

- Disaster research as applied social science
- Trends in emergency management professionalization
- Utilization strategies for researchers
- Utilization strategies for executives
- Different uses of disaster research
- Barriers that constrain the use of disaster research
- Potential academic reforms in emergency management education

# Variations in Research

- Academic Research
- Applied Research
- Action Research
- Evaluation Research

# Workshop Tasks

- Group 1 – According to Neal (2000), what are the major issues of “legitimacy” regarding emergency management programs within institutions of higher education and the profession?
- Group 2 – According to Neal (2000), what are the major curricular issues in emergency management programs within institutions of higher education?
- Group 3 – According to Neal (2000), what are the major student recruitment issues in emergency management programs within institutions of higher education?
- Group 4 – According to Neal (2000), what are the major job placement issues in emergency management programs within institutions of higher education?

# Topic Identification Strategies

- Nominal Group Technique (NGT)
- Role Playing
- Table-Top Exercise

Source: Adapted from Ruberg, George and John F. Keeling, III. 1993. "Structured Meeting Techniques that Identify Emergency Management Issues Practitioners Really Want to See Addressed." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 11:75-84.

# Utilization Strategies for Researchers

- Participate in practitioner organizations
- Identify potential user groups early
- Be flexible in research design
- Be responsive to users
- Produce a user group product

Source: Adapted from Yin, Robert K. and Gwendolyn B. Moore. 1985. *The Utilization of Research: Lessons from the Natural Hazards Field*. Washington, D.C.: Cosmos Corporation, pp. 80-81.

# Utilization Strategies for Organizational Executives

- Policy problem focus
- Select investigator; institutional culture
- Select investigator; communication with user groups

Source: Adapted from Yin, Robert K. and Gwendolyn B. Moore. 1985. *The Utilization of Research: Lessons from the Natural Hazards Field*. Washington, D.C.: Cosmos Corporation, p. 78.

# Uses of Disaster Research

- Conceptual Uses
- Instrumental Uses
- Symbolic Uses

Source: Adapted from Quarantelli, E.L. 1993.

“Converting Disaster Scholarship into Effective Disaster Planning and Managing: Possibilities and Limitations.” *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 11:19-25.

# Social Factors that Constrain the Integration of Disaster Research and Emergency Management

- Interdisciplinary Profession
- Language Differences
- Cultural Spanners

Source: Adapted from Quarantelli, E.L. 1993.

“Converting Disaster Scholarship into Effective Disaster Planning and Managing: Possibilities and Limitations.” *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 11:36-37.

# Potential Academic Reforms

- University reward structures
- Interdisciplinary research
- Research training
- User-researcher interactions