

Barton Community College
Board of Trustees Study Session
November 8, 2016

ACCT Summit on Safeguarding
College Campuses

The ACCT Summit on Safeguarding College Campuses was held in New Orleans as part of the ACCT conference. The Summit was held on Friday October 7th and Saturday October the 8th.

Mark Dean, Jim Ireland, and Lucas Stoelting attended the conference

The conference consisted of multiple sessions that we could attend. The sessions attended were:

- Opening Session
- Developing a Culture of Preparedness & a Crisis Emergency Plan (Virginia Tech, VA)
- Mott Community College: Prepared to Respond (Mott Community College, MI)
- New Realities in Student Safety and Security (Neosho Community College, KS)
- Fostering Campus Security: A College-Wide Model for Public Safety (Howard Community College, MD)
- Emergency Planning Insights for Community Colleges Panel Discussion
 - ❖ Delgado Community College (LA)
 - ❖ Virginia Tech (VA)
 - ❖ Mississippi Community College (MS)
 - ❖ Santa Monica College (CA)
 - ❖ Dallas Community College (TX)
 - ❖ Lane Community College (OR)

The conference consisted of multiple sessions that we could attend. The sessions attended were:

- Effective Communication Strategies
 - ❖ Louisiana Community College (LA)
 - ❖ Delgado Community College (LA)
 - ❖ Nunez Community College (LA)
- 9 Steps to Disaster Recovery: How to Better Prepare Your Campus to Recover from a Disaster
 - ❖ Community Resilience and Hazard Mitigation, Waterworks LA
- Emergency Response Simulation Activity (Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, MS)
- The Road to Recovery: What It Takes to Make a Comeback (Greater New Orleans, Inc., LA)

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

National data - Homeland Security:

- Violent Intruder - Typically, by the time an alert message is received, the event is over.
- Training is more important than technology.
- ALICE or Run-Fight-Hide training is a must.
- All campus student groups and organizations should participate in the training (athletics, clubs, etc.).
- Recommended 1 camera per 1,000 sq. ft. of indoor space (advertise your cameras - size, location, posted).
- Recommended expenditure for security on campus equals 1% of total expenditures.
- Recommended 24/7 security presence on campus.
- FACT - Armed security (either in-house or contracted) doubles the cost of having a security presence on a campus.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

National data - Homeland Security:

- Mitigation deterrent - Cameras, Security presence 24/7, appearance of a safe environment.
- Mass Notification System:
 - ❖ What happened
 - ❖ Where did it happen (Caution with this one)
 - ❖ What should you do
- Can you do anything to absolutely prevent a crisis - NO.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

What makes students (and their parents), employees, and visitors feel safe is not necessarily what the Board of Trustees or Administration believe makes a safe campus. Focus on what makes the student feel safe. This will differ depending on the region of the county the college is in.

- Individual Preparedness should be your #1 objective. Employees and students typically resist training until there is an event; after the event you will have a packed house for training.
- Student Advisory Board.
- Threat Analysis (Tornados, Flood, Lightning, Fire, Hurricanes, Earthquakes, Civil Disturbance, Active Shooter, Etc.).

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

- Ask Students “Do you feel safe on campus?”
- Top 10 answers (in order of the number of responses) when students are asked “what would improve the safety of your campus?”
 1. More cameras.
 2. Better exterior lighting.
 3. Phone app that will allow 911 and Security/Police to be contacted.
 4. Public Announcement System.
 5. Availability of Security/Police for escorts.
 6. Have all employees wear College IDs.
 7. Employees that interact with students - learn how to say hello, smile, and ask others how they are doing once they enter the "greeting zone."
 8. Training.
 9. Blue Light Beacons.
 10. Armed Security/Police.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

Legal liability & Public Relations:

- Are you ready for the PR after a crisis? Never.
- If you have a major event, consider contracting with a PR Firm that specializes in handling PR after an event. Typically, your insurance company will pay for the service. MHEC uses Abernathy & MacGregor.
- Depends on the type and magnitude of the event.
- Be extremely careful of what you say and what information you provide.
- Provide answers, even if the answer is “we are working on it, but I don’t have that information right now”.
- Answers must not create additional liability.
- Be cautious of providing any names associated with an event/crisis.
- NEVER provide the names of injured or deceased individuals.
- Be 100% sure that the information you do provide is correct and has been verified.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

Legal liability & Public Relations:

- Almost 100% of the media reports directly following an event will be incorrect.
- How do you prevent faculty and staff from answering questions and providing incorrect information or information that increases your liability and may or may not be accurate?
- Students WILL report via social media & text before campus officials or law enforcement can release the information. Plan on a high percentage of this information being inaccurate.
- Communication-Communication-Communication
 - ❖ Internal first and as soon as possible, then external.
 - ❖ There will be chaos.
 - ❖ Be careful not to promise too much too soon.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

The Road to Recovery: What It Takes to Make a Comeback (Greater New Orleans, Inc., LA)

- FEMA is NOT your friend. Record keeping is essential. FEMA will ask for the same information over and over, and then they will ask again. You must be able to reproduce the same record over and over. It has been over 10 years since the hurricane in the gulf and Colleges are still being asked to reproduce records.
- Violent intruder - Most press, least likely.
- Better chance of being hit by lightning than being involved in a violent intruder incident - Natural disasters are the most frequent, do the most damage, and account for the largest number of injury and loss of life, and the largest financial loss.
- In the event of a crisis, experience trumps title.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

The Road to Recovery: What It Takes to Make a Comeback (Greater New Orleans, Inc., LA)

- The Federal Government makes over 100 changes every 6 months in the rules dealing with disaster assistance. It is impossible to know what the most up to date regulations are and to stay on top of it.
- Do not assume that your preplanned or predetermined solutions will in fact be the correct solution after the crisis. Be flexible, plan to deviate from the plan.
- Do not rush to put things back the way they were prior to the crisis. Seize the “opportunity” to make things better.
- Most disasters are cash flow positive events. Build back something better.

Takeaways from the Conference

Safety is a State Of Mind, not an absolute

Barton:

- Suggest Mini EOP published on a phone app.
- Kansas concealed carry law - July 1, 2017. Cannot prevent concealed carry, however campus policy can continue to prevent open carry. No license required, no training required, *just 21 and can fog a mirror.*
- Barton spends approximately 0.88% of our total expenditures on direct Campus Safety.
- Barton has approximately 255 security cameras. Based on the recommendation of 1 per 1,000 sq. ft., we should have approximately 570 cameras (based on interior sq. ft. of 570,000).
- Expand Run-Hide-Fight training to student groups and on campus Adjunct faculty.
- Provide training for Emergency Response Team/Incident Command Training
- Create a student advisory group.
- Continue fostering working relationship & training with local law enforcement.
- Expand camera coverage.
- Research Campus Safety personal protective equipment and non-lethal weapons.