Emergency Management & Business Continuity Programs
at the University of Washington

1. Program History: An independent office of emergency management was established in 2003 after the 2001 Nisqually earthquake, Merrill Hall ecoterrorist firebombing and Educational Outreach fire. Prior to that, the responsibilities for disaster planning, response and recovery was distributed to various campus operational units – with limited success, visibility of effectiveness.

2. Program Administration:
   - Day-to-day administration of overall program provided by UW Emergency Management (UWEM), a department of Facilities Services:
     i. 3.0 FTEs (Director + 2 professional staff + interns)
     ii. Annual budget ~$360,000 (all general funds)
     iii. Provides technical services to entire institution, including branch campuses and off-campus sites
     iv. Follows the “all-hazards” approach to planning
     v. All UWEM Staff are CEM-certified and nationally-recognized as industry experts in higher education EM
     vi. Provides full-service emergency management and business continuity services to students, faculty and staff
   - Program authorities found in UW Administrative Policy Statements 13.1 (Emergency Management) and 13.2 (Business, Academic & Research Continuity)
   - System-wide Emergency Management Planning Committee (EMPC) meets bi-monthly to review program & provide input
   - Approved 5-Year Strategic Plan developed using national NFPA 1600 and EMAP structure
   - Use of Balanced Scorecard metrics and Lean tools since 2005
   - Popular and active webpage (www.huskyem.org) and Facebook page (LIKE US NOW!)

3. Primary Institutional Hazards and Threats (Natural and Man-made):
   - Earthquake (shallow, deep, subduction)
   - Fire & Explosions
   - Hazardous Materials Accidents and Releases
   - Active Shooter (including workplace violence)
   - Severe Weather (wind, rain, ice, snow and heat)
   - Utility Disruptions/Outages (electric, water, sewer, IT, gas, telecommunications, steam)
   - Communicable Disease Outbreak (including Ebola)
   - Transportation Accidents
   - Terrorism, including cyber
   - Volcanic Eruption
   - Flooding and Landslides

Serving today...preserving tomorrow
www.huskyem.org
4. **Sample UW Activities and Initiatives:** *(not mean to be all-inclusive)*

- **Mitigation & Prevention**
  i. UW is the only Pac-12 University that is certified by the National Weather Service as being “Storm Ready”
  ii. UW’s Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment (HIVA) published in 2003 and currently being updated
  iii. UW’s **Hazard Mitigation Plan**: Annex to the State’s Plan and updated every-other year (last update: 2012)
  iv. Recipient of nearly $4 million FEMA/DHS Grants for facility resilience and preparedness activities
  v. Recent (2013-14) **Seismic Resilient UW Work Group** established by Provost’s Office and chaired by UWEM Director
  vi. Member of the UW’s Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases – currently addressing the Ebola threat

- **Preparedness (Plans, Training and Exercises)**
  i. Business, Academic and Research Continuity Program – supported by [Husky Ready](#), and online continuity planning tool from the Kauli Foundation. Free to all UW departments.
  ii. UW **All-Hazards Emergency Management Plan**: 2014 (updated biannually) as the foundation for all EM programs
  iii. Ongoing access to free federal and state training opportunities, workshops and classes
  iv. Participation in campus outreach events, including the popular **Wheel of Misfortune**, quarterly online newsletter
  v. Annual functional and full-scale exercises in the EOC and quarterly drills for 130+ EOC responders
  vi. Other planning and training activities with UW and community stakeholders (city, county, hospitals, transit agencies….)

- **Response**
  i. UWEM 24/7 Duty Officer Program and Phone #
  ii. Fully-equipped emergency management vehicle for incident field response and coordination with Police/Fire/EMS
  iii. Mobile command post for extended responses
  iv. 24/7 “hot” Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with redundant communications & power, breakout rooms and self-sustaining capabilities for 3+ days for 80 responders
  v. 130 Senior UW senior managers and leaders trained as part of the EOC cadre
  vi. UWEM staff activate the EOC for every home football game and other large planned special event (i.e., Commencement)
  vii. Unit Response Centers (URC) to support main EOC
  viii. Opt-in UW-Alert ([www.uwalert.org](http://www.uwalert.org)) campus notification system (w/ over 55,000 subscribers) and outdoor BLUE phones
  ix. Active Crisis Communications Committee established for immediate notifications to campus community

- **Recovery**
  i. After-Action Review/Reports Required for all Major Events and Incidents (including corrective action plans)
  ii. UW works closely with City of Seattle, King County and State of Washington in coordinating post-disaster recovery information, claims, and public assistance requests.