OVERVIEW

ABOUT

The Campus Safety office fosters a secure environment for the University's academic and research enterprise. Emergency planning and routine safety operations are at the forefront for the departments in this area of the Financial and Administrative Services (FAS) portfolio. The Campus Safety mission analyzes, prepares for, protects from, and responds to potential hazards and safety risks in order to promote the safety and continuity of the university environment and operations.

Our vision provides a resilient framework and environment that enriches the university academic and research mission by establishing an innovative and adaptable safety culture.

Our core values are rooted in the framework of Service, Stewardship, Integrity, Innovation, Diversity, and Teamwork.

Our overarching goals are designed to:

- Develop, gain approval, and implement safety and security programs that ensure the welfare of our campus community;
- Develop, implement, and sustain effective campus safety and security communications;
- Promote best management practices in campus safety operations;
- Foster high quality services, campus diversity, and leadership that supports Campus Safety operations; and
- Promote safety and security educational programs throughout the campus community.

Our team consists of Environmental Health & Safety, Fire Prevention Services, and the Office of Emergency Preparedness.
Thank you for viewing our 2019 Campus Safety Annual Report. Our organizational unit reports signify a holistic approach to what our departments accomplish annually. The campus safety mission is an ever evolving process designed to support student life, academic, research, athletics and operational endeavors on the University’s main and satellite campuses. This year we have addressed numerous challenges facing our university community, with a laser-beam focus on your health and safety. These reports provide a snapshot of the contributions that our units made throughout the 2019 calendar year in alignment with both the University’s mission and our organizational values. This collection of data represent a foundational strategy targeting identified opportunities to enhance our campus environment and to provide stakeholders with the means necessary to effectively manage issues. A strategy designed with your wellbeing in mind. Be secure in knowing your safety is priority one.

Stay safe. Be resilient.

Sincerely.

JIMMY JOHNSON
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF CAMPUS SAFETY
Addressing Environmental Health and Safety Needs of the UT Austin Campus Community
Hazardous Waste Management (HWM) staff is preparing to consolidate waste into 55 gallon drums. This process is done every 1-2 weeks depending on how much chemical waste is received.
OVERVIEW

ABOUT US
Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) is a campus department with a mission to protect students, faculty, staff and visitors, to promote healthy and safe operations on campus, and to ensure the protection of the environment. EHS works closely with campus colleges and departments such as Facilities Services, UT Police Department, Fire Prevention Services, Emergency Preparedness, Project Management and Construction Services, Utilities and Energy Management, and Capital Projects and Construction to achieve our mission.

Much of our focus is mandated from city, state, and federal regulations that are designed to protect human health and the environment. By focusing our attention on regulatory compliance and the application of best practices we ensure a safe learning, working and visiting environment for everyone at The University of Texas at Austin.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
DARRELL BAZZELL, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CAMPUS SAFETY
JIMMY JOHNSON, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
JOHN SALSMAN, DIRECTOR

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROGRAM AREAS
CAMPUSS, OCCUPATIONAL AND LABORATORY SAFETY
• Chemical Safety
• Biological Safety
• Laboratory Evaluations
• Hazardous Materials Shipping
• Fall Protection
• Asbestos Service Center
• Hearing Conservation
• Aerial Lift and Crane Safety
• Machine Shop Safety
• Respiratory Protection
• Confined Space
• Indoor Air Quality
• Electrical Safety

CAMPUS, OCCUPATIONAL AND LABORATORY SAFETY
• Radioactive Materials Permitting and Licensing
• X-ray and Laser Registration
• Laboratory Evaluations

RADIATION AND LASER SAFETY
• On-Call Program
• 24/7 Emergency Response

EMERGENCY RESPONSE
• Food Safety Inspections
• Food Distribution Approval
• Drinking Water Testing

FOOD AND DRINKING WATER SAFETY
• New and Existing Construction Review
• Design and Construction Standards

PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN REVIEW
• Training Management
• Campus Outreach

TRAINING AND OUTREACH
• UAV Request Approval

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS
• Regulatory Compliance and Support
• Hazardous Waste Management
• Stormwater Management
• Wastewater Management
• Pollution and Spill Prevention
• Green Labs
• Chemical Fume Hoods and Autoclaves

ANIMAL MAKE SAFE
• Wildlife Incidents
• Animals on Campus

ANIMAL MAKE SAFE
• Food Safety Inspections
• Food Distribution Approval
• Drinking Water Testing

SERVICES

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES
• UAV Request Approval
Welcome to the 2019 Annual Report for Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). Please understand that this is a condensed snapshot of the various programs within EHS. We have not attempted to describe everything we do but instead, we provided facts and information that will provoke some thought about campus safety and hopefully, reflect the contributions of the entire staff.

Your employees learn by example. If they don’t see you practicing good safety habits, they won’t think safety is important.

John

John Salsman
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

YOUR EMPLOYEES LEARN BY EXAMPLE. IF THEY DON’T SEE YOU PRACTICING GOOD SAFETY HABITS, THEY WON’T THINK SAFETY IS IMPORTANT.
CORE VALUE
DIVERSITY

In order to continue to support our campus by providing valued services to our customers, EHS values diversity in skills, experience, and ideas. Diversity allows EHS to speak to a broader audience, expanding our messaging on safety and environmental stewardship. Diversity also allows us to connect with our intended audience, which can range from Principal Investigators to students to contractors to visitors. We believe that diversity makes teams smarter, more creative and more effective and is essential in higher education.

The inclusion of people who have different ways of thinking, different viewpoints and different skill sets expands the experiences and views of all the workers on the team and helps them recognize the strength of their combined talents and perspectives. This type of cognitive diversity is especially useful for problem-solving and innovation.

Safety and health vulnerabilities encompass several types of employees and employment types—and as the American workforce continues to become increasingly diverse it’s critical for safety professionals to understand the unique hazards faced by each of these groups in order to take steps to protect them on the job.

We believe the best ideas are born from sharing viewpoints, opinions, and perceptions from colleagues with varied backgrounds and experiences.

EHS Assistant Director Andrea McNair, Senior Occupational Safety Specialist Suzanne Kilpatrick, and Senior Laboratory Safety Specialist Naveen Dahal meet with QA Construction on the roof of CPE to plan a chemical dilution study prior to the start of a project.
CORE VALUE
INNOVATION

We are creative and innovative in our service to the campus community.

EHS encourages our employees to learn from our campus community and adapt innovative ideas to meet the needs of the university. Whenever possible, we creatively approach tasks and obstacles to find original solutions.

We support improving the competence of our employees through suitable resources and tools such as conferences and continuing education so that they are aware of risks and emerging issues related to their roles and functions. We encourage cross-training within our department and are continuously improving our online training, inspection and hazard evaluation processes, and customer service in addition to many of the other requirements and services we provide.

EHS utilizes several creative outreach mechanisms to foster community support. The department engages with the campus through social media, advertising campaigns, safety bulletins and posters, and event tabling. In 2019, EHS tabled at 8 UT events, and EHS staff were interviewed for news articles in The Daily Texan, FAS News, and Campus Biodiversity News.

We encourage everyone to contribute positively to our campus health and safety performance by promoting a safety culture across the entire campus and supporting the formation of safety committees to help us achieve this goal.

Lab hazard levels (LHLs) were implemented for the 2018 CY to account for a reduction of inspectors and increase in number of labs. LHL1 are the lowest hazard level, evaluated once every two years. LHL2 labs are evaluated annually and LHL3 labs (also referred to as high hazard) are evaluated twice each year. In 2019, it was noted that as hazard levels increase, there was an increase in the number of evaluation items. Taking an innovative approach to looking at our lab evaluation data in this way allows us to identify evaluation needs including staffing and procedures for the areas that are most hazardous. As lab square footage continues to increase per year, the need for support of all lab spaces, but especially those that are high hazard will also increase.

LAB AREA (Sq Ft) BY LAB HAZARD LEVEL

In 2019, mid-hazard level labs (LH2) occupied the most square footage of total lab space while high-hazard level labs (LH3) occupied the least.

EVALUATION ITEMS NOTED BY LAB HAZARD LEVEL

High hazard level labs (LH3) had the most evaluation items in 2019. Evaluation items include chemical storage, ignition sources, waste, emergency preparedness, ventilation, signage, lab design and general good practices.

1,160 Pounds of nitrile gloves recycled (Oct-Dec 2019)

47 Requests to bring live animals onto campus for events were reviewed
EHS staff are ambassadors of safety, health and environmental responsibility. We strive to ensure that the work, research, and daily activities at the University: do not cause undue environmental damage, put people’s health and safety at risk, comply with applicable legislation, and follow best practices.

EHS serves as a liaison with regulatory and compliance agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the City of Austin, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Texas Department of State Health Services. EHS is charged with certain health and safety inspections and compliance for all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and other EHS requirements intended to protect safety, health, and the environment. For example in 2019, in support of the UT Austin's TCEQ issued MS4 permit (stormwater), EHS Environmental Programs shifted the University’s flood mitigation and stormwater quality approach towards green infrastructure, implemented a new stormwater standard, and overhauled the Stormwater Management Program.

We perform our work in a transparent, honest, and accountable manner. We also commit to meeting all compliance and reporting standards.

EHS Radiation Safety Specialist Ryan Green performs a radiation survey in a physics lab to verify that the radiation source is in position to ensure safe operation.

Collection of water samples is necessary in order to obtain reliable data that can support compliance or enforcement activities, to ensure the safety of drinking water on campus, and to determine pollutant concentrations in runoff and the degree to which control measures are effectively minimizing contact between stormwater and pollutant sources, and the success of meeting applicable discharge requirements or effluent limits.

EHS supports Authorized RAM (radioactive materials) Users (AUs) to order, receive, and process RAM waste while working safely and in compliance with health, safety, and environmental guidelines and regulations. EHS also holds the licenses for the use of radioactive materials, x-ray machines, and to perform mammography.

The number of X-ray units has increased by 67% over the last decade with 29 units being added in 2019. This trend is expected to continue into the next decade.
EHS serves the campus community by providing support in ensuring healthy and safe operations on campus, protecting students, faculty, staff, and visitors, and ensuring protection of the environment.

Some of the services EHS provides include:

- Performing safety evaluations of research and teaching laboratories at UT Austin and satellite facilities.
- Providing training on a variety of health and safety topics to the campus community including classes in laboratory safety, laser and radiation safety, occupational safety, and environmental concerns.
- Investigating laboratory and occupational incidents including fires, spills, trips, falls, laboratory injuries, and any chemical or biological exposure.
- Providing guidance on various safety and environmental issues including fall protection, construction design, spill prevention, control and countermeasures (SPCC), wastewater and petroleum storage tank regulations, radioactive material usage, and laser safety.
- Handling proper disposal of chemical and biological waste for the university.
- Managing the University's state-issued stormwater permit and City-issued wastewater permits.
- Conducting food safety inspections and ensuring quality drinking water.
- Reviewing and approving requests to include live animals as part of special events.
- Coordinating UAV flight requests in accordance with HOP 8-1070 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.
- Green Lab services including glove, Styrofoam, cold pack, and plastic film recycling.

We are customer service oriented and offer responsive, reliable and seamless support.

During the excavation for GLT, the contractor (BECK) unexpectedly uncovered a cistern. EHS staff were called out to provide an assessment and sample for asbestos and contaminated water.
For the 2018 CY, the number of inspectors was reduced from 5.75 to 5.17 (FTEs). In the 2019 CY, this was further reduced to 4.42 (FTEs), due to an extended unfilled position. To manage workload, biennial evaluations of lower hazard (LHL1) labs were implemented in 2018. Only half of the LHL1 labs were evaluated in 2019, but due to quantity of new labs added to campus, the total number of lab evaluations for the year still increased by 341.

Laser use (new laser PIs and laser labs) on campus has increased 100% over the last 10 years. The Texas Peta Watt Laser joined LaserNetUS – a consortium of DOE and university high intensity laser research facilities, thus increasing the volume and variety of research being conducted which requires additional EHS safety support. Laser Safety also added medical laser use to UT-Austin’s TDSHS laser registration to accommodate the Dell Medical School ophthalmology clinic and Ambulatory Surgery Center.

In 2019, 43 new lasers were registered for use on campus. Laser use continues to grow as shown by the upward trend over the last decade.

EHS Associate Director Nena Anderson and EHS staff go over emergency response details with Austin Fire Department first responders and Fire Prevention Services during annual AFD Laboratory tours.

In 2019, EHS Environmental Programs and Hazardous Waste Management staff were called out to assist with a sanitary sewer overflow at the Brackenridge Apartment Complex less than 500 feet from Lady Bird Lake. EHS staff worked in conjunction with University Housing and Dining and Utilities to limit the extent of contamination. The situation was resolved efficiently without harmful pollution entering the nearby watershed.
EHS performs a number of safety and environmental inspections on campus each year. Some of these inspections such as those for food establishments and trucks and stormwater management are to fulfill regulatory laws and requirements. All are performed to identify and address safety and environmental concerns.

955 Pounds of trash collected from Waller Creek

RAM packages received and delivered by Radiation Safety staff

During the 2019 FY, EHS Hazardous Waste Management (HWM) staff reduced the total cost of managing hazardous chemical waste generated by university operations by 10% or $63,049.79. HWM staff accomplished this through waste consolidation, reuse of containers and the recycling of valuable but hazardous metals.

Annually the university spends over $500,000 on hazardous chemical waste disposal. The proposed Surplus Chemical Redistribution program will further reduce hazardous waste disposal cost by diverting usable chemicals from being processed as hazardous waste and instead redistributing them to other researchers.

EHS Senior Hazardous Materials Specialist Eric Wilson and Environmental Programs Manager Tejashri Kyle assist with removal of trash during Spring 2019 Waller Creek Cleanup.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSPECTIONS</th>
<th>General Laboratory</th>
<th>Autoclave Tests</th>
<th>Biosafety Laboratory</th>
<th>Food Inspections (Restaurants and Trucks)</th>
<th>Central Accumulation Areas</th>
<th>Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention</th>
<th>Stormwater Management</th>
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<td>113</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Over 3,000 safety and environmental inspections were performed by EHS staff in 2019. Inspections associated with laboratories make up over 90% of total annual EHS inspections.

In 2019, the Green Labs program transitioned from a primarily student-run organization housed under the Office of Sustainability, to a staff-run program under EHS. The program serves as a resource to help UT faculty, staff, and students run more environmentally-friendly labs without interfering with the integrity of their research. We strive to increase the sustainability of labs on campus by helping to improve upon lab processes and procedures, generally focusing on waste minimization, reduction in energy consumption, and reduction in water consumption. We ensure researchers are properly educated on these novel ideas guaranteeing the continued success of the program and arming students with the necessary sustainability-focused skills to successfully enter the workforce.

EHS is committed to conducting ourselves in a safe and fiscally responsible manner that respects the environment, the people we serve, and the health of our university and the community in which we live.

EHS complies with all applicable Federal, state and local environmental and regulatory laws, statutes, regulations and other requirements. We maintain policies and procedures for the safe use, tracking, storage and disposal of hazardous and toxic materials and minimize hazardous waste generation and the potential release of pollutants into the environment through source reduction, treatment and disposal.

We are exceptional caretakers of the resources entrusted to FAS.

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CORE VALUE

TEAMWORK

Safety is a team effort. Research has found that people are more likely to work more safely in a team than independently. EHS fosters partnerships with faculty, staff, and students to enable them to recognize risks and empower them to learn, discover, and work safely and to understand their role in the greater health and safety of the campus community. This includes not only following protocols themselves, but encouraging others to do the same.

To identify and remediate safety risks and issues, EHS also works closely with the University’s Colleges and Schools such as Dell Medical School, and other campus departments such as Fire Prevention Services, Emergency Preparedness, Project Management and Construction Services, Facilities Services, Utilities and Energy Management, Campus Planning and Construction, and the University of Texas Police Department.

We work collaboratively across our organizations on common objectives and develop efficient and cost effective systems and processes for campus.

Incident and Emergency response typically involves intra-departmental and cross-campus collaboration to address. It’s not unusual for EHS to work with a College’s staff and administration, Utilities, Facilities, Mechanical Distribution, University Housing and Dining, UTPD, AFD, and the City of Austin to resolve an incident on campus.

In 2019, EHS responded to 103 incidents and spent over 500 hours on incident and emergency response activities.

Perhaps no other EHS program requires more varied team coordination than UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) requests. UAV requests come from students, faculty, staff, and outside organizations. The coordination process may involve several departments and approvals across campus. In addition to those listed, other requests include those from Athletics, Landscape Services, University Communications, and individual departments.

2019 saw an increase in UAV requests from news/media, construction and other sources while research continued to be the most requested need comprising 44% of all requests.

HOURS SPENT ON INCIDENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In 2019, EHS responded to 103 incidents and spent over 500 hours on incident and emergency response activities.

UAV FLIGHT REQUESTS

2019 saw an increase in UAV requests from news/media, construction and other sources while research continued to be the most requested need comprising 44% of all requests.
EHS is working to implement an updated EHS Assistant electronic information management system which will improve the laboratory safety process and provide better service to researchers and laboratory personnel.

EHS is also updating how chemical waste is managed on campus by moving towards a web-based application, EMS. This will simplify and expedite hazardous waste collections.

Improvements to the EHS website will allow for users to quickly and efficiently find the information they need.

SERVICES

EHS has incorporated the core values of our portfolio, Financial and Administrative Services as our own. We will continue to implement these core values in every facet of our organization from hiring to customer service to meet the challenges and dynamic nature of environmental health and safety as our workplace continues to grow and our community becomes more diverse.

EHS continues to evaluate the need for new full-time support staff as the campus continues to grow. Recently, a newly created shared front office position will provide administrative support to all of Campus Safety, an existing Laser Safety Specialist position will be filled and a new Laboratory Safety Specialist position will provide support to Dell Medical School.

The Green Labs program will continue to grow support and foster engagement in environmentally-friendly lab research and sustainable lab practices. Participation in our recycling initiatives is expected to continue to increase. New initiatives, such as the Surplus Chemical Redistribution program, Lab Supply Swap, and other resource conservation efforts, designed to save the University money and time, are in development for the coming year.

Other future initiatives and programs include Occupational Safety Incident Management, Confined Space databases, an Assured Conductor Program (electrical safety), Control of Hazardous Energy Program, Fall Protection Design and Construction Standard, Pressure Vessel SOP, Physical Hazard Building Inspections, and updates to the Fall Protection and Respiratory Protection Programs.

As the University continues to grow and evolve, EHS will also continue to evolve and change roles, responsibilities, and focus as needed. Health and safety issues which will be an important focus of the next decade include outdoor air quality, surface and ground water quality, toxic substances and hazardous wastes, workplace and community health and safety issues, surveillance systems and education, sustainability, and global environmental health. EHS will keep track of changes and trends in our society that will affect our profession. Continuing education and other similar opportunities will help us prepare to meet these future challenges to be ready for what the future will bring.

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Other future initiatives and programs include Occupational Safety Incident Management, Confined Space databases, an Assured Conductor Program (electrical safety), Control of Hazardous Energy Program, Fall Protection Design and Construction Standard, Pressure Vessel SOP, Physical Hazard Building Inspections, and updates to the Fall Protection and Respiratory Protection Programs.
EHS Laboratory Safety Specialist Matt McKinney retrieves an opossum from underneath the decking at UT Elementary School. In an effort to maximize resources, many EHS full-time employees are cross-trained on a voluntary basis to assist when needed in other areas such as here with the Animal Make Safe program.

EHS Environmental Safety Specialist Becca Oliver performs an in-house analysis of outfall water samples from the annual dry weather screening as required by the University’s stormwater permit. This sampling is done in an attempt to identify the source of illicit discharges (potable water leak, sanitary cross connection/leaking pipe etc.). EHS coordinates with UEM-MD to locate and repair any issues.

In 2019, veterinary X-ray use for the Marine Science Institute (MSI) campus turtle program was added to the University’s TDSHS X-ray registration, which is managed by EHS. EHS staff from Laboratory Safety, Radiation Safety, Hazardous Waste Management and other program areas visit MSI several times a year to provide safety and environmental health support.

EHS Laboratory Safety Specialist Matt McKinney retrieves an opossum from underneath the decking at UT Elementary School. In an effort to maximize resources, many EHS full-time employees are cross-trained on a voluntary basis to assist when needed in other areas such as here with the Animal Make Safe program.
ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Addressing the Fire Prevention Needs of the UT Austin Community
FPS inspectors Stacey Alley and Francisco Gutierrez and FSSS technitian preparing for a fire drill
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>ABOUT US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>PROGRAMS AND SERVICES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>TEAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>DIVERSITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>INNOVATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>INTEGRITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>SERVICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>STEWARDSHIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>TEAMWORK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW

ABOUT US

The University of Texas at Austin Fire Prevention Services (FPS) office ensures a safe environment for faculty, staff, students and visitors by providing a comprehensive fire prevention program. Our fire safety professionals are charged with monitoring all university buildings for compliance with local and state requirements, and partner with our community stakeholders to perform the inspections and drills necessary for risk reduction and the potential negative repercussions of fire on campus.

As part of our continual effort to improve campus safety and emergency preparedness, FPS serves as the University’s liaison with the Texas State Fire Marshal’s Office and local emergency responders. Our organization ensures that new construction projects comply with applicable codes, as well as to develop compliance solutions for existing structures. We dedicate ourselves to the campus community through a comprehensive program of inspection, prevention, plan review and public education efforts designed to minimize risk and maximize campus fire safety.

Fire Prevention Services is under the Campus Safety office within the Financial and Administrative Services portfolio. Units under this portfolio support and enhance the University’s core mission to be more effective, efficient, and achieve operational excellence.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
DARRELL BAZZELL, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CAMPUS SAFETY
JIMMY JOHNSON, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES
WAYMON JACKSON, DIRECTOR
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROGRAM AREAS

INSPECTIONS

- Fire Inspections
- Food Truck Inspections
- Dormitory Inspections

PLANS REVIEW

- Design/Construction Drawings
- Specifications
- Alternate Means and Methods
- Fire Department Access
- Shop Drawings

FIRE EXTINGUISHER MAINTENANCE

- Annual Maintenance and Inspections
- Replacing Discharged and out of Service Fire Extinguishers
- Servicing Fire Extinguishers
- Returning Fire Extinguishers into Service

RESPONSIBLE ENGINEER PROGRAM

- Consulting with Stakeholders on Fire and Life Safety Issues
- Liaison with State and Local Authorities

MCD FIRE MARSHAL

- Fire Inspections
- Fire Protection System Inspections, Testing, and Maintenance
- Wildfire Prevention and Response
- Safety Training

SERVICES

TRAINING

- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Crowd Manager Training

FIRE DRILLS

- Coordinating Fire Drills with Building Managers and FSSS
- Monitoring and Evaluating Drills

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Assisting with Event Fire Safety Planning
- Pre-Event Inspections
- Monitoring Events/Fire Watch
- Pyrotechnics Inspection and Monitoring

OUTREACH

- Community Engagement
- Social Media
- Live Demonstrations

LIFE SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

- Fire Alarm Installations/Upgrades
- Fire Suppression Installations/Upgrades
- Emergency Lighting Installations/Upgrades

WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANNING

- Wildfire Response Plans
- Wildfire Prevention
- Controlled Burns
- Emergency Response
- Landscape Management
I am pleased to present our 2019 Annual Report and to thank you for taking the time to review our many accomplishments and ongoing activities over the past year. The mission of Fire Prevention Services is to make The University of Texas at Austin and its satellite campuses a safe place for students, faculty, staff and visitors to live, be educated, work or visit by reducing the risk of fire and life safety hazards through building inspections, proactive education, plan review and fire and life safety code enforcement.

Fire Prevention Services conducts annual fire/life safety inspections in occupancies within the UT community, initiates numerous training programs, performs plan reviews in new and existing construction, executes due diligence on new real estate purchases and leases, makes assessments and funds replacement of existing fire and life safety system and something new to the portfolio wildland protection planning. We accomplish these tasks with a staff of ten fire professionals consisting of certified fire inspectors and fire protection engineers.

Waymon
WAYMON JACKSON
DIRECTOR,
FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES
ORGANIZATION

JOSHUA LAMBERT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL
• Engineering
• Technical Operations
• Special Projects

ROOSEVELT EASLEY
LEAD INSPECTOR
FIRE INSPECTIONS
• Fire Inspections
• Fire Drills
• Fire Extinguisher Maintenance

MANAGEMENT

INSPECTIONS STAFF

ENGINEERING STAFF

MCDONALD OBSERVATORY
FIRE MARSHAL

Total: 11 employees
FPS embraces diversity in all things that we do; from our approach to fire prevention, to our team members, and how we interact with the university community at large. FPS approaches the fire safety needs of The University of Texas at Austin community through three distinct practices: Enforcement, Engineering, and Education. This approach allows us to improve fire safety at the university by creating good habits, ensuring the construction of a safe built environment, and intervening when issues are discovered. The FPS team comes from a wide variety of backgrounds, bringing with them an array of experience that contributes to a well-rounded perspective on fire safety. Our team members have served in the fire service, multiple branches of the armed forces, municipal and state government, as fire protection contractors, and as consulting engineers in a variety of sectors. We strongly believe that fire safety is a community effort. FPS works closely with stakeholders from across the university community to achieve safety in all aspects of operations at The University of Texas at Austin. We also strive to improve the fire safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors in their lives outside of the University through a wide array of outreach and educational activities including social media, community engagement, training, and large scale fire demonstrations.

We believe the best ideas are born from sharing viewpoints, opinions, and perceptions from colleagues with varied backgrounds and experiences.
MCDONALD OBSERVATORY WILDFIRE MITIGATION

The McDonald Observatory’s remote location, wildfire risks, and unique research facilities pose unique fire prevention challenges that do not exist for main campus and other satellite locations. FPS has initiated a project in conjunction with Project Management and Construction Services, the McDonald Observatory, the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, and the Texas Forest Service to perform extensive wildfire mitigation at the McDonald Observatory. In bringing together this diverse team of experts FPS will be able to meet the unique fire prevention needs of this remote campus location to protect the students, faculty, staff, and visitors at the McDonald Observatory and ensure the continuity of the groundbreaking research that is conducted there.

GAS DETECTION STANDARDS

As new research has begun in the Engineering Education and Research Center (EER), unforeseen safety challenges have arisen. FPS has worked closely with Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and the Cockrell School of Engineering to update gas detection systems in the building to alert occupants to potential releases of toxic and flammable gasses. These efforts involved the creation of a new campus standard for gas detection systems at the University. A working group comprised of representatives from FPS, EHS, and the School of Engineering collaborated to develop a standard that meets the needs of researchers while providing the highest level of safety for students, faculty, staff, and first responders. These efforts will provide a meaningful impact beyond EER and the School of Engineering by setting the standard for future research facilities throughout the University portfolio.
Fire risks are constantly evolving as new technology emerges and the way we use and interact with our built environment changes. Research activities across the University force FPS to adopt a proactive approach to protect students, faculty, and staff from unconventional fire risks. To meet these challenges FPS staff is continuously learning and developing new skills and actively participates in the development of new national codes and standards in order to stay up to date with the cutting edge of fire protection technologies and best practices. One way that FPS helps keep the University safe in this dynamic environment is by providing unique training experiences to empower the university community to be partners in our mission to protect The University of Texas from fire. Over the coming year FPS will be implementing a range of new web based resources to enhance our educational activities and improve how stakeholders interact with FPS on matters of fire safety. We are also in the process of working with the vendor of our fire inspections software to enhance our inspections activities and expand data collection on fire safety features.
FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

FPS’ fire extinguisher training program continues to be extremely successful. In 2019, FPS expanded fire extinguisher training to satellite campuses and provided on-site training for students, faculty, and staff at the Marine Science Institute and the McDonald Observatory. Any member of the University community can sign up for these classes on UTLearn. For some individuals, this training is required to be completed on an annual basis. Students learn how to effectively operate portable fire extinguisher and when it is safe to do so. Classes are scheduled for 1-hour sessions and include a 15-20 minute lecture and 30 minutes of hands-on demonstration with FPS’ live fire training prop, where each student gets personal experience and training using an actual fire extinguisher. This program has repeatedly been credited by students for giving them the skills, knowledge, and confidence to effectively use a portable fire extinguisher in actual fire incidents.

CROWD MANAGER TRAINING

In 2019, FPS introduced a crowd manager training program for students, faculty, and staff at The University of Texas at Austin. NFPA 101, the Life Safety Code, requires trained crowd managers for assembly occupancies. In order to meet this need FPS provides free training to the University community to enhance the safety of events and maintain compliance with State Fire Marshal’s Office requirements. In 2019, FPS provided training to 112 individuals over 11 sessions. Our goal is to expand our training capacity for this program and enhance access by implementing an on-line program that can be taken at any time. This will reduce FPS staff workload for providing these trainings and enhance our customer experience by providing students the convenience of taking this required training when and where they please.
The safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors is the number one priority for The University of Texas at Austin. FPS works to keep the University in compliance with state and federal requirements for fire safety including conformance with fire and building codes and reporting requirements.

FPS engineers perform in-depth reviews to ensure that project plans and specifications conform to the applicable NFPA and ICC codes and standards, The University of Texas at Austin’s Design and Construction Standards, and the Texas Accessibility Standard. FPS staff conduct periodic installation inspections and witness tests of fire protection systems to ensure that buildings are constructed in accordance with approved plans and reference standards.

FPS regularly inspects all University facilities to assess and mitigate potential fire and life safety hazards in university facilities. Fire inspections focus on identifying fire safety hazards and deficiencies in buildings to ensure that buildings are well maintained and safely operated. All FPS inspectors are certified by the National Fire Protection Association as Fire Inspector 1, and many have received supplemental training and certifications in specialty areas such as pyrotechnic displays.

We perform our work in a transparent, honest, and accountable manner. We also commit to meeting all compliance and reporting standards.

Flammable liquid storage cabinet
FIRE INSPECTIONS

FPS strives to inspect all university facilities at least annually. With over 200 facilities, and over 25 million square feet, on the main campus alone and well over 100 additional buildings spread throughout the state, this is a daunting task. FPS has continued to increase the number of inspections through 2019. With increased stability in inspections staffing and improved inspections software on the horizon this trend is expected to continue. As the University continues to grow and buildings become larger and more complex inspections will become more difficult and time consuming and the skills required to complete fire inspections are expected to expand.

PLAN REVIEW

The number of plan review requests continues to rise with 87 more requests for review in 2019 than the previous year. With the number of projects in for review remaining consistent, these increases are largely driven by the increasing complexity of projects managed by Project Management and Construction Services (PMCS). Accommodating this extra workload continues to strain FPS’ ability to provide reviews that are both timely and thorough. While there have been some procedural changes implemented by the PMCS Technical Review Team, these improvements have not been able to keep pace with the drastic increases in requests for reviews.
FPS serves the entire University community by working to create a safe environment for learning, research, cultural enrichment, and entertainment. Whether we are conducting inspections and plan reviews, consulting on fire protection issues, or assisting in the planning and operations of special events FPS works diligently to help our customers achieve their goals while providing for the safety and well being of the University's students, faculty, staff, and visitors. FPS supports construction activities at the university from initial project programming through design and final construction; in addition to ensuring compliance with building and fire codes FPS staff often provides supplemental advice and consultation to project teams to help ensure that their projects are successful and meet the needs of the University. Likewise, for special events FPS is often involved early, assisting with planning, reviewing floorplan and site plans, and evaluating potential hazardous activities. FPS strives to be responsive, collaborative, and thoughtful members of the teams that build and showcase The University of Texas at Austin.

We are customer service oriented and offer responsive, reliable and seamless support.

Fire protection riser room in the Engineering Education and Research Center
SPECIAL EVENT STAFFING / FIRE WATCH

FPS provides staffing for over 200 special events each year including athletic events, concerts, performing arts events, conferences, and other mass gatherings. This work includes inspections of the venue before and during the event, coordinating fire department response, inspecting vendor areas, supervising pyrotechnics and flame effects, and monitoring crowd conditions. For larger events such as football games and commencement, FPS will also have representatives working in the Emergency Operations Center to help coordinate communications and responses to incidents during the event.

![Fire Watches / Events chart]

TESTING AND ACCEPTANCE ACTIVITIES

FPS inspectors witness acceptance testing of fire protection systems for newly constructed buildings and renovations of existing buildings. The decrease in this activity continued through 2019. We expect 2020 to bring a sharp increase in these requests as multiple large construction projects have entered the construction phases. In the future FPS plans to expand our program for acceptance of commercial kitchen hood suppression and exhaust systems. We are also working closely with Capital Projects and Construction to formalize project acceptance criteria and implement a “Certificate of Occupancy” program which may expand the scope and scale of FPS’ involvement of testing and acceptance of building systems.

![Acceptance Testing chart]
CORE VALUE

STEWARDSHIP

We are exceptional caretakers of the resources entrusted to FAS.

FPS strives to utilize university resources in ways that maximize the impact to fire and life safety for the University community. FPS incorporates the maintenance of portable fire extinguishers at Main Campus, the Pickle Research Center, and the McDonald Observatory into our annual inspections of university buildings, saving time and money while reducing the impact of these maintenance activities on building occupants. FPS continuously monitors and assesses life safety systems and features in university buildings and reviews fire inspection reports generated by the State Fire Marshal's Office and FPS fire inspectors. This information, along with FPS' database on building fire protection systems, is analyzed to conduct a risk assessment for the purposes of identifying and prioritizing projects for corrective actions. Using this system FPS can ensure that the University's limited funds are put to the best use to positively impact the safety of students, faculty, and staff.
FIRE EXTINGUISHER MAINTENANCE

Annual maintenance for portable fire extinguishers consists of an in-depth external inspection of the extinguisher and its components. Periodically fire extinguishers will require internal inspection and/or pressure testing. FPS manages a contract with an outside service firm to conduct this work. Extinguishers that are due for internal maintenance are rotated out of service and sent to the contractor for these services. The rotation of extinguishers for internal maintenance and hydrostatic testing can cause fluctuations in the number of fire extinguishers that are serviced each year.

LIFE SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

With the assistance of Project Management and Construction Services and other university stakeholders FPS completed a number of projects in 2019 to rehabilitate and upgrade existing life safety systems, install new fire suppression and life safety systems, and enhance fire department access across the University:

- JGB - Replace existing fire alarm system and connect to the campus Mass Notification System (MNS).
- JHH - Upgrade existing fire alarm system and connect to the campus MNS
- LTH - Connect existing fire alarm system to the campus MNS
- CPE - Upgrade existing fire alarm system and connect to the campus MNS
- CPC - Install new fire alarm system
- PRC laboratory - Replace existing fire alarm system and connect to the campus MNS, expand existing fire sprinkler system
- LCH - Upgrade existing fire alarm system
- WPR - Upgrade emergency lighting
- BEL - Upgrade emergency lighting
- IC2 - Upgrade emergency lighting
- GSB - Upgrade emergency lighting
- PRC BE1 - Install new fire sprinkler system
- PRC ARL - Install new fire sprinkler system
- PRC Campus - Install emergency key boxes for critical facilities
- Main and PRC Campuses - Install upgraded fire department connection signage
CORE VALUE

TEAMWORK

We work collaboratively across our organizations on common objectives and develop efficient and cost effective systems and processes for campus.

FPS follows a community-oriented approach to fire prevention and partners with departments and individuals throughout the entire University to facilitate the mission of The University of Texas at Austin and ensure the safety of its students, faculty, staff, and guests. Whether conducting inspections, reviewing construction documents, educating and preparing the University community, or working to solve unique challenges with our peers, teamwork is at the heart of how FPS approaches our mission to protect lives and property at The University of Texas at Austin. We strive to collaborate with our partners to find ways to achieve their goals in a safe manner that meets regulatory requirements and fire safety best practices. We all have a role to play in protecting the university from the threat of fire through creating a safer built environment, operating and using facilities in a safe manner, and even practicing fire safety in our homes. FPS is proud to work together to make The University of Texas a safe place to learn and discover.
2400 NUECES TRANSITION

Beginning in the fall of 2018 FPS has worked closely with several University departments including University Housing and Dining (UHD), the Real Estate Office, Project Management and Construction Services, Information Technology Services, and others in the acquisition and management transition of the high-rise apartment building at 2400 Nueces. Prior to the purchase of the building FPS was part of a large interdisciplinary team from the university that conducted thorough due diligence inspections to assess the condition of the building. FPS continued to work closely with UHD to evaluate the maintenance and operations of the facility during the transition from contract management of the facility to UHD management. FPS has continued to provide guidance to UHD as building improvements are made to the fire alarm system and other building features to better integrate with University operations and enhance the safety of the building’s residents.

COMMENCEMENT PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Each spring FPS inspectors and engineers work closely with departments from across the University to plan and prepare for spring commencement ceremonies. During planning site plans and floor plans are evaluated to ensure the safety of graduates and their families, faculty, and staff participating in the celebration. FPS evaluates products, equipment, sequences, and qualifications for pyrotechnics contractors for the signature fireworks show that caps off the festivities. FPS staff closely monitor preparations for the event and inspects seating installations, equipment positions, and fireworks setups to ensure that plans are adhered to. During the event FPS inspectors and engineers monitor facilities where commencement activities are held and FPS leadership is represented in the Emergency Operations Center to assist in coordinating event activities and incident responses. Spring Commencement provides graduates and their families with a special opportunity to celebrate their tremendous achievements, FPS is proud to be an integral partner of the University-wide team that makes these celebrations possible.
ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Addressing Emergency Management Needs of the UT Austin Campus Community
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
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<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW

ABOUT US

The Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) implements programs and projects in emergency and disaster planning, training, mitigation, response, and recovery. We are tasked with creating a comprehensive emergency management program for the University to save lives, protect property, promote continuity of operations, and reduce the overall effects of large-scale disasters. In addition to planning for the entire campus, OEP assists departments with developing their emergency plans and acts as the primary liaison between the University and outside government emergency management agencies.

OEP is part of the Office of Campus Safety and works closely with the other Campus Safety departments, Environmental Health & Safety and Fire Prevention Services. OEP also works closely with other campus partners including, the University of Texas Police Department, Facilities Services, Athletics, Parking & Transportation Services, and the Dean of Students in order to build a disaster resilient university.

Although OEP is a small department, our team is passionate about and dedicated to ensuring The University of Texas is ready for whatever comes its way. With the help of our partners, we are building a disaster resilient university that can bounce back from anything so that our community can quickly get back to changing the world.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS STOPS FOR NO STORM

The picture on the left is the Chairman of the Board of Regent's telegraphed response to a suggestion that UT Medical Branch close after the 1900 hurricane that hit Galveston Island. (See utsystem.edu/office/chancellor/blog/teans-stop-no-storm.)

Today, this sentiment reflects the philosophy of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and the whole of the University to keep performing our mission no matter what.
Welcome to the 2019 Office of Emergency Preparedness Annual Report. As you read through this report, you will notice a slight shift in design and a focus on the Financial and Administrative Services (FAS) core values. The Office of Emergency Preparedness’ goal in 2019 and the years forward is to ensure our program areas, accomplishments, and actions align with the values set forth by FAS. This report will provide a glimpse into the programs and accomplishments this office performed in 2019 and the core values we aligned towards. I invite you to learn from this report the successes and challenges the Office of Emergency Preparedness has had over the past year and I look forward to many more over the next year as we continue to empower preparedness across The University of Texas at Austin.

Jonathan
JONATHAN ROBB
DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
The Office of Emergency Preparedness is under the Campus Safety office within the Financial and Administrative Services portfolio. Units under this portfolio continually strive to improve service to the campus and the broader community while meeting compliance and reporting standards.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
DARRELL BAZZELL, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CAMPUS SAFETY
JIMMY JOHNSON, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
JONATHAN ROBB, DIRECTOR

Explore UT 2019 Class Photo.
The Office of Emergency Preparedness leads the university in becoming disaster resilient by enhancing capabilities required to prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate potential hazards and safety risks.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness enriches the university academic and research mission by being an innovative leader in emergency management both in higher education and the global emergency management field.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness is committed to the Financial and Administrative Services values of innovation, teamwork, diversity, integrity, stewardship, and service.

The rest of this report shows how our program areas and accomplishments for the 2019 year fulfill those values.
CORE VALUE

INNOVATION

We are creative and innovative in our service to the campus community.

The University is a unique environment because of our special population, resources, and geography. As a result, we must constantly innovate in how we approach emergency management.

In 2019, we adopted new and innovative practices to help protect our community from an emergency:

• Acquired and deployed unique barricades that protect attendees at special events.
• Published Emergency Preparedness Pocket Guides and distributed this one-stop-shop for emergency preparedness information to students, faculty, and staff.
• Installed Classroom Emergency Guides in each classroom on the main campus, providing a quick reference guide for key emergency procedures for all students and instructors.

In 2020, we look forward to continuing to address the emergency preparedness needs of our community in innovative ways.

Home football games are just one of the special events we help make safer with our innovative mobile vehicle barricades. Darrel K Royal Texas Memorial Stadium at Night by Brint03. Licensed CC BY-SA 3.0.
UT READY: EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

With the constant turnover of students, educating our community on emergency procedures and personal preparedness is a constant challenge. UT Ready is just one of the ways we help mitigate a disaster on campus by helping make sure everyone on campus is prepared to act in the event of an emergency. Our unique Emergency Preparedness Pocket Guides and Classroom Emergency Guides are just two of our strategies to educate our community and help reduce any loss of life in an emergency.

MOBILE VEHICLE BARRICADES

The changing public safety landscape makes it ever more challenging to protect attendees at any event. At The University of Texas at Austin, we hold many large events all across campus throughout the year, creating an added challenge. In response to these unique challenges, we identified a creative solution in the form of mobile vehicle barricades.

These barricades are not commonly used in our area but are perfect for our needs. The barricades collapse to be stored in a trailer and can be deployed to an event. They protect attendees from someone with a malicious intent but are easy to move to allow access to emergency vehicles. Adding these barricades to our events improves safety for attendees and sets us apart as a public safety leader in our area.
CORE VALUES

TEAMWORK

We work collaboratively across our organizations on common objectives and develop efficient and cost effective systems and processes for campus.

AND

DIVERSITY

We believe the best ideas are born from sharing viewpoints, opinions, and perceptions from colleagues with varied backgrounds and experiences.

We work with the entire university community to prepare for and respond to any emergency we might face. It is critical that we work effectively as a team with everyone from Facilities Services to the Austin Police Department during an emergency. We value the input and opinions of the entire university community as well as our regional partners. In 2019, we worked with our partners to plan and coordinate special events, held new training opportunities to bring our many partners together, and continued to build our Building Emergency Management teams to ensure that the entire campus is involved in preparing for any emergency.

When activated, the Emergency Operations Center is staffed by partners from many fields, including law enforcement, emergency medical services, facilities services, and more. The Emergency Operations Center is where everyone comes together to respond to an incident or manage an event.
SPECIAL EVENTS
When large events like home football games or commencement happen on campus, we work with our diverse network of colleagues both within the University and in the local area to ensure that every event can happen. To do this, we bring together partners in law enforcement, emergency medical services, campus safety, campus services and more in the Emergency Operations Center. Assembling in one location helps make sure that everyone can quickly coordinate efforts to solve problems and respond to incidents during the event.

NCS4
In 2019, we had the unique opportunity to host a diverse group of Central Texas regional partners to learn the best practices in sport and special event evacuation and protective actions. Representatives from law enforcement, emergency management, health and safety, and venue management all came together to learn the best practices in special event safety and security to apply across a wide range of events.

BUILDING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Every building on the main campus has a dedicated team to respond to any emergency that happens in a building. Each building’s team represents the unique departments that occupy the building and understands their specific needs. We work with each of these teams to develop an emergency plan for the buildings, help train them on the plan, and facilitate exercises that see how the plan works in action. We were able to develop many Building Emergency Plans in 2019 and look forward to expanding this program to our Pickle Research Campus in the coming year.
In the Office of Emergency Preparedness, we believe it is our duty to ensure that the university is prepared to respond to and recover from any emergency or disaster that may come our way. We cannot control the weather or the nefarious intentions of bad actors, but we can control how prepared we are and what we do if the worst should happen. It is our job to take care of the resources entrusted to the university in a time of crisis and adhering to the compliance requirements set upon us helps us do that. Overseeing the University's Emergency Plans, safety hubs, and emergency notifications are just some of the ways we ensure that we are ready for anything.

Incident Action Plans and Operational Plans are critical components of our emergency preparedness program.
UNIVERSITY EMERGENCY PLANS

Texas Education Code and University of Texas System policy requires that we have an Emergency Operations Plan that addresses the emergency management needs of the university. We are committed not just to meeting this compliance standard, but to ensuring that our plans are the best possible quality. We review our Emergency Operations Plan annually to make updates, changes, and revisions. In 2019, we added additional operational plans that address specific situations or hazards not directly addressed in the Emergency Operations Plan.

SAFETY HUBS

Safety Hubs are just one of our creative programs designed to reduce any loss of life on campus. Each Safety Hub contains an Automated External Defibrillator, bleeding control (tourniquet) kits, a sign with the building’s name and address, and an emergency call box with a direct line to the University police department’s 911 center. In 2019, we completed the installation of the safety hubs on the main campus and expanded the program to the Pickle Research Campus.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

Federal statute requires that we notify the campus community in the event that a situation poses an immediate threat to campus. Our office is responsible for the maintenance, testing, and upkeep of many of our emergency notification technologies. Taking care of these resources is one of our most important functions and we always try and go above and beyond the minimum requirements. In 2019, we had the exciting opportunity to host a symposium on Emergency Notification in Higher Education. This gave us the opportunity to collaborate with and learn from other institutions what the best practices are to ensure we can provide timely information to our community in the event of an emergency.
CORE VALUE

SERVICE

We are customer service oriented and offer responsive, reliable and seamless support.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness is proud to serve as the subject matter expert for emergency management at the University. We are always happy to help share our knowledge with other departments, partners, and groups with questions about what they need to do to make sure they’re prepared. We work hard to be accessible and offer timely support that our colleagues can trust.

CHARTER SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLAN

In 2019, our office had the opportunity to help a new partner prepare for an emergency: The University of Texas Charter School. New legislation required The University of Texas Charter School to develop a Multi-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan. The Office of Emergency Preparedness was pleased to assist the charter school by lending our expertise to help the school meet its statutory requirements and improve its preparedness.
REUNIFICATION

In 2019, the Youth Protection Program came to the Office of Emergency Preparedness with a problem: The University hosts thousands of youth throughout the year in a variety of academic and sports programs. In an emergency, how would we be able to reunite these children with their parents? The Office of Emergency Preparedness was more than happy to help Youth Protection Programs develop a plan for youth reunification. This plan addresses the logistics of gathering children in a safe location, communicating with parents, and ensuring that children were reunited with their parents quickly and safely.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

We rely on our fellow staff members to help respond to an emergency on campus. As such, it is our responsibility to provide training opportunities to support our colleagues. This helps ensure not only that our staff and the University’s staff involved in emergency response are prepared, but also confident in their abilities. In 2019, we were able to participate in exercises with local and regional partners including the Austin Public Health and Army North. We also hosted tabletop exercises with our campus partners to help ensure that our entire team is prepared for any emergency we may encounter. On two occasions, other departments requested specific tabletop exercises to test their plans internally, and we were happy to help facilitate those exercises. Training and exercises are just one of the areas where we strive to provide excellent service to our colleagues.
BECOMING DISASTER RESILIENT

OUR ULTIMATE GOAL

Disasters can occur at any time and cause a wide range of damage. Many times, the damage could be limited or prevented through comprehensive pre-disaster planning and mitigation. Resiliency is the ability to minimize the potential impact hazards have to a particular area. The Office of Emergency Preparedness strives to develop and implement resiliency efforts across campus to make the University of Texas at Austin a disaster resilient university.

A disaster resilient university recognizes the threats that are posed to its particular campuses, develops, and implements actions that will minimize or mitigate these threats. The commitment to become a disaster resilient university cannot be completed without an extensive partnership and collaboration with many on-and off-campus stakeholders. The programs, plans, and actions that our office develops and implements are designed to withstand the effects of the possible hazards by limiting the losses and interruptions to the University, thus becoming a disaster resilient university.
Celebrating Commencement and the Class of 2019. UT Austin Facebook.