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News Release

IAEM-USA Announces the 2024 Student Advocate of the Year

Oct. 22, 2024 (Falls Church, Va.) – The Awards & Recognition Committee of the U.S. Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) has selected Alvin Galang as the IAEM-USA 2024 Student Advocate of the Year. The award will be presented at the President’s Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Nov. 20 at the 72nd IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Alvin Galang 2024 IAEM-USA Student Advocate of the Year Recipient

Alvin Galang, from San Jose, California, was selected for Student Advocate of the Year. Alvin has successfully worked with San Jose State University students to provide internships within the San Jose Office of Emergency Management. He did a great job of exposing new students to the field – one of whom is now looking to take a job there. Despite not being a formal student advisor to a chapter or university, Alvin has gone out of his way to impact the students significantly and has supervised several interns. By bringing new disciplines and expertise to the OEM, the students and the agency have benefitted from new perspectives and added new value to the EM programs. In addition, Alvin has frequently supported EM students and the university program by presenting as a guest speaker in several classes, providing guidance and mentorship to students in the program, and providing students within the program additional opportunities to work on OEM projects and understand what it’s like to be an EM. Alvin has strengthened the overall relationship between the city, the university, and the university emergency manager. Because Alvin has gone above and beyond his regular job duties, he exemplifies what it looks like to serve as a non-traditional student advocate for emergency management.

The IAEM Student Advocate of the Year Award recognizes an individual (IAEM member or non-member) or organization that has assisted, promoted, or supported students in their activities in emergency management and higher education. Examples could be individuals who ensured student involvement in emergency management programs or someone who guided students toward

participation in IAEM, their professional degrees, or their attainment of the CEM/AEM designation. Since this award combines elements of the former Student Ally of the Year and Student Chapter Advisor of the Year, it may recognize an individual or organization that has made great strides in assisting students in furthering their education and career goals in emergency management.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit organization representing more than 5,800 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters, including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance, the Certified Emergency Manager program, annual scholarships, a comprehensive monthly newsletter, and more.

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