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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

Academics and Authenticity: Strengthening the Relationship Between Emergency Management and Experiential Learning.

Academic success transcends traditional classroom settings, necessitating the integration of life experiences with critical thinking, to nurture a more sophisticated epistemology. Programs such as internships, work-study initiatives, and Provost Experiential Programs, play a pivotal role in providing students with opportunities for real-world learning. These initiatives often delve into current higher education themes, offering insights into the intricate workings of colleges and universities from an emergency management and preparedness perspective. Examining experiential learning outcomes from students engaged in roles within student affairs and emergency management reveals a clear and positive impact on their academic journey.

To date, programs such as development of a virtual resiliency operations platform, potable water storage and distribution plans, mapping life safety device via ARC GIS with geolocation tagging, preparedness posters and Red & Ready life safety response training are outputs of these experiences. Students not only acquire heightened levels of professional experience but also attain tangible achievements, including awards, presentations, and publications. Effectively communicating the value of these experiences and the resulting student successes becomes a crucial aspect of extending academic achievements into authentic applications.

Presentation Theme: Strengthening the relationship between emergency management and experiential learning.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: Dr. Amy Orders, Senior Director NC State University Emergency Preparedness and Strategic Initiatives