



FEMP

**Fire and Emergency Management Administration
Oklahoma State University**
College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology

Spring 2023 Newsletter

Looking Back at 2022 and Forward to 2023

2022 was an exciting year for the Fire and Emergency Management Administration masters and PhD programs. We graduated five MS and seven PhD students, hired a new faculty member, hosted our first pop-up merchandise store, participated in a number of research and professional conferences, and launched a new FEMP tradition. Many of these stories are highlighted below.

2023 is already off to a strong start with one PhD defense and an expectation of at least five more in this calendar year. Faculty and students have already represented the program at conferences and competitions. We are excited for what is on the horizon.

Visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FEMAGP> or LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/okstatefemp/> for the most recent news.

Congratulations to our 2022 Graduates



Spring 2022 Graduates (left)

**Putnam Reiter, PhD
Timothy Murray, MS
Steven Haynes, PhD
Carl Dement, PhD
Mellena Nichols, PhD**

with faculty Tony McAleavy, Marten Brien, and Haley Murphy

Fall 2022 Graduates (right)

**Lance Schneider, MS
Rodney Eksteen, PhD
John Cisar, PhD
Scott Benson, MS
Alina Mizell, PhD
Jace Pine, MS**

Paige Hennighan, MS (not pictured)

with faculty Tony McAleavy, Dale Li, and Haley Murphy



Welcome New Faculty!



Dr. Chen Chen received his PhD in Transportation Engineering at Oregon State University. The courses that he teaches include "Introduction to Emergency Management", "Hazard, Vulnerability, and Risk Assessment", and "Introduction to Evacuation Simulation."

Dr. Chen conducts research in the areas of infrastructure resilience, disasters, transportation safety, and mobility. Specifically, Chen is interested in the consideration of human decisions and behavior in complex systems for emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery. He leverages interdisciplinary studies with people from psychology, public policy, computer science, and engineering to advance our understandings of how to make our society safe, sustainable, and resilient.

Before joining Oklahoma State University, Dr. Chen was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, researching hurricane evacuation and risk communication. He was also a research associate and lecturer at Oregon State University, teaching statics and researching earthquake and tsunami evacuation, protective decision-making, interdisciplinary research in disaster science, and transportation safety and mobility. His studies are published in *Risk Analysis*, *Natural Hazards*, *Earthquake Spectra*, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, *Transportation Research Record*, *Transportation Research Part A*, *Part D*, and *Journal of Transport Geography*, etc...

NAPSG Foundation InSPIRE Conference 2022

The 2022 NAPSG Foundation InSPIRE Conference was hosted at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, October 25 & 26.

On October 25, FEMP faculty and students hosted a panel presentation on Innovative Research Informing Decision Making in Emergency Management.

During the plenary session on October 26, Dr. Haley Murphy joined CEAT Assistant Dean Ed Kirtley, Misty Wise from South Carolina 811, and Justin Kates, Director of Emergency Management in Somerville, MA, to discuss the future of leadership in emergency response organizations.



From Left: Dale Li, Chen Chen, Haley Murphy, Luke Urbane, Tony McAleavy, Vec Wier



New Traditions

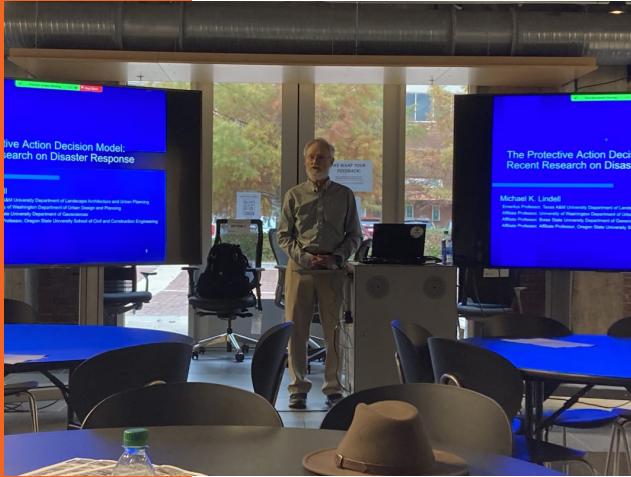
The FEMP Program started a new tradition this year. Dr. Tony McAleavy worked with the university to design challenge coins for the FEMP program featuring Chief Pete. Fall 2022 graduates were the first class of graduates to receive their challenge coins at our graduate reception.

FEMP challenge coins will be back in our 2023 popup merchandise store. Keep an eye out for the dates.



Campus Visitors

On November 9, 2022, two preeminent disaster scholars and two Army Corp of Engineers researchers came to Stillwater to give talks to students and faculty across the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. After presentations and lunch, our visitors took a tour of the Emergency Operations Center at OSU with FEMP alumnus, Captain Dan Ray.



Dr. Michael Lindell discusses the Protective Active Decision Model



Dr. Chen Chen introduces Elissa Yeates, Army Corp of Engineers



Steven Brown, Research Hydrologist, United States Army Corp of Engineers



Dr. Sudha Arlikatti, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Amritapuri Campus, talks about Inter-institutional Collaboration



Tour of the Oklahoma State University Emergency Operations Center with Captain Dan Ray

Fire and Emergency Management Administration Programs Rank Highly

The FEMP Masters Degree Program was ranked #1 for Online Emergency Management Programs by Online Master's Degrees in 2022



[Best Online Master's Programs in Emergency Management - #1](#)

The FEMP PhD Program was ranked #1 for Online PhD Programs in Emergency Management in 2023 by College Rank. You can read more about the ranking and see a quote from current FEMP PhD student, Brian O'Neill at the clickable link below.

<https://news.okstate.edu/articles/engineering-architecture-technology/2023/ceats-femp-program-ranks-number-one.html>

FEMP Alumni and Current Students Meet at OSU June 2022

FEMP Alumni and Current Students met in Stillwater in June 2022 for a FEMP weekend. The weekend consisted of lunch at a Stillwater favorite, Eskimo Joes, a barbecue for dinner, a tour of campus, the stadium, and the emergency operations center. Thank you to FEMP MS alumnus, Dominic Aquila, and current FEMP PhD student, Justin Matsushita for organizing this weekend. Our favorite thing is to see our students on campus.



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Look for the FEMP Booth at FDIC in Indianapolis, IN, April 2023