



Public Administration Research Colloquium

Organized by the Center for Public and Nonprofit Management (CPNM)

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Incrementalism After the Storm: Measuring the Success of the Evacuation of New Orleans during Hurricane Gustav – Have We Learned Anything?

By **Dr. John Kiefer**, University of New Orleans

Thursday, November 12, 2009

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Business Administration Room 221

Please RSVP by November 11, Wednesday to Fatih Demiroz at fdemiroz@mail.ucf.edu.

Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath have become the touchstone for failure at every level. Subsequently, the measure of hurricane preparedness and response is now compared to the experience of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Hurricanes are complex events, from the warnings to the evacuation, response and recovery. This lecture will discuss the observed changes made in evacuation planning in the New Orleans region since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and measured during the evacuation for Hurricane Gustav in 2008.

Specifically, Dr. Kiefer will discuss changes made in collaborative networks over the past three years. Disparities in network outcomes were specifically addressed by Robert Montjoy, and John Kiefer in 2006 (Incrementalism before the Storm: Network Performance for the Evacuation of New Orleans, *Public Administration Review*, Special Issue, December, 2006, pp. 120-128). Dr. Kiefer will discuss the new collaborative networks formed post-Katrina, and how we at the University of New Orleans used best practices in collaborative networking to identify and implement appropriate planning actions for an effective evacuation of the city's most vulnerable populations.

Dr. Kiefer will conclude by presenting the results of an empirical study of the evacuation experiences of the city's most vulnerable citizens during Hurricane Gustav, and provide implications for future evacuation planning (the subject of a forthcoming book chapter in "Strategic Collaboration in Public and Nonprofit Administration: A Practice-Based Approach to Solving Shared Problems," Dorothy Norris-Tirrell (Ed.), Taylor & Francis, Washington, DC, 2010.)

Dr. John Kiefer is Associate Professor and Director of the Master of Public Administration program in the Department of Political Science at the University of New Orleans (UNO), and faculty associate at the Center for Hazards Assessment, Response and Technology (CHART), UNO's applied hazards social science research center. He is a retired U.S. Marine Corps officer. Professor Kiefer implemented the Hazard Policy specialization within the Master of Public Administration program at UNO, a curriculum that emphasizes the creation of resilient agencies and organizations. He has been principal evaluator for a broad range of programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Department of Homeland Security, State of Louisiana, and several cities, receiving almost a million dollars in grant-related research funding. He serves as Chair of the Section on Emergency and Crisis Management of the American Society for Public Administration and on the Executive Board of the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration.

