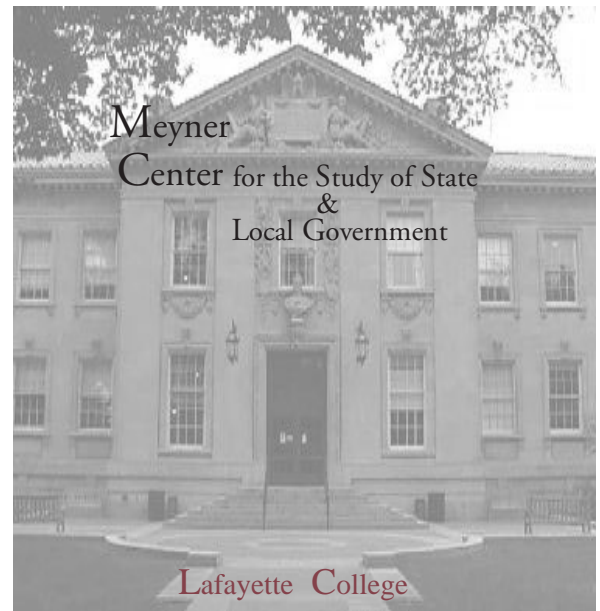


* Scott Wells was appointed by President Clinton to serve as his representative at federally declared disasters in 1999. Mr. Wells has coordinated approximately 30 major disasters and emergencies throughout the United States including Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Columbia Shuttle Recovery Operation, and Tropical Storm Allison in Texas.



We cordially invite you to attend

**When the Next Natural Disaster Strikes,
Will You Be Ready?
The Importance of a Coordinated Response**

Robert B. & Helen S. Meyner Center
for the Study of State & Local Government
with Lafayette Ambassador Bank

The Meyner Center is a non-partisan academic and public-service unit of Lafayette College. As part of our public service to the community, we are holding our fourth annual conference on intergovernmental cooperation free of charge. This year's conference is for local officials, municipal managers, and emergency personnel.

Between September 2004 and October 2005, the Lehigh Valley experienced three floods, which affected the Delaware River and/or Bushkill Creek. Response capabilities varied and some municipalities are still suffering from the damage. Recently, several Councils of Government have begun investigating how they can collectively improve their response to an emergency, including the possibility of establishing regional emergency services. In exploring this alternative, local officials have discovered that many lack awareness regarding the extent of training available for their Emergency Management Coordinators (EMC) and whether their EMCs are getting the training available; basic communication and interoperability of radio equipment; understanding of the incident command structure; knowledge of the contents of emergency operating plans and whether these plans are current or can be effectively implemented; knowledge of the available equipment and personnel in adjacent municipalities; and many EMCs in neighboring communities do not know each other. Many officials are also not familiar with what their role is in facilitating a response or with the role of the county, state and federal emergency management agencies.

Efforts are already underway in many of our communities. Yet, there is more that can be done. This conference will provide information and engage participants in discussion on how to provide a coordinated response among municipalities, counties, the state and federal governments, in order to avoid what happened in New Orleans. The morning program will provide information that will aid in minimizing the potential damage and facilitating a practically seamless response. In the afternoon National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) training will be provided. **All municipal officials and emergency management personnel are required to have NIMS training by September 30, 2006** to be eligible for federal emergency grants.

The goal of this conference is to provide municipalities with the tools and contacts to respond quickly, efficiently, effectively and cooperatively to all hazards.

Conference Schedule

*Meyner Center for the Study of State & Local Government
Lafayette College
May 18, 2006*

7:30 - 8:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 8:15	Welcoming Remarks John Kincaid, <i>Director</i> <i>Meyner Center, Lafayette College</i> Daniel Weiss, <i>President</i> <i>Lafayette College</i> Diane Elliott, <i>Director for Public Service</i> <i>Meyner Center, Lafayette College</i>
8:15 - 9:30	Hazard Mitigation Plan & Local Response Geoffrey Reese, <i>PE, Assistant Director,</i> <i>Lehigh Valley Planning Commission</i> Thomas Nervine, <i>Director of Emergency Services</i> <i>Lehigh County</i> Nicholas F. Tylenda, <i>Coordinator, Emergency Management</i> <i>Northampton County</i> PEMA
9:45 - 10:30	How To Assure A Capable Regional Response: One Model Ed Momorella, <i>Emergency Management Administrator,</i> <i>Abington Township; Member, Eastern Montgomery County</i> <i>Emergency Management Group</i>
10:30 - 11:45	Fundamental Problems with Emergency Management Scott Wells, <i>FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer*</i>
12:00 - 1:15	Luncheon Peter Verga, <i>Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of</i> <i>Defense for Homeland Defense, U.S. Department of Defense</i>
1:30 - 5:30	NIMS Training—IS-700, ICS-100 Thomas Barnowski, <i>Director of Emergency Services Training</i> <i>Northampton Community College</i>