



IFSI NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

2007 has arrived and with it the drumbeat for NIMS and mutual aid. As you may know, Illinois has been a leader in fire service mutual aid for years. The fire service mutual aid models built by MABAS and CART have led to the creation of mutual aid systems for law enforcement, public health, emergency management and public works. These five response disciplines must work together before during and after an incident, in order to have the best chance to save lives and protect property. As IFSI has worked with the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to present training to bring these response disciplines to a common understanding of Unified Command and NIMS, it is clear that there are individuals in each community who are standing up to lead the local effort. We want to help your leaders bring NIMS into everyday usage for planning, response, and recovery operations.

A key product of NIMS is the Incident Action Plan (IAP). At IFSI, we have made the IAP a fundamental part of the way we do business. For every major event (Fire College, Validation, Technician-level courses) we develop and use a written plan using the IAP format. This has the advantage of teaching NIMS as part of everyday planning and operations. Since we have to plan for and conduct these events anyway, we have found that we are actually reducing the confusion and streamlining our efforts by operating off a commonly formatted IAP.

Through the ITTF, we have developed several courses to help you, your department, other response organizations in your community and your community leaders put NIMS into action. The Unified Command Course is a two-day course designed to bring the disciplines together in a focused workshop and transition from routine operations to a significant event in your community. Many communities have provided specific scenarios as the basis for the exercises and tabletop exercises, which have helped kickoff joint planning efforts.

The Command and General Staff course is designed to help create a team of interdisciplinary first response officers and leaders

who will actually develop written plans and conduct operations during a complex emergency involving multiple shifts, responders and mutual aid organizations.

Both of these courses emphasize the application of the NIMS to your local needs. To be useful and effective, you need to use it routinely and as the Home Depot advertisement says "We can help." The registrations for Unified Command training have fallen off from what we have seen in 2005 and 2006, but are picking up again.

Please contact Bill Farnum (wfarnum@fsi.uiuc.edu), if you are interested in the class in your community. If you are interested in more advanced IAP training please contact Joe Gasparich (jgaspari@fsi.uiuc.edu).

To make NIMS live and work when we need it most, we have to use it in everyday plans, operations and interagency dialogue. We have to make our elected officials comfortable in receiving information and making decisions based upon the IAP format. Unfortunately, there is no shortcut. The more you use it the more useful it will become to you and to the effective operations of the many and varied-response discipline's mutual aid systems now in operation in Illinois.

Last Fall, I presented the 17 priorities we established to guide IFSI this year and into the future. I want to ask you for some feedback on our priorities. Are these the priorities you would establish for us to help you and your department? How are we doing in meeting your needs? What are we not doing or offering that you need for training, education and information services? Please take a moment and e-mail me directly at Jaehne@uiuc.edu. I promise that your feedback will be taken seriously and kept confidential.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to your thoughts and comments.

*Richard Jaehne
Director*

See page 19 for information on ICS300 and Command & General Staff classes.

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The Illinois Fire Service Institute Newsletter is the official publication of the Illinois Fire Service Institute, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The Newsletter is published twice a year and is solely an educational and advisory aid to the fire service and individuals working to establish and maintain a fire safe environment in Illinois.

Opinions expressed in the Illinois Fire Service Institute Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official opinions of the Illinois Fire Service Institute unless otherwise noted in the article.

The Illinois Fire Service Institute will consider for publication articles or items of interest to the fire service of Illinois and encourages materials from all fire-related professions for consideration.

Persons interested in furnishing articles, should forward materials to: IFSI Newsletter, 11 Gerty Drive, Champaign, IL 61820 or E-mail information to Terri Hopper at hopper@uiuc.edu. Please include appropriate graphics or digital photos.

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Our website has the most current class information

www.fsi.uiuc.edu

Table of Contents

From the Director	1
News & Notes	3
Table Talk	4
Fire Fighting Training Programs	5
Cornerstone Programs	6
Rescue Programs	8
HazMat Programs	9
Northwest Region	10
Agricultural Program	10
Vehicle/Machinery Program	11
Officer Training Program	12
Women in the Fire Service	13
Investigation and Prevention Program	14
ICS300 and Command & General Staff	15
Wildland Program	16
Firefighter II Academy	16
E Learning	17
Research Update	18
Library Update	19
Explorer/Cadet Conference	20
Corporate Relations	22
Contacts	23

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Ask to be added to the mailing list by email to Terri Hopper (hopper@fsi.uiuc.edu)

OR

A copy is available on our web site.

News & Notes

IFSI has added a new class to help officers and acting officers run a fire or emergency scene. The National Fire Academy has provided us curriculum to teach their 12-hour "NIMS ICS for the Fire Service" class. It meets 100 and 200 levels of NIMS ICS training requirements. We will offer this course at no fee under the "Cornerstone" Program.

We will continue to offer "Fireground Management for Small Career & Volunteer Departments." This is a very basic entry-level class for those who currently do not use any type of formal incident command system. It is being updated to be compatible with NIMS, but it should be followed by more formalized NIMS training, so departments can meet requirements, and also understand how to fit into the state response plan when either receiving or giving mutual aid.

For years IFSI has offered hands-on fire company officer training classes. These classes evolved into our "Fire Company Officer / Fire Command Officer" classes. The most recent class included officers from the Netherlands, Canada and Tennessee as students. We are encouraging enrollment by battalion and other chief officers in the Command section of this class. Initially in the week, company officers and chief officers attend specialized sessions focused on them, and later the groups join for numerous multi-company evolutions in the burn buildings. It is a great opportunity to both learn and share experience. With the nation-wide general decrease in working fires, this hands-on live-fire training for officers has become even more important.

In spite of the cold weather and Super Bowl fever we held another successful Winter Fire School, with a variety of classes and a new evening opportunity to ask questions of experienced fire chiefs. Attendees at both were well pleased according to the CEQs.

However, overall Winter Fire School attendance was down slightly from previous years. We'd like your feedback regarding why you did not attend, or what we can do to make WFS more appealing to you.

- **What classes would you like to see?**
- **If the date of the event is a problem, when would you prefer?**
- **Any other comments you would like to share?**

Please contact Eddie Bain at 217-333-9014 or edbain@fsi.uiuc.edu with your comments and suggestions. We want your input to make WFS and our other classes better.

We have made a further adjustment in the management team for our HazMat Program. Ray Palczynski will remain as the full-time Program Director, but Chris Downey has returned on a part-time basis to help Ray as Program Manager. Either of them can assist you, and they are working together to improve the quality of service provided to you.

*David F. Clark
Deputy Director*

Work is continuing on our series of "Down & Dirty" training packages that we produce with support from the Illinois Firefighter's Association and Underwriter's Laboratory. We expect to distribute "Fireground Support and Aerial Operations" late this spring. This will be followed, hopefully this fall, by "Fire Suppression." The new packages will be in DVD format, so we can include more video footage.



**Instructor
James T. Berggren**

IFSI Field Instructor James Berggren died November 17, 2006. Jim had struggled with cancer in recent years, but that did not stop him from taking a leading role in the production of our "Rural Water & Tender Operations" CD project. He last taught at Fire College in 2005.

Jim started teaching for IFSI in 1969 when it was known as Firemanship Training. He was a nationally-known expert on Rural Water Supply, and taught Essentials, House Burns, Pumps, and Rural Water Supply classes throughout Illinois. For many years he presented at FDIC and state and regional fire schools across the nation. Jim was a mentor and role model for many firefighters and instructors. He also served as Chief of the Serena FPD. A memorial scholarship has been established at IFSI in his name.

Table Talk

'MAC'
McCastland
Associate
Director

The day you are reading this is a much better day than the day it is being written. The finger is hacking away at the magic machine on 13 February 07. In looking out the office window, the snow is being propelled sideways with wind bursts in the 40mph range, the 8 plus inches of snow is blasted into major drifts — not on the yard — but right smack in the driveway. As I sit in the warmth of my office, my thoughts go back about a year or so, when I had the opportunity to speak with a Candidate Firefighter who was at the tail end of recruit class and looking forward to being assigned to a Company.

The thing that makes this short conversation so memorable was the serious tone of the young man's voice when he stated that he was hoping to get a "slower company" where he could sit back and collect all the benefits the Department provided. Wait — it gets better, he went on to say that he was second generation and the very solid advice he received from his father — are you ready for this — "remember you don't get paid by the run??"

It's tough to think that if you start out as a "slug," things are going to kindle a passion within you for the job. I wonder if the day will arrive for this young man that "while you may not get paid by the run" on any single run you can collect your final paycheck.

Across the country fire duty is down, gentrification is alive and transforming the inner city landscape. Fire Companies that used to be solid nuts and bolts "basic skills" masters have lost many of those proficiencies. On the other side of the coin — no one has told Mother Nature that she needs to create a friendlier, kinder fire. I'm not smart enough to predict where the young man I spoke with will end up. I also doubt that he will have the courage to admit that he could better serve the world by working at K-mart. I do feel that the attitude displayed by this Candidate is all too often the norm rather than the exception.

And now let's talk a little about the world of IFSI. We just put the cap on a very good year of pro-

viding training to the Fire Service community. Internally there were some changes in personnel, realignment of duties, and getting a better handle on the needs of those we serve.

In mid '06, IFSI entered into a partnership with IAFF-Local 2, the International IAFF, and a local company OAI to provide HazMat Tech "A" training to members of the Chicago Fire Department. This program is ongoing with the training being provided at Local #2 headquarters on 43rd Street. Teams of IAFF instructors and IFSI field staff are providing the instruction. Additionally, we are continuing to work with the Chicago Fire Department on the delivery of training to newly-promoted Officers, as well as Company level and specialized training.

During the Fall of '06, we had members of the Milwaukee FD, HURT (Heavy Urban Rescue Team) attend the Structural Collapse Technician program at IFSI. These lads have been around the U.S. taking all of the Collapse programs being offered (yes, even the "big named" ones) and they told us that the IFSI program was the most realistic and demanding they had attended. This is a reflection on the group of IFSI field staff who have put their hearts and souls into this program. Thanks "DOGS."

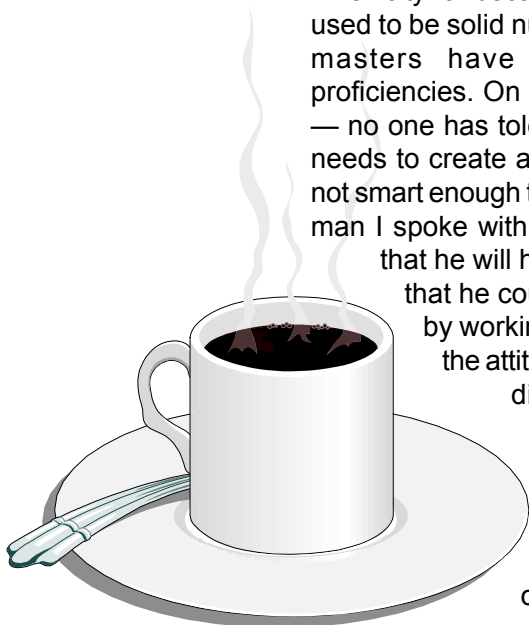
From the team training aspect, we are gathering all the updated team training rosters for the State deployable TRT & HazMat. June is going to be a rather busy month with the fourth annual TRT validation and the first annual HazMat validation.

By the time this edition hits the street, the ITTF will be in the process of negotiating the '07 Federal HSGP (Homeland Security Grant Program) funds. These monies will be used to provide training to the rostered members of the State HazMat and TRT Teams. If you are a Team Leader or a team member, let's make every effort to cash in on this training opportunity, while the funding is still being allocated.

Well this should fill up a column or two, so we'll strike it out.

Take care and stay safe,

MAC



Fire College Here Before You Know It

Once again, the Annual Illinois Fire College is on the horizon. The brochure has been mailed to all Illinois Fire Departments, and is available for download on the IFSI website. In this issue of the IFSI newsletter, I'd like to bring you up to speed on what's been changed from previous years.

The first change is the cost. For the first time in four years, I have had to increase the fees for Fire College to keep the program at a break-even level. Even with the increased fees, I offer that this program is the most "bang for your buck" that is available for fire service training in a conference of this size, or larger. Compared on a cost-per-hour basis to other schools with our audience, the Illinois Fire College remains \$5 per hour less expensive than the next comparable school. Additionally, with registration, each student will receive a pass for one Fire College T-Shirt and lunch on Friday and/or Saturday. These two items reflect your feedback from previous Fire College course evaluations.

I understand that as public agencies any fee increase is dramatic, but the reality is that costs to run the event have increased since 2003 with no corresponding increase in the fees. Wherever possible, we have added additional value to programs. Note classes such as the Incident Command 300 Train-the-Trainer, Advanced Response to LPG Emergencies, and Basic Wildland class where IFSI has partnered with other state and federal agencies to offset costs. If you have suggestions for other partnerships, please let me know.

This year also marks the return of Fire College to more familiar hotels. While the event

is still larger than any single venue in Champaign-Urbana can support, the Fire College Team and I have worked to make the process as friendly to you, the students, as possible. In the brochure, you can identify which locations your classes will be held at so that you may select rooms at the corresponding hotel. The Hilton Garden Inn will host most of the classroom sessions, with some classes initially meeting at the Hawthorne Suites. Lodging rates and information is available on the IFSI web site.

The University of Illinois Assembly Hall returns as the registration and transportation hub for the event. All students MUST check in at that location at least one hour prior to the start of their first class.

While all classes are listed in the brochure, there are a few that bear special mention. This year IFSI will be offering a basic Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) class to help the statewide CISM teams meet this initial training requirement. Additionally, we have several classes that are crafted as refresher training for members of Statewide Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Teams and Industrial Fire Brigade Members. We have maintained the majority of the hands-on fire fighting programs while expanding our EMS and Officer offerings, including a new panel-format class on current issues in the fire service across our state called Table Talk.

*I look forward to seeing you in Champaign early this summer, and welcome your thoughts and feedback about the direction *Your* Annual Fire College can head.*

*Brian R. Brauer
Assistant
Director*

*Fire Fighting
Program
Director*

**83rd Annual
Fire College**

**May 30 - June 3, 2007
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois**

**Training
So That
Everyone
Goes Home**

Fish Stories -- Cornerstone Update

Greg Fisher

Cornerstone
Program
Director

As I begin my 28th year at the Illinois Fire Service Institute and reflect on all the growth in facilities, staff and curriculum I can't help but look at the concept behind the Cornerstone Program. Formerly referred to as the "Reimbursable" Training Program, Cornerstone became the moniker after examining the purpose of the Grant from the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. It's goal tracks very well with Webster's definition: "that marks the beginning of building, the basic, essential or most important part; foundation."

Since its inception with the four Essentials and basic water supply and movement classes, a number of "hands-on" practical classes have been added as a part of that foundation to provide safety and competence on the fire ground and rescue scene.

Fire department inquiries and the Illinois Department of Labor's "two in, two out" generated the need for a class on Firefighter Rescue & Survival Techniques, Thermal Imaging Cameras and Basic Rapid Intervention Team Operations.

Increasing calls related to vehicular and agricultural emergencies have expanded the Basic Rescue classes beyond the Basic Auto Extrication to include larger vehicles, grain bin and agricultural machinery, as well as hazards related to new car technology.

Response to the aftermath and hazards of methamphetamine labs and determining the origin and cause of these and other fires brought about classes on these subjects. Grant initiatives providing new engines, tenders, brush trucks, rescues and

aerial devices generated classes in their operation, deployment, tactics and related fundamentals.

Federally-mandated courses on National Incident Management System (NIMS) and renewal of efforts in the Fire Ground Management for Small Career and Vol-

unteer Fire Departments provide a preliminary understanding of managing emergency resources. The hands-on tactical level classes were added to introduce the tactical priorities and associated tasks to the new company officer and to strengthen the ability of the working supervisor already functioning in that role.

The decreasing stock of safe, structurally-sound acquired structures for live burn classes make the IFSI house burns more important in light of recent tragedies in the East where death and injuries have occurred apparently as a result of improper preparation and procedures.

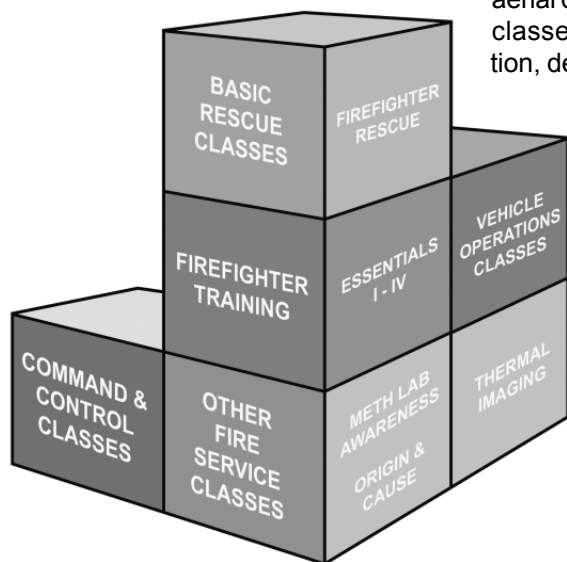
Some other grant initiatives on the Cornerstone Request for Training Form provide no-cost classes from the National Fire Academy, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois Propane Education and Research Council. Command-level classes for the company and department officers, wildland fire fighting, and dealing with fires involving liquefied petroleum gas are to name a few.

The Certified Firefighter II classes in Module Form are currently no longer available. Departments providing their own "in-house" certification can obtain help with practical instruction and signoff through the many Essentials and assorted Cornerstone classes.

Another Cornerstone change is that of the upcoming addition of Technical Rescue Awareness Online. With 38 Technical Rescue Teams now deployed throughout the state via Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Terrorism Task Force, non-affiliated departments are encouraged to have this course to prepare for the arrival of a team to maintain control and safety of a scene. Arrangements must be made after a web class to test with the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

The course can be provided for county, regional, and MABAS Divisions schools provided there are multiple departments involved with a minimum of 24 pre-registered students. The post-test administered at these classes will be the State Certification Test.

Input and ideas for classes that are fundamental for fire departments to "do their job" at the task and tactical level are welcome. Cornerstone is all about getting it done on the scene.



I would be remiss in writing this article if I did not mention a Cornerstone of the Fire Service Institute that passed away late last year. For many of us getting involved in the fire service in the 1970s 1980s, Jim Berggren was THE expert on getting “the wet stuff on the red stuff.” A chief in a district without water, he created ways to store, transport, and supply water on the fire ground in ways that rivaled some folks with class one water systems.

In my first Fire College class as an instructor, I was assigned to assist Jim in a Rural Water Supply class. He made me feel I could contribute by using me as his assistant and walking me through the set up. He talked...I worked and learned in the process.

In the class, Jim talked me through checking out the valves for leaks, tightening the hard suction line, operating the priming device, drawing water and maintaining a supply. He further managed to make it an entertaining class. Chief Larry Kearns from Tolono Fire Department provided the “tanker” and he and Jim “walked” me through the process: place the

low level strainer on the hard line ... make sure I was IN the port-a-tank placing the device in the lowest portion of the “pool” with my 3/4 boots on ...and then when leaning over to attach a tether to the strainer ...I received a 250 gallon per minute wake up call. Welcome to instructing at Fire College...ego now in check, students and staff getting a good laugh out of it. I learned more about rural water supply that day than I ever thought possible.

The number of fire service representatives that braved the cold and aftermath of a blizzard to attend Jim’s memorial in Serena was impressive. As I sat and listened to the many eulogies at his memorial and looked around the room, I saw many former students in their dress uniforms with a lot more snow on their mountain tops. A picture of Jim we will never have, since he never aged to those of us that learned so much from him.

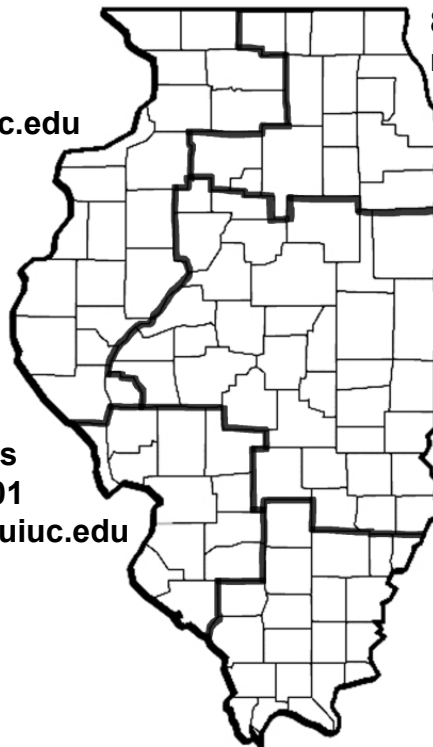
Jim’s dedication to his two families — Bette and the kids — and the Illinois Fire Service will be missed terribly. God Speed, Jim.

Cornerstone Regions

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Rescue Program Update

Greg Fisher
Rescue
Program
Director

As the Program Director for the Rope and Confined Space Rescue classes, I can say this coming calendar year will be busier than the last — with more than 40 classes on the schedule. Information is available on the IFSI web site.

As the Institute strives to bring all Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) Technical Rescue Teams to the baseline level of proficiency, funding has been maintained to complete this task for the 2007 calendar year. The funding also allows for maintenance of those teams as members step down. The Task Force's goal to continue the investment is manifested in Department of Homeland Security approved curriculum, equipment, material and Regional Training Centers. This investment includes the course fee.

IFSI and ITTF have forged partnerships with many different departments to provide Technical Rescue Training props in various

locations throughout Illinois. This regional approach requires some advanced planning. IFSI must make a decision on classes 30 days out — to confirm staff, line up equipment, and secure facilities. Many of the students need a 30-day window to make the arrangements with their administration to provide the backfill or address overtime issues.

Students taking the class on their "own dime" often arrange their vacations and shift trades well in advance, as do some of the instructional staff. With so many regional choices the class enrollments are, literally, all over the map. This often means cancellation due to small enrollments in many classes. Classes have been cancelled two to three weeks out, only to have additional enrollments received five to ten days from class. Please plan ahead and have the registration forms in 30 days before the class begins. Team members should confirm their status on the training team roster prior to enrollment to avoid being charged. All other issues pertaining to reimbursement are in accord with current ITTF policy. Specific questions should be directed to ITTF in Springfield.

With the facilities now available in Frankfort and the Northern Illinois Public Safety

Training Agency in Glenview, a link to the teams in that part of the state will allow for baseline training in the approved courses, as well as bringing up to speed, those designated "Train the Trainers" within the teams.

Confused?

Occasionally students sign up for classes and do not meet the prerequisites for a given class. Often the confusion revolves around our class requirements and certification requirements from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The certification program is a tremendous vehicle in which to develop skills and track training throughout a given discipline. This should not be confused with the IFSI prerequisites for actually taking a training course for the purpose of fulfilling the required training to meet the IEMA Illinois Terrorism Task Force designated teams.

An example where confusion may exist is our SWMD: Rope Rescue Operations class. Participation requires being a member of a fire department or emergency service agency that signs off on student involvement.

To certify with the Illinois State Fire Marshal currently, you must be a Certified Firefighter II, certified at Technical Rescue Awareness level, and successfully completed and tested for either Vertical Rescue I, Rope Rescue Operations, OR Ropes and Rigging. The IFSI - SWMD: Rope Rescue Operations class meets or exceeds the OSFM requirements for these classes.

When you move on to a Technician level class there are other practical "hands-on" issues involved. An example is the SWMD: Confined Space Rescue Technician class. Rope Rescue Operations (OR equivalent), Rope Rescue Technician OR Vertical Rescue II, AND Confined Space Operations are all required classes prior to enrollment. (Hazardous Materials and Vehicle Machinery Operations are recommended but not yet required). Again, certification with OSFM is *NOT* required. Having the skill sets from each of the prerequisite classes is required.

For team members delaying enrollment due to certification, I would invite you to contact the Rescue Program Coordinators or go to the IFSI website to verify prerequisites for the discipline you are interested in. Feel free to e-mail me at gafisher@fsi.uiuc.edu and I'll be more than happy to forward the inquiry to the appropriate person.

Web navigation for Rescue Program Classes

www.fsi.uiuc.edu

Courses

Browse Catalog

Choose subject

Choose class

Scroll down to find upcoming dates

Who You Gonna Call for HazMat?

Last year saw many changes in the Hazardous Materials Division at the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI). As 2007 unfolds I'd like to share the makeup of the IFSI HazMat team.

Chris Downey has returned as the part-time Program Manager. Chris will be in the office several days a week as his shift schedule allows. His responsibilities will be curriculum management and development along with budget maintenance. Chris will also work with the team that manages and deploys the HazMat equipment.

Ann Jack-Haluzak is the oil that keeps our HazMat machine running smoothly Monday through Friday and is the main point of contact at the Institute for hazardous materials programs. She takes care of all class scheduling and instructor assignments, and manages printed materials and kit distribution for Institute and state classes. I could fill ten paragraphs describing Ann's many other abilities and responsibilities but there isn't space. Thank you for the courtesies you have extended to Ann during the transition period. She truly carries more than her share of the load and is a prized asset. Contact Ann for questions about types of classes, scheduling, locations and times.

Mark Berg is the manager of the continually growing IFSI rolling fleet and plays an integral role in keeping the vast fleet of HazMat vehicles and trailers running and getting them in the right place at the right time. He and his team build and stock our units and have done a terrific job from the chlorine trailers up to the top-of-the-line fifth wheel tech trailers. Without Mark's efforts and those of Joyce, Tim, Randy and Mike, your experiences on the road would be much different.

Jody Beccue is the person who processes all the paperwork for HazMat programs Monday through Friday. Questions related to IFSI registration and certifications should be directed to Jodi.

*Ray Palczynski
HazMat
Program
Director*

Thank you for your continued professionalism when dealing with these folks.

I am currently occupying the Director's seat. I share space with Chris at the Institute and continue to maintain my home office. As we move through 2007, we are going to continue to deliver classes based on customer needs. Needs will be cross-referenced against location of similar training and length of time since the last similar training occurred. In other words, you in the fire service need to let us know what you need and when you need it. We will do our best to meet your needs so long as you give us a reasonable amount of lead-time. The bottom line — we want to place the training where you tell us it needs to be. We anticipate supporting the T-T-T efforts of the state TRT and HazMat teams. With ten trainers built into each team, our mission may change. Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas on how the hazardous materials division can support your training efforts.

*Stay Safe!
Ray Palczynski*

How to reach the HazMat team

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Jody Beccue • 217-244-6674 • jbeccue@fsi.uiuc.edu
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Northwest Region Cornerstone Update

*Ray Palczynski
Northwest
Regional
Representative*

The 2007 training season is off to a fast start in the northwestern and western regions of the state. The Quincy Regional Training Center (RTC) hosted its first ever regional fire school March 2nd and 3rd. A Quad-City RTC fire school will be held Saturday, May 19 and Sunday May, 20. The annual Galesburg School will be Saturday August, 25. There are also many weekend events being held throughout the region. Most have several classes offered over the course of a weekend. Remember, all are welcome to ANY Cornerstone class ANYWHERE! Check the web calendar for the latest classes and locations.

I want to thank those departments and organizations in the region that I serve for their patience and understanding as I adjust to the

dual responsibilities of Hazardous Materials Program Director and Northwest Regional Representative. My counterparts in the Cornerstone Program all wear two hats. Now, I do too. With the various means of communication at our disposal I will continue to try to return any contact within a 24-hour period. If I have to be away from the office, I will post away messages on both telephones and on e-mail.

Keep in touch & stay safe!

Ray

Agricultural Program – Out There for Rural Community

*Duane Bales
Metro-East
Cornerstone
Representative
and
Agricultural
Program
Director*

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) will once again be participating at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur at the end of August. If you have not ever been to one it is well worth going to at least one of these when it is held in Illinois. The show consists of the equivalent of three square city blocks of tents and displays in addition to all of the equipment agriculture manufacturers display outside of that area. People from all over North America and beyond fly in for the three-day event to see what is the latest in agriculture equipment and supplies. This show is similar to the Detroit auto show — but with farm equipment. The one difference is that if you want to

try out a piece of equipment, there are fields that you can take that piece of equipment out to test. IFSI will be participating at the show displaying how we can help the rescue personnel in agriculture rescue training.

Last year, GSI donated a portable grain bin prop to IFSI. This allows us to take the prop on the road to train personnel in proper ways to safely and rapidly make openings in the bin using various types of rescue tools. In addition, this prop can be used in teaching

personnel the proper way to secure a ladder to the bin for using it to raise/lower personnel and equipment safely into the bin.

Farm rescue training, offered by IFSI, can cover all kinds of rescues on a farm and be adapted to the needs of the local department.

Anhydrous Ammonia Awareness is another class being offered. This is a three-hour classroom that can be expanded if we have access to an anhydrous facility. The facility provides a venue to learn how the loading/off loading procedures are handled.

These classes are all offered under the Cornerstone Program at no cost to the Department. Should you want one of these classes for your department, fill out a Cornerstone request for training form and send it in to us.

***See IFSI at the
Farm Progress Show
August 28 - 30, 2007
Decatur, Illinois***



To find out what Agricultural classes are being offered near you, visit the IFSI web site at www.fsi.uiuc.edu and follow the COURSES links to BROWSE CATALOG.

Tools, New Vehicles and Vehicle Program

A new year has begun with all new hydraulic tools donated to us from the manufacturers. Amkus, Centaur, Genesis, Holmatro and Hurst have all given us their most up-to-date tools to use for extrication training. This way we have the best tools available to train with. We thank the Equipment Management Company, AEC, MES, 5 Alarm and Towers for their involvement in helping us acquire the latest tools

Many times departments send personnel to our classes to help them determine which tools they are most comfortable with. Now we can show them the latest tools on the market, in addition to getting the best training we can provide. With this in mind, the tools do not just stay at the Institute, through the Cornerstone program or Request for Training, we will bring our tools to your facility depending on the request.

State Farm Insurance is offering us various components of vehicles for us to cut on. Even though we may not have a complete new vehicle most of the time, the areas of concern for cutting will be available for us to look at and practice cutting on. Hopefully, this year for our 40-hour extrication classes, some of the vehicles in the class will be the newer ones on which to practice.

Remember, the three-hour class on New Car Construction, all classroom, is available through Cornerstone. With the Basic Auto class, we will spend most of the time doing hands-on training — learning different techniques to follow because of the ways the cars of today are built. With the Advanced Auto class, we will practice techniques on vehicles that are rolled over, lying on the side, on top of another vehicle or involved with other obstacles. Once again these techniques will challenge the rescuer in making sure safe procedures are performed while testing their ability to do the extrication procedure.

*Duane Bales
Vehicle/
Machinery
Program
Director*



Upcoming Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Classes

		Starts
Vehicle/Machinery Operations	Kankakee	May 4 (over two 3-day weekends)
Vehicle/Machinery Operations	Melrose Park	May 7 - 11
Advanced Auto Extrication	Neoga	May 18 (over two 3-day weekends)
Vehicle/Machinery Technician	Champaign	May 21 - 25
Vehicle/Machinery Operations	Glenview	June 25 - 29
Vehicle/Machinery Technician	Kankakee	August 3 (over two 3-day weekends)

***MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Galesburg Summer Fire School
Saturday, August 25th
Galesburg Regional Training Center***

Do Officers Need to be Re-Trained?

Paul Segalla
Officer Program
Director

As we contemplate rewriting the curriculum for the Fire Officer 1 and Fire Officer 2 series courses, it has become apparent that we are in an ever-changing world and dealing with new issues each and every day.

The core courses in this program consist of four management classes that try to reflect what the majority of the officers work life entails. These four classes present 160 hours of management theory and practice, using a variety of teaching methods and applications. The backbone of the program is to compliment department training which prepares the officer to lead others functioning in rare life and death situations.

In reviewing the contents of the fire officer training program, an interesting paradox has to be contemplated. If we deliver new material for future students to be better prepared for life as an officer, what do we do with the officers who are currently functioning in the field? We have to also consider that some current officers have never attended one formal training course, but have learned to be good officers through their own experiences and intuition.

One of the problems with learning only through experience is the lack of consistency. A standardized curriculum allows for a reliable method of delivering management training based on hundreds of years of varied experiences and proven theories. The problem with applying theories to the fire service is that they don't always fit the situation very well.

So what is the best solution? We think that refocusing the management courses to address more leadership type issues will be advantageous. Has the fire service evolved to a point that leadership should be the main focus of 160 hours of training?

The past few years have shown that the current content in all of the officer classes needs a fresh look and a definite need exists for addressing the emerging workforce or the next generation of firefighters. The issues that are presented by rookie firefighters sometimes can baffle even the most seasoned fire officer. The new firefighters are coming to us as a much more educated group overall and with

expectations that some veteran firefighters cringe at.

Are these management issues or leadership issues and what impact do they have on providing emergency services? As someone who entered this service with a college degree and several years of firefighting experience, I can feel for both the seasoned officer and for the new employee. The demands on officers have increased over the years and the expectations from the bosses (both fire service and the public) are difficult to stay ahead of. As a member of the "new breed" some 20 years ago, I had to deal with officers who were shocked at someone who started on day one with a Firefighter 3 certificate, a college diploma and felt that officers should train, challenge and provide a safe working environment for me.

So are the challenges really different for today's officers? The "20-something's" of today have been brought up with a different set of circumstances and are a much more demanding and critical group than we are used to. They have been exposed to much more technology and expect that knowledge will come to them through the use of a number of multimedia experiences. Generally, they are much more intelligent than the previous generation and when they enter the fire service, they are not really stimulated by the fact that we are putting them through an intensive training academy that will allow them to function as a member of a firefighting and rescue team. A normal part of their daily routine includes e-mail, text messages, I-Pod music, video games, wireless communication, and instant information. The Calgary (Canada) Fire Department has recently added a full-time position of "Cultural Change Manager" to its ranks. This was done to try and help the new firefighters adapt to the culture of the fire service and to try and help the veteran firefighters understand the culture of their newest members.

A common theme reflected by officer students is that the role of the fire officer can be closely associated with that of a babysitter. I strongly disagree with that. There are certainly wives, families and even parents who have entrusted us to care for their loved one while they are away from them. The difference is

The difference is that no parent would ever trust a babysitter to take their child into a burning building and knowingly risk both of their lives.

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that no parent would ever trust a babysitter to take their child into a burning building and knowingly risk both of their lives. Perhaps the officer is a little closer to a camp counselor who is entrusted to build confidence, provide safety, learning and bring a little bit of calculated risk and a lot of fun. This person is viewed as fair, unbiased and caring and also serves as a role model. But most of all, this "counselor" chooses to lead and the side benefit is that followers follow.

One of the biggest challenges officers face and will continue to face comes with the issue of discipline. As a service, we have a certain expectation of discipline and the new firefighters have been self disciplined for a good part of their lives. In a world where people count on rescuers to come and serve without prejudice, a certain amount of discipline is required for these actions to be successful. Our new members are part of modern society, citizens who have a great deal of freedom and rights. The discipline that is needed commonly comes to us in the form of orders that must be followed. Officers must be the ones to train their members with the discipline that you just can't choose on a whim which orders or policies you will follow. There simply is not time to

try to determine this while working at an emergency scene.

So we cannot go back in time, and we cannot make the time from the past fit the present circumstances. We have to change the training that officers get so that they can function better as the leaders of their forces and ultimately affect the outcome of a life-threatening situation. Officers will need to learn as a group how to face some of the real life situations that are becoming commonplace today. Therefore, look for some changes in the program that will focus much more on leadership and much less on management. It is our hope that the content will be useful enough to guide new officers to success and stimulating enough to bring in established officers who are struggling with the changing work environment interested in making a difference.

In its simplest form, leadership addresses how to get people to do the things that need to be done and make them feel good about it. One constant for officers that has transcended time and will be useful for the future is applying the golden rule. Treating others, as you would like to be treated has been good advice and will continue to help form the foundation for future officer training.

Fire Service Women of Illinois Plan Fall Training Program

Fire Service Women of Illinois in conjunction with the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) will be sponsoring our 4th Training Weekend. Reserve the dates of Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14 to join us for training. This weekend training is full of hands-on and classroom sessions set on the IFSI Campus. We plan to offer a wide variety of classes that will appeal to women in the Fire Service. This weekend also allows you to train with many other women in the state who fight fire and work in the EMS field.

Fire Service Women of Illinois NFP is a not for profit organization. Our focus is two-fold — help support the career growth of Illinois female fire fighting professionals and support training that will lead to the confidence they need to become the best firefighters they can be. By advancing the education, networking and professionalism among the women of

the Fire Service, we are helping to shape the future of fire fighting.

More information on the training, and our organization can be found on these websites:

<http://www.fswi.org/>

or

<http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 13 - 14, 2007

IFSI Champaign Campus

by Alicia McCoy

“Prevention?”

*Eddie Bain
Fire Investigation
Fire Prevention
Program Director*

The Fire Service continues to face many changes regarding workloads and demands. Homeland security issues now require many department resources and have presented challenges never before imagined. A reactive response to community dangers is often seen as the major focus of a fire department. But I would suggest that one issue remains as an under-addressed focus of most fire departments and emergency agencies. That issue is Prevention!

Prevention strategies have long been studied and analyzed. It has often been reported that prevention-focused solutions to community dangers is one of the most valid, cost-effective and successful approaches to helping solve a community's safety needs. One challenge that continues to evade many departments is how to approach the many fire prevention needs in a community. Small and large departments alike often find the work of fire prevention confusing and sometimes overwhelming. When budgets are challenged, it may be difficult or seem inappropriate to assign funding to programs that appear to channel support away from emergency response. It can sometimes be difficult to justify these programs because immediate results don't always appear. So how can a department begin prevention initiatives? Where do you start?

IFSI offers classes that will help you understand and tackle the fire prevention needs in your community. There are a variety of Firefighter, Fire Officer and Chief Officer pro-

grams designed to help you tackle the areas of inspection, investigation and public education. Some of these classes are available on a regular basis through the IFSI scheduled program. Others are available on a department-focused basis and can be designed to fit the needs of your community.

These classes include: Fire & Arson Investigation, Origin & Cause Awareness, Fire Prevention Principles, Fire Prevention Officer, Honor Guard Training, Public Information Officer, All Risk Public Education, Fire Prevention Public Education, Police Officer Bypass Workshop and Practical Fire Inspection.

Some of these classes function at the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal certification process level or coordinate with the program taught at the National Fire Academy. While others don't involve a certification component, they still remain an important training and education option for all fire departments.

If you are interested in any of these classes or have a prevention need you'd like training or instruction about please contact me. I can be reached by email at edbain@fsi.uiuc.edu or by telephone at 217-333-9014. I look forward to working with you on your prevention instruction needs.

**83rd Annual
Fire College**

**May 30 - June 3, 2007
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois**

**Training
So That
Everyone
Goes Home**

IFSI and IEMA Partner to Deliver ICS 300 Courses Throughout Illinois

If the whole point to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) is to foster co-operation among responding agencies, then shouldn't the course delivery parallel the intent? That is the question that has led to the establishment of a joint training venture between the training department of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI). The sheer number of responders that have to be trained to the 300 level of ICS makes this no small venture. As ICS 300 courses are scheduled throughout Illinois, there has already been a real interest in bringing the classes to various communities. From March through December of 2007, 25 ICS 300 and 16 Command and General Staff Classes have already been scheduled.

The ICS 300 Course is designed for individuals who may assume a supervisory role in expanding incidents. These incidents may extend into multiple operational periods. Some of the topics covered in the ICS 300 course include: unified command, incident assessment and development of objectives to handle the incident, the incident action plan development process, resource management, transfer of command and demobilization planning and execution. The NFA Command and General Staff Class covers many of the same topics, but places an added emphasis on the actual command and general staff positions in the ICS and the development of several incident action plans.

ICS 300 courses are scheduled through IEMA. Command and General Staff Classes are scheduled through IFSI. The interesting thing is that if a person were to take ICS 300 and later take the NFA Command and General Staff classes, they might see many of the same instructors. The truth is that the list of instructors who teach both classes is the same! The content of both courses is similar and this allows instructors to teach both classes. The goal of both courses is to teach the students to prepare for an event that lasts for several operational periods. The goal that the instructors attempt to achieve in both classes is not to teach people how to do a better job with the tactical elements of their responses, but how

to do a better job of managing the resources that they have available to them in those responses.

It was but two short years ago that 34 people came together at IFSI to take the All Hazards Incident Management Class and many of those people went with responders to the Gulf Coast in September to help manage the responses in Mississippi and Louisiana in the aftermath of Katrina. Many of those responders returned with a new mission and that was to help enlighten other responders to the management skills that they had learned and used in their travels. ICS 300 and NFA Command and General Staff are helping to make many of those ideals a reality.

*Joe Gasparich
Homeland
Security
Program
Director*

The ICS 300 course is part of the requirements that many supervisors must meet for their jurisdiction to be considered NIMS-compliant. A list of the requirements for Federal Fiscal Year 2007 can be found on the Illinois Municipal League website at:

<http://www.iml.org/dbs/nims/>.

Local response agencies can find a listing of the ICS 300 Course offerings at:

<http://www.state.il.us/iema/training/Calender.asp>.

The NFA Command and General Staff Classes can be found on the IFSI website at:

<http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/>

then follow these links:

Courses

Browse Catalog

Homeleand Security

**See the IFSI web site for
complete list of
Fire College classes**

www.fsi.uiuc.edu

IFSI Wildland Program

*Eric Goldstein
Assistant Fire
Fighting
Program
Director*

In March 2006 the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), introduced its first-ever Wildland Fire Fighting Program, to better prepare firefighters throughout Illinois to mitigate incidents both in the rural setting and in the Wildland-Urban Interface. The Wildland Fire Fighting Program delivered 15 classes in 2006, covering 13 Illinois counties and completing over 7,500 hours of student training. Participating students were not only members of career and volunteer fire departments, but also from public agencies and the private sector. The Basic Wildland Certification program includes the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's S130/190 courses, as well as a live-burn component. This course is designed to train structural firefighters to safely mitigate wildland fires in their jurisdiction, but does not fulfill all NWCG requirements for a "red card." In 2006, departments burned over 1,000 acres during their wildland training, encompassing every type of



wildland fuel found in the State of Illinois.

The IFSI Wildland Program has been well received by the state and national wildland community. The United States Forest Service and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources have actively participated in the courses and acknowledged their benefit for responders across the state. Indeed, in 2006, crews from a variety of public agencies throughout Illinois, including both career and volunteer firefighters, were dispatched to Type I wildfires in Idaho and Minnesota, where their training proved to be on par with the nations most experienced wildland firefighters.

IFSI Basic Wildland classes are funded entirely through a grant program with the IDNR and are available at no cost to the hosting department. In addition, departments who serve a population less than 10,000 receive a free Nomex jumpsuit for each member completing the course. Beginning in Fall 2007, the Wildland Program hopes to offer 200-level courses, training Illinois firefighters to serve as Wildland Incident Commanders, improve their understanding of wildland fire behavior, and operate more effectively in the Wildland-Urban Interface. As the dangers of wildfires spread from a national to a local level, the IFSI Wildland Program is providing Illinois firefighters with the training and experience they need to protect their communities and themselves.

For more information on the IFSI Wildland Program, please contact Program Manager Tom Richter at trichter@fsi.uiuc.edu or Assistant Fire Fighting Program Director Eric Goldstein at elgoldst@fsi.uiuc.edu.

Firefighter II Academy Schedule is Modified

*Tad Schroeder
Assistant
Fire Fighting
Program Director*

Over the past several months, the Illinois Fire Service Institute's (IFSI) fire fighting program staff has examined the schedule of our Firefighter II Academy, as we attempt to provide the best training experience for recruit-level firefighters in Illinois. In order to provide a renewed emphasis on the task and unit-level skills of the basic firefighter, the Firefighter II Academy has been slightly reorganized, to instill a basic understanding of the fireground roles expected of the recruit firefighter.

In the new schedule, the first few days of Academy are devoted to gaining competency in SCBA usage. The remainder of the first week is dedicated to the task-level skills of the Engine Company — pulling and advanc-

ing lines and securing a water supply. In week two, the students are instructed in Truck Company skills, such as ladder work, forcible entry and search procedures. In weeks three through six, students will work on specialized skills and techniques, and continue to practice and gain proficiency on the skills they have learned throughout Academy.

Our goal of this new delineation is not to restrict firefighters to a given role or apparatus assignment, but to instill in new firefighters, some of whom have no prior experience in the fire service, an understanding of the tasks that they will be assigned on the fireground.

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Ideally, this process will also allow students to develop an inherent understanding of basic fireground tactics and the evolution of events during a fire.

In addition, IFSI staff has created a new mechanism for gaining feedback relative to the ability of Academy to meet the needs of the firefighters and the departments it serves. At the conclusion of the Spring 2007 Academy, two questionnaires will be distributed. The first of these will be sent to the fire chiefs of the departments represented in recent Firefighter II Academies, gauging the ability of Academy to adequately prepare its candi-

dates for service on a fire department. The second questionnaire will be directed to recent Academy graduates, inquiring as to whether they feel that their experience in Academy enabled them to operate effectively as a line firefighter. These questionnaires should deliver useful information, allowing IFSI to increase its level of responsiveness, and ensure the quality of the programs it provides. As IFSI continually re-evaluates its programs to provide the highest level of training available to Illinois firefighters, it is both useful and necessary to alter programs to fit the ever-changing needs and requirements of the fire service.

Spring always brings new beginnings, and this is the case for E-Learning at Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), when we will see the rollout of several new learning tools. One of them will be a new online course. A second will be the next edition to the *Down & Dirty Firefighting Training* packages. The third will be a unique new learning tool that can be accessed by all who wish to learn something new or brush up on some old skills. IFSI is now offering all of our Awareness level online courses at no fee to the student.

Origin and Cause Awareness Online is in the test and evaluation stage and will be available for delivery starting in May. Origin and Cause Awareness Online includes basic fire investigation information for firefighters and fire officers. The program is designed to teach firefighters how to support the fire investigation process, when to call for an investigator, what to do when arson is suspected, and how to protect the scene and potential evidence. Students are provided with all learning materials online and will complete an online test at the end of each unit.

Our next new offering is *Down & Dirty Firefighting Skills* "Fireground Support and Aerial Operations." This addition to the Down & Dirty series is in a DVD format, which is a new format and allows the use of full-length instructional videos. Learners can move through the DVD and select instruction from topics that include aerial construction, limitations, and safety information from Underwriters Laboratories. After gaining a thorough knowledge of aerials, the viewer can move to viewing videos on the practical use of aerials in topics such as proper positioning, use for rescue, masterstream deployment, and roof

E-Learning

operations. To round out training with aerial devices, a portion of the DVD will concentrate on fireground support operations — ones that a truck company would perform. Even though not all fire departments operate truck companies, these operations are still important for safe and effective fireground work. Viewers can choose from such topics as roof operations, forcible entry, and search and rescue. As with past *Down & Dirty Training* packages, the project will be provided to fire departments free of charge through the generous contribution of the Illinois Firefighter's Association and a new partner, Underwriters Laboratories. Look for a late spring mailing of this project.

The third rollout this spring will be a learning tool we are calling "Quick Hit Training." As we all know, putting a quick hit on the red stuff is very effective. Well the same can be said for training during these busy times. Quick Hit Training will be provided to all visitors to the IFSI website. An inventory of short, ten to 15-minute training segments will be posted in Virtual Campus. Training topics will include Officer Training and Development, Fire Fighting, Rescue and Special Operations such as HazMat, Terrorism, and EMS, to start with. Over time, emergency responders will have numerous titles and subjects to choose from. A quick visit to the IFSI site will offer training as needed.

Finally, as the University of Illinois works towards providing Global Campus, IFSI and E-Learning will work as partners to provide the best in computer-based training and education.

*Rich Valenta
E-Learning
Program
Director*

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation - 2nd National Line of Duty Death Prevention Summit

by Gavin Horn
Research
Program
Manager

This March, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation hosted the 2nd National Line of Duty Death (LODD) Prevention Summit in Novato, California. Fire Service, research, and industrial representation from Illinois were very strong among the more than 200 attendees. The goal of this summit was to resolve action items for each of the 16 Life Safety Initiatives developed by a similar conference almost two and a half years ago. Sadly, by inspecting the fatality and injury trends over these 2 1/2 years, there has not been a significant change in either of these statistics. While affecting a change in culture has been identified as the most pressing issue, several tasks were laid out for Fire Service research.

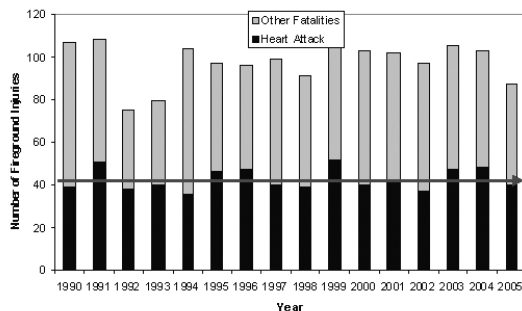
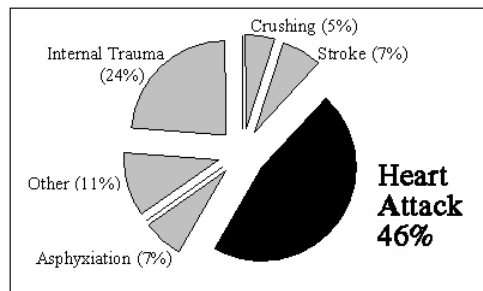
At the same time, the IFSI research program is focused on studying the leading source of fatalities (heart attacks) and injuries (slips, trips, falls and overexertion/strain), and the outcome of this summit only strengthens our commitment to these issues. However, only by a direct linkage between the research and training programs can laboratory science be translated to fire science and distributed to those who can directly implement it: firefighters and officers. The strong collaboration between

these programs at IFSI has this Institute well-placed to help achieve the desired reduction in line of duty deaths and injuries.

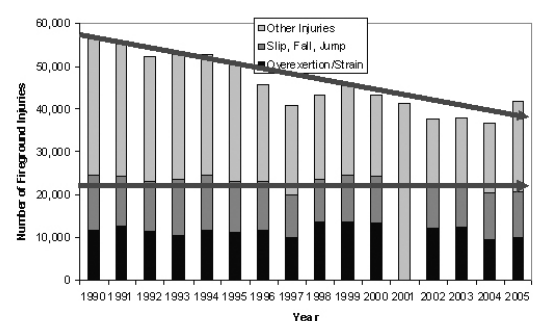
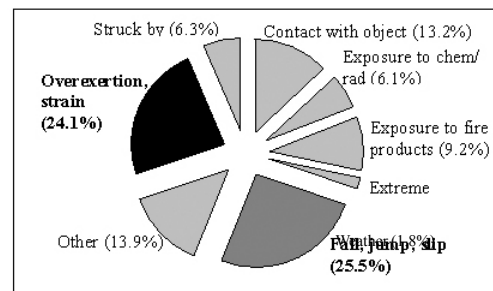
To learn more about the 2nd National Line of Duty Death Prevention Summit, please visit <http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/resources/>. Some critical initiatives to bring awareness to the LODD issues facing the Fire Service were highlighted at this event and include:

- Visit the rolling memorial to Fire Service fatalities and learn first hand about each of the 16 Life Safety Initiatives from the Whistle Stop Tour, which is coming through the Midwest in mid-April. There will be opportunities to meet up with the tour in St. Louis (April 13), Chicago (April 14), and FDIC in Indianapolis (April 18-19): <http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/whistlestop/>
- Take a simple pledge to use everyday technology that currently exists, which has promise to eliminate up to 10-15 LODDs per year: <http://www.firehouse.com/mz/images/2006/6/pledge.pdf>

Fatalities (2005 breakdown and trends)
From: NFPA Journal. July/Aug 1991-2006.



Injuries (2005 breakdown and trends)
From: NFPA Journal. Nov/Dec 1991-2006.



IFSI Library Updates & Highlights

Reference/Circulation Services: Diane Richardson, Reference Librarian, and her team handled 4,041 reference requests in Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006) -- a new record high. Library users borrowed 2,480 items during that time. To learn more about how to navigate the online catalog, please feel free to contact Diane at drrichar@fsi.uiuc.edu, or 217 333-8925.

IFLODD Grant Project: Lian Ruan, Head Librarian, received an LSTA (Library Service and Technology Act) grant, entitled "In Memory of our Heroes: Developing a Digital Image Collection of Illinois Firefighter Line of Duty Deaths (IFLODD)" from the Illinois State Library in October 2006. Archivist Adam Groves and a project student team have worked hard on the project and reached out to a variety of partners throughout the state. Illinois Fire Service Institute field instructors assisted in identifying more than fifty additional line of duty death firefighters previously unknown to IFSI. As of February 2007, the number now reaches 765 LODD firefighters from 106 different organizations. We expect that the number will continue to grow, especially as team members undertake field research and site visits throughout the spring. To view the database, please visit <http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/content/library/IFLODD/>. If you have any information about LODD firefighters missing from the database, please feel free to contact Adam Groves at agroves@fsi.uiuc.edu, or 217 265-6207.

Information Use and Needs of IFSI Field Instructors Survey Project: With approval from Director Jaehne and the Research Review Board of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Lian Ruan, is conducting a study as Principal Investigator, entitled "Information Use and Needs of Field Staff Instructors of Illinois Fire Service Institute." This research study involves 500 field staff instructors throughout Illinois. The purpose of this study is to understand the IFSI field staff instructors' information needs and uses, and their information-seeking behavior. Through the study, we hope to conceptualize the type of information environment that best supports their activities and clarify the IFSI Library's priorities for the development of rich information environments that are responsive to the

context of their work. To fill out the online survey and know more about the project, please visit <http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/content/library/instructors/>. If you need a hard copy of the survey, please contact Lian Ruan at lruan@fsi.uiuc.edu, or 217 265-6107.

Gift Materials Donated to the IFSI Library: The IFSI Library frequently receives gift-in-kind donations from the fire service community. We appreciate your support! If you would like to make a donation, please contact Lian Ruan at lruan@fsi.uiuc.edu, or 217 265-6107.

Featured Titles Added to the IFSI Library

For lending information, please contact the Library (fsi@library.uiuc.edu or 1-800-437-5819).

American Heat: The Art of Smoke Reading (VHS and CD-ROM) — Trinity Workplace Learning.

American Heat: Reducing Deaths in Apparatus (VHS and CD-ROM) — Trinity Workplace Learning.

Fire Prevention: Inspection and Code Enforcement (Book) — by David Diamantes.

First Responder, Your First Response in Emergency Care, 4th ed. (Book and DVD) — by David Schottke.

Fundamentals of Firefighter Skills: Skills and Drills DVD Series (8 DVDs -IAFC and NFPA.

Leading from the Front: No Excuse Leadership Tactics for Women (Book) — by Angie Morgan and Courtney Lynch.

Locomotive Emergency Response Operations (DVD) - U.S. Department of Transportation.

Pulse: Bloodborne pathogens (VHS and CD-ROM) — Trinity Workplace Learning.

Terrorism and Homeland Security: An Introduction with Applications (Book) — by Philip P. Purpura.

Vehicle Extrication (7 DVD set) — Action Training Systems, Inc.

When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts (VHS) — Directed and produced by Spike Lee.

You Need it like a Hole in the Head: Firefighters and Cancer: An Interview with Mark Noble (DVD) — Ergometrics & Applied Personnel Research.

*Lian Ruan
Head Librarian*

2007 National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference

June 18- 22, 2007

by Greg Fisher

The National Fire And Emergency Services Exploring Conference is off and running. The Memorandum of Understanding has been struck with Learning For Life in Irving, Texas. The gathering will kick off on Monday evening, June 18th at the University of Illinois and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI).



Last Fall's newsletter featured a center pullout on the conference -- and we have included it again this issue. The individual and team competitive events are listed with a call for volunteers to staff these events. As a result of last Fall's insert, I am extremely pleased that Aurora, Champaign and Charleston Fire Departments have committed almost a dozen "on duty" personnel to assist or coordinate many of these competitions.

The "hands-on" training seminars will be staffed by IFSI personnel and volunteers. Instructors and advisors who have assisted in the Illinois Fire Service Institute - Explorer-Cadet Fire Schools in the past are being called upon to assist in this portion of the conference. These practical rescue, fire, EMS, and HazMat events will be slightly different from our traditional summer event but they all will be "hands-on" in nature. The additional disciplines will provide youth with exposure to the many missions beyond fire fighting in which their local agencies may be involved.

We continue to look for financial support. State Farm Insurance headquarters in Bloomington has been generous and other companies have promised donations as well. The Illinois Fire Chief's Association has pledged financial support to offset some of the instructional package expenses. We are extremely grateful for these donations.

In-kind donations are also welcomed. The competitive events will require things like pocket masks, replaceable lungs or face pieces for the CPR events. Helmets and mountain bikes for the paramedic mountain biking competition, two or three identical 24- or 28-ft ladders, and various brands of breathing ap-

paratus. Latex gloves in all sizes, cervical collars, back boards and straps for the patient packaging events, clip boards and stop watches are a few items that will be required. Please contact me if you have equipment you are willing to assist with or have funding available to earmark for such purchases.

The Thursday demonstrations will be very visual in nature. These include commitments by MABAS 28 members to demonstrate a number of events. The Savoy Fire Department's Ranking National Extrication team will stage a mock accident scene with severe trauma requiring Carle's Air Life helicopter to fly out a lucky Explorer as a mock patient. The Champaign Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team will put on a Level A chlorine leak simulation with some youth assisting in the decontamination process.

Urbana's Technical Rescue Team will demonstrate a mock river rescue with a highline demonstration from the tower to the technical rescue prop. The rescue will stop in the middle, lower to the water below and pick up a lucky Explorer for a ride on the highline. Edge Scott Fire Department will be staging a room and contents fire using a trailer or mobile home to demonstrate standard company functions and incident command. Live line, burn cell, and LP gas fires will round out the many demonstrations.

Although we would like to have vendors set up shop, we anticipate a lean showing due to the conflict with the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts Conference that starts that Thursday in Springfield. If you know of vendors not participating in the Springfield event, please have them contact me. We are inviting various colleges and universities with Bomb and Arson, Fire Service Management, Public Administration, Fire Protection Engineering and other comparable offerings to set up booths. We hope that this will expose the youth to other emergency services related options beside the line functions of fire fighting and EMS.

You or your department can be involved through in-kind donations.

continued next page

www.fsi.uiuc.edu

Get involved by volunteering

You can use the form below or download a copy from the IFSI web site by clicking on the 2007 National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference link under NEWS. Fill out and fax to Greg Fisher at 217-244-6790. The need for help is most critical for Tuesday, June 19 and Wednesday, June 20 from 0715 to 1730. You won't go hungry and the feeling of accomplishment you'll have in mentoring youth interested in the Fire and Emergency Services will be immeasurable.

National Fire and Emergency Services Exploring Conference Volunteer Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home phone 1 - () - - _____ Work phone 1 - () - - _____
 Cell phone 1 - () - - _____ Other phone 1 - () - - _____
 E-mail _____

“Two deep” leadership at the Explorer Conference will allow at least one adult member of each unit to assist in judging individual and team events. By recruiting many of the post's leaders to these judging assignments this will assist in keeping the cost of this event as reasonable as possible. All seminars, individual and team competitive events are “hands on” and will be held on the 20 plus acre grounds of the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute. For leaders concerned about supervision...**at no time will advisors and youth be more than 418 yards apart.**

Please check the events you are willing to judge (left line) and number according to preference (right line). Evaluation documents will either be forwarded or posted on the website to inspect and become familiar with. Judges and demonstration monitors will be required to arrive at their stations at 0715 on June 19, 20, & 21 in order to insure stations and equipment are ready to receive competitors at 0800 each day.

	Preference of judging		Preference of judging
<u>Team Events</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> CPR and Movement	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Spinal Immobilization	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Arson Investigation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunker Gear and SCBA Relay	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Room Search	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Paramedic Biking Competition	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Make and Break	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Ladder Raise	_____
<u>Individual Events</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> One Person CPR	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate Physical Ability	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Written Examination	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Size-Up/ Incident Command	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire Shelter Dep.	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunker Gear and SCBA	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Drill Competition	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Hose Race	_____
<u>Seminar Assistance</u> (Seminars are conducted by IFSI Staff. Assistance is appreciated)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Fighting Skills	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medical Skills	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> High Angle Rescue	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space Rescue	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Collapse Rescue Skills	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Extrication	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply Skills	_____

I _____ hereby offer my services as an evaluator or judge for events held at the Illinois Fire Service Institute during the National Fire and Emergency Services Explorer Conference June 18 – 22, 2007 through Learning For Life 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Irving TX 75038.

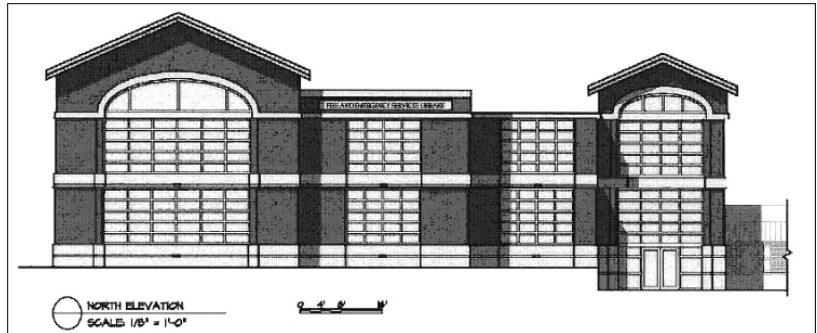
Building Corporate Relations

Dennis Spice
Director of
Corporate
Relations

Last Fall, we completed a survey of our corporate and business partners to determine their current needs as it relates to industrial training. As a result of the survey, an industrial advisory board was formed and the first meeting was held last September. We learned a lot about training needs and expectations from the group when they met at the Institute for the one-day meeting. An industrial training forum is being planned for later this year, tentatively planned as a one-day meeting in Champaign. More information will be provided as the final plans are completed.

In addition to working on the industrial training program, IFSI has continued to work with corporate partners throughout Illinois. Cooperative programs continue to grow and expand within the private sector with Motorola, State Farm, Underwriters Laboratories, GSI, Illinois Propane Education and Research Council, Illinois Petroleum Resources Board, Hurst, Amkus, Genesis, Homatro, Milwaukee, Paratech, SearchCom, American Forest & Paper Association, Delmar Publishers and many others.

The IFSI staff and training facilities bring a unique opportunity to companies involved in the fire service industry to conduct field trials on products in a "real world" environment. It is our intent to continue to expand and broaden our relationships with corporations not only in Illinois, but throughout the United States, as well as internationally.



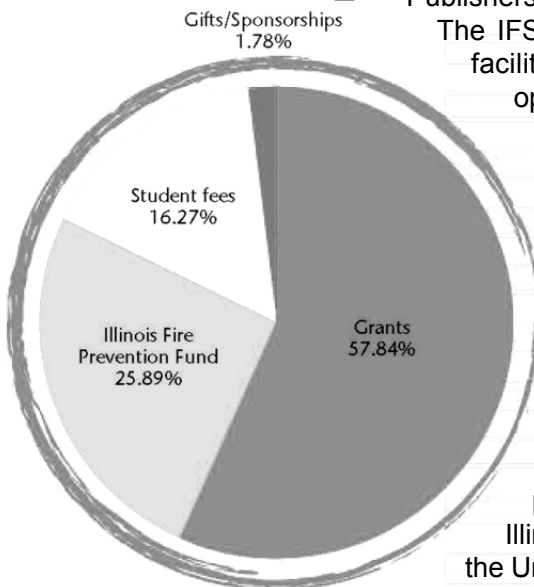
Another initiative underway to strengthen IFSI global corporate partnerships is the development of the Illinois Fire Service Institute Learning Resource and Research Center. This new facility will be built adjacent to the current building headquarters in Champaign. Once completed it will house an expanded library, an Illinois firefighter memorial hall and laboratory space. This expansion will allow IFSI to continue its cross-campus translational research in a variety of areas critical to enhancing the health, safety and security of firefighters.

The Center will be a focal point for our corporate partners to work with IFSI on collaborative research that will improve products for the marketplace. We will be taking research from the laboratory directly to the fire-training field.

This is an innovative project that is requiring the help of our colleagues within the university, the State of Illinois, Illinois firefighter organizations and our corporate partners.

If you would like to learn more about the Center, industrial training or for more ways you can be a part of the exciting changes at the Institute, please contact Dennis D. Spice, Director of Corporate Relations at 217-359-0671 or by email at: dspice@fsi.uiuc.edu.

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83rd Annual Fire College

May 30 - June 3, 2007
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

Training So That Everyone Goes Home

List of classes and complete details available on the IFSI web site.

www.fsi.uiuc.edu

IMPORTANT DATES

April 27: last day to register without late fee

May 18: last day to cancel without penalty

May 25: last day to advance register

May 30: on-site registration begins



**Illinois Fire Service Institute
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Champaign, IL 61820**



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