

KEIM, LSU
DHS Coastal Resilience Center
Education Project Workplan
1/1/2016 – 6/30/2020

1. **Project Title:** Disaster Science and Management Program at LSU
2. **Principal Investigator:** Barry D. Keim, Professor in the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State Climatologist, Principal Investigator of the Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program (SCIPP) at LSU.
3. **Other Education Participants/Partners:**
 - Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC)
 - NOAA's Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program.

4. **Short Project Description.**

To date, the Disaster Science and Management (DSM) Program at LSU has been a program within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences that was managed during the 7 years of the Coastal Hazards Center (CHC) in the Department of Geography and Anthropology. However, the DSM education program took place outside of the Department. This Coastal Resilience Center of Excellence project will solidify the institutionalization of the DSM program at Louisiana State University by making it an integral part of the Geography degree program. Our intent is to make it a concentration available within both the BA and BS degrees in Geography and as a minor to students with majors in other Departments. We will enhance relationships with the Emergency Management Program at BRCC to partner with them in program development and foster ease of credit transfer to LSU for those that want to continue to a Baccalaureate degree. Additionally, we will continue fostering internships within the Emergency Management community.

5. **Abstract.**

Louisiana's propensity for natural disasters (e.g., Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike, and Isaac) demonstrates a clear need for a robust Disaster Science and Management Program in the region. We intend to build on past successes, and provide a solid institution for the DSM program by formally bringing it into the Department of Geography and Anthropology. The goal is to make the Program a concentration within the Geography undergraduate curriculum, whereas students can obtain either a BA or BS in Geography, with a DSM concentration, in addition to making the program available as a minor. A revised curriculum will be developed for the Program that will include both on-campus, and on-line courses, and it will build on past successes of the student internship program.