

**Ad Hoc Committee for Planning for DMS Students and Faculty
Should a Pandemic Occur**

Summary as of 6/13/06

Members: Dave Nierenberg, Kathy Kirkland, Jack Turco, Connie Brinckerhoff, Bob Gougelet, James Geiling, Susan Reeves, Gerry O'Connor

1. Based on feedback from state and federal agencies via Jack and Bob, we should NOT be relying on either government for immediate help in the event of any type of acute emergency, whether it be pandemic or otherwise
2. The State has divided NH into 19 regions for purposes of planning for various emergencies. Our region includes Lebanon, Hanover, Cornish, Plainfield, Lyme, etc.
3. There are basically four groups or committees working on this type of problem at present:
 - A. The 19 State Regional Planning Groups
 - B. The MHMH Hospital Preparedness Group, under Bob Gougelet
 - C. The DC Planning Group, under Sheila Culbert
 - D. The DHMC Readiness Group, under Kathy Kirkland
4. We envision our job as developing a policy for DMS to follow, in conjunction with recommendations from Bill Hickey's group, NOT becoming a permanent standing group. It is important that DMS have representation on groups C and D (perhaps Charles Mannix) above so that DMS is always in touch (and can follow the lead) of those particular groups.
5. In terms of pre-work to see which students might wish to volunteer to serve in the event of an emergency, and whether they have any special skills or training, we felt that this work could best be done "locally," for example, by Jack Turco for DC students, and by Dave et al at the time of orientation/registration for DMS students. Dave could arrange for Kathy to speak for 10 min or so to incoming Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 students about the need for emergency planning and could also distribute "sign up forms" that could be stored in a DMS central location, such as the Registrar's Office.

Key information that we discussed obtaining would include: name, address, phone, cell phone, email address; potential willingness to serve as a volunteer if school were to close down; role in school, (e.g. first year graduate student in biochemistry); level of medical or related training in, school (e.g. Year 2 medical student); any additional training outside of school (e.g. BLS, ACLS, nurse, pharmacist, EMT, etc.)

6. In the event that an emergency occurs when student volunteers are needed, it is important to have a central area for assigning volunteers, training volunteers (e.g. fitting for masks), and for "covering" such volunteers for workmen's comp, etc.. It would appear that the best way to do this would be to allow Bob Gougelet's office (called MMRS) to register, cover, train, and assign

such volunteers should the need to use them arise. They could make sure to assign our students locally (e.g. to DC, DMS, MHMH, VA, etc) if there was indeed a local need for assistance.

7. In brief, DC and DMS should develop their own lists of potential student volunteers, but if they were ever needed, Bob Gougelet's group should be in charge of managing these student volunteers.

8. Joe O'Donnell has passed along the interest of the three societies in preparing students for this role. Once the role of student volunteers has become more clear, and if any advanced training is indicated, then the three societies might be an ideal location for that training to occur.