ATAP—Great Plains Chapter is born

At the annual conference this August for the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP), the National Board approved the formation of a new Chapter. This new chapter, named for the Great Plains region, will serve professionals engaged in threat assessment or management in Nebraska and surrounding states.

The first meeting to “kick-off” the new ATAP-Great Plains chapter will be on Friday, October 16, hosted in Lincoln, Nebraska near the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. A full day of events has been planned, including a Welcome from Rick Sheehy, the Lt. Governor of Nebraska, followed by a series of educational presentations, the business meeting, and ending with a Professional Networking Reception. Presenters include: Owen Yardley (Chief of the UNL Police Department), Dave Okada (President of the Northwest Chapter of ATAP) and Rachel Solov, (National President of the ATAP Board and Deputy District Attorney in the San Diego office).

The kick-off of the Great Plains ATAP Chapter is presented at no charge but participants must RSVP for the session(s) due to the sensitive nature of the material presented. Check for the CTAP website for more information:

http://ppcta.unl.edu/ctap/.

The meeting will include several opportunities for education, professional networking, and learning more about ATAP. More information on ATAP can be found on the association website:

www.atapworldwide.org.
By June 19, 2009, all 50 states in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have reported novel H1N1 infection—Center for Disease Control

Symptoms of the H1N1 flu virus

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny/stuffy nose
- Body aches
- Headache
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting

Image of the H1N1 Influenza Virus taken in the CDC Influenza Laboratory

“By June 19, 2009, all 50 states in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have reported novel H1N1 infection” -Center for Disease Control

Universities prepare for H1N1

As the fall semester begins, universities across the country are taking extra precautions to prepare for possible cases of Novel H1N1 flu virus, formerly known as the “swine flu.”

Last month, the World Health Organization declared the H1N1 virus as a pandemic.

Students and staff are encouraged not to come to work or to class if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms. In many cases, attendance policies have been revised to eliminate any penalties for missing class due to illness.

Some universities have developed emergency preparedness plans in case of an outbreak on campus, including requests for vaccines, rapid test kits, and sending students up-to-date information about the virus. In every situation, universities should prepare for all scenarios and have a plan in place.

More information about H1N1 can be found on the Center for Disease Control website, which offers a weekly update of H1N1 online at: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/.

Specific information for schools can be found at http://pandemicflu.gov/professional/school/.

Cover It!

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu »
Forming a campus threat assessment team is an important part of campus safety and security. The weight of the responsibility carried by such a team requires a great deal of thought and preparation.

The Campus Threat Assessment Team at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln serves as a model for other campuses to adapt for use in the context of their individual institutions. A presentation by Mario Scalora and Owen Yardley in May, “Nebraska Post-Secondary Campus Threat Assessment Team Development and Planning” outlines some of the most important considerations when forming a threat assessment team.

Since there are many entities and stakeholders involved, they emphasize three aspects of Partnership vital to a Campus Threat Assessment Team: Coordination, Collaboration, and Confidentiality.

Membership on the Team must represent the multiple components of a campus’s structure of functioning. In addition to campus security/police, representation from the institution’s administration, campus mental health services, community law enforcement, legal counsel, and others is recommended. A related issue for consideration is authority—who is responsible for the bottom line decision-making related to campus safety? These are just a few components of the creation of a Campus Threat Assessment Team.

More resources on the subject can be found on the secure portal of the Nebraska threat assessment website: http://ppcta.unl.edu/ctap/.

Encourage reporting of threats on campus by providing education, awareness, multiple means of contact, and the assurance that reports will be taken seriously.

Example of campus outreach materials designed to encourage reporting of threats
Upcoming Events - Education & Training

**October**
16th—8:30AM-4:30 PM (full day)* Lincoln, NE
Kickoff meeting for the ATAP–Great Plains chapter
(see website for details)

**December**
18th—10:00AM-12:00PM Lincoln, NE
ATAP-GP meeting and training opportunity

**February**
19th—10:00AM-12:00PM Lincoln, NE
ATAP-GP meeting and training opportunity
(Video or Teleconference link will be available for this meeting/training)

**April**
16th—10:00AM-3:00PM (full day)* Lincoln, NE
ATAP-GP meeting and training opportunity

**June**
18th—10:00AM-12:00PM Lincoln, NE
ATAP-GP meeting and training opportunity

**August**
TBA Anaheim, CA
Annual ATAP conference

*counts for 2 meeting credits

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The Nebraska CTAP Project is funded through a contract with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. The purpose of the project is to prepare and assist Nebraska’s post-secondary campuses to develop and sustain functioning multi-disciplinary teams to assess and manage threats based on best practices.