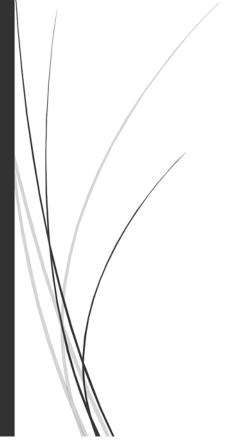
11/8/2017

Post Event Report

Kansas Emergency Management Association 2017 Annual Training Conference



Gary Middleton, Professional Event Planner MIDDLETON ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL, LLC



Post Event Report

Kansas Emergency Management Association 2017 Annual Training Conference

1 RAMADA TOPEKA DOWNTOWN HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER

Meeting Space Allocation, Set-ups, and Room Management

Good Comments:

- There was good cooperation from the Ramada staff during, as well as prior to conference. After hours contact numbers were provided for Ramada staff to the contractor.
- A single point of contact was provided to the contractor during the conference, which assists in management and coordination.
- Ramada was very flexible and accommodating in providing meeting rooms.
- The reception provided by Ramada prior to the Awards Banquet was well received.
- Ramada waived charges, in some instances, which could have been submitted to KEMA.

Areas for Improvement:

- The room security for the Madison Ballroom (Hospitality Room) was insufficient. The room was found open and unlocked on several occasions.
- Other breakout room arrangements need to be made for the Mansion Gold Room, since this room is too small to provide a comfortable environment for the number of attendees attending sessions located there.
- The Grand Ballroom was not ready for the Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday morning. MAI staff had to assist Ramada staff to prepare the room so the Opening Ceremonies could begin on time. This has been addressed with Ramada, and they provided an apology.
- In consultation with the Vendor Chair, the Vendor Area needs to be reconfigured so that it resembles the Vendor Area during the 2016 conference. This has been discussed with Ramada, and adjustments have been suggested to accommodate the change for next year.



Food and Beverage Management

Comments:

Most participants' comments were good regarding the food quality and service. (See the attached attendees' survey.)

2 KEMA

Pre-conference Planning

Good Comments:

- The conference theme was well on target for this year's conference, and provided well in advance, for planning and marketing purposes.
- The Vendor Area preparation and set-up was received and executed well.
- The conference signage continues to add to the professionalism of the conference.
- There was good input from the KEMA Board members and KEMA members on possible plenary and breakout sessions speakers.
- Implementing the "Early Bird" rate had significant effects for on-site registration, as well as the use of the CVENT Merchant Account.

Suggested Action Items and Areas for Improvement:

- We suggest the conference theme and logo be set by March. The conference logo had to be developed by the contractor, since the person who volunteered in the past for KEMA was unavailable.
- A Vendor Area Host, who is assigned, identified and available in or near the vendor area would greatly assist the vendors during set up on Tuesday and on Wednesday.
- The use of social media has increased. This is still an untapped area that may enhance future conferences. Perhaps, KEMA should consider appointing a Social Media Coordinator that would be available prior to and during conference.
- Providing clarification on the role and responsibilities of the "host" county EMA prior to and during the conference (perhaps a job aid?) would help to reduce miscommunication and misunderstandings.
- Review the number of breakout sessions, and perhaps consider offering fewer.
- Work and coordinate with Kansas Wesleyan University to further enhance and develop use of college interns.



During Conference

Good Comments:

- The pace and organization of the Awards Ceremony went well.
- Access to the KEMA Board members by the contractors is valuable and helpful.
- KEMA members need to be encouraged to demonstrate responsibility in their quest for
 professionalism through their attendance and participation at the breakout and general
 sessions. This year, a small group of attendees were gathered, at times during the
 breakout and general sessions, in the common areas of the hotel. Precise tracking of
 breakout sessions may assist in accomplishing this goal.
- Opportunities for networking are beneficial and continue to be an important aspect of the conference.
- The board did a good job on policing room thermostats and referring hotel issues to the Conference Manager.
- The use of the college interns, to act as Awards Banquet Hosts at the doors of the banquet room, and restricting members from entering until the designated time, helped to provide organization and professionalism at the banquet.
- A conference photographer was designated, and this practice should be continued.
 Perhaps a practice of sending pictures to the award winners taken at the banquet should be considered.
- Seating in the Grand Ballroom for the General Sessions seemed to work well. Next year, all general sessions (including Friday's sessions) will be in the Grand Ballroom.
- The KWU interns were a great asset to the contractors and the conference. The interns also stated numerous times how valuable the experience was to them.

Suggested Action Items and Areas for Improvement:

- A review the responsibilities and expectations regarding Area VP's duties as "breakout session room hosts" would be helpful and provide consistency to the breakout sessions. Perhaps the job aid needs to be reviewed and revised.
- Perhaps at area meetings, VP's could stress the importance of nominating and recognizing outstanding performance and contributions to emergency management. This may assist with the members attendance at the awards banquet. Those who are KCEM or CEM members should also be encouraged to wear their certification pins to the banquet.



 Recognition needs to be given during the opening ceremony to the "host" EMA staff and volunteers for their planning and execution of the social activities on Tuesday night.

General Comments

The conference attendance was slightly down this year compared to last. However, 7 cancellations this year were due to deployments for disaster response to Texas and Florida. The relatively steady attendance over the past few years, as well as post conference survey responses, are good indicators of the quality, content and overall satisfaction of the KEMA membership. The contractors receive comments from the plenary speakers complementing KEMA for the quality of their conferences. The KEMA conference continues to be recognized as one of the best state emergency management conferences in the nation.

3 CONTRACTORS

General Comments and Action Items

- The AV setup for the General Sessions worked, much better, since the three-way splitter was eliminated.
- Preconference meetings with the hotel/convention management and contractors to discuss conference objectives, expectations, and operational issues are important and should continue.
- The option for attendees to tentatively register for breakout sessions and preconference activities continues to be useful for conference planning purposes, and review of the attendee preferences should be considered prior to room assignments.
- The contractor's Post Event Report for use by the facility, KEMA Board, and the contractor has proven to be useful and should be continued.
- Request presenters and speakers to provide digital copies of presentation materials
 PRIOR to the conference.
- The improvements made on CVENT regarding Banquet tickets helped resolved most issues regarding unused banquet meals (very few, if any unused meals), but there needs to be further refinement of the description on CVENT, so registrants can properly select whether they're attending or not. Registrants need to be reminded, that banquet tickets are included as a benefit of a full pass.



- Refinements made in CVENT, along with accurate tracking of breakout session attendance, allowed for individualized educational credits for actual classroom hours of training.
- Revise the opening general session to include the Keynote Presentation prior to the break and State Update.
- Provide the KEMA Board with "suggestion" forms to identify interests in Keynote, Plenary, and Breakout sessions to assist in developing topics and recruiting presenters.
- Provide storage "sticks" for all presentation materials for KEMA website posting.

Conference Registration

• There were 654 KEMA Conference Invitations emailed through CVENT: 181 accepted (with 174 participating, and 7 who were registered but never checked-in); 17 declined, 14 cancelled, 9 visited the site and didn't register, and 429 didn't reply. In addition, individuals not registered through CVENT but were present at conference included: 54 vendor personnel, 2 college interns, 7 MAI staff, and 8 additional Speaker/Presenters (not registered as attendees). (See table for comparisons.)

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
Invited	536	317	567	654
Declined	5	3	35	17
Cancelled	0	3	9	14
Accepted	156	183	185	181
Guests	8	5	0	0
Total	164	188	185	181
Conference Fees	\$24,521.35	\$41,910.34	\$44,006.00	\$39,642.31

Note: 2015 Conference Fee figures included \$5,625, and 2016 Conference Fee figures included \$6,824, in KEMA Membership Fees collected through CVENT.

- MAI staff updated CVENT's contact database with current KEMA Membership listings.
 Once CVENT went live, the membership updates were posted to CVENT within 24 hours of notice from the KEMA Secretary.
- KEMA's license with CVENT allows for 200 registrant transactions for the conference.
 KEMA reached 100% of its licensed capacity on Wednesday of conference. MAI was prepared to manually register additional attendees to prevent additional charges to KEMA, however, no additional registration transactions were needed.



- MAI has invested in two IPads in order to utilize the CVENT App, "On Arrival". On Arrival allowed for greater capabilities during the on-site registration process, resulting in approximately a 30 second check-in for those who were pre-registered and pre-paid.
- The KEMA Treasurer provided a listing of individuals who had provided conference payment by check prior to conference, which saved time and effort during on-site registration.
- The KEMA Lifetime members have been added to the member category in Cvent to allow for member conference rates.
- The registration area has also become the conference information desk. If the board wishes for this practice to continue, then information needs to be provided the MAI staff regarding unscheduled meetings, all conference activities, and other official announcements.
- There were 146 Full Conference Passes registered before September 5th (Early Bird cutoff), and 11 after September 5th. This is a good indication of the success of the Early Bird rate program.
- The partnership with KDEM on producing and tracking participant IDs worked well.
- The complications for on-site registrations and participant check-ins were:
 - o Individuals who provided a different email address or name for conference registration, than they provided for the KEMA membership application.
 - o Individuals from counties that were pre-registered, but failed to pre-pay prior to the Early Bird cut-off date. Some of whom were still unpaid during on-site registration (check-in).

Other Conference Registration Comments:

- There were multiple changes to the CVENT conference website, after it went live. This was due to adding additional conference information as it became available. Members need to be reminded to check back to the conference website for the latest information.
- With very few exceptions, CVENT's technical service continues to be outstanding and available 24/7.
- Apparently, some email servers (i.e. KDEM, some county government sites) strip the
 CVENT emails of their links to post conference surveys and the conference certificate.
 This can be resolved by having those individuals provide a private email address that is
 incorporated into their CVENT contact profile, and accessing the email through their
 private email server, or having CVENT's email address "white listed".



4 SUGGESTIONS AND ACTION ITEMS FOR KEMA BOARD CONSIDERATION

- I. Retaining CVENT. CVENT's annual renewal is due March 1, 2018. It's MAI's recommendation that the KEMA Board maintain CVENT's services, and ask the board to retain CVENT for next year's conference. The 2017 annual renewal fee was \$1850.
- II. On-line Registration start time. When does the board want the KEMA Conference Website and on-line registration process functional?
- III. Maintain On-line registration and preconference payment incentives.
- IV. Reduce the on-site registration hours on Thursday to end at 2:30 p.m.
- V. Providing an incentive for preconference registration and payment (Early Bird rate) assisted significantly with the on-site check-in and registration process. A grace year was granted, this year, to counties who registered, but didn't pay by the Early Bird cutoff date. KEMA should educate all counties regarding the Early Bird process and payment deadlines well before next year's conference.
- VI. Develop a conference press release, in cooperation with the host county EMA, to provide information on conference speakers, theme, attendees, and other pertinent information.



5 ATTACHMENTS

Conference Survey Questions Summary Report

Question	Question Choices	Question Type	Survey Type
How did you	(Select all that	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
learn about the	apply)	Answers	
conference?	KEMA Website, KEMA Area	(Vertical)	
	Meeting, Regional Council		
	Meeting, Email, Colleague,		
	Social Media, Other, please		
	specify:		
	<u>Answer Text</u>	Text Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Colleague	36	17.9
	Email	37	18.41
	KEMA Area Meeting	52	25.87
	KEMA Website	40	19.9
	Other, please specify:		
	Board Member		
	KEMA BOARD	5	2.49
	Regular Attendee	1	.5
	Same time every year	3	1.5
	Regional Council Meeting	21	10.45
	Social Media	5	2.49
Have you ever		Choice - Single	Participant Survey
attended this		Answer	
conference			
before?			_
	Answer Text	Count	Percentage
	No	20	19.61
	Yes	82	80.39
How would you	Email, Website, KEMA Area	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
like to be	Meetings, Regional Meetings,	Answers	
notified for next	U.S. Postal Service, Other.		
year's			
conference?			



	1		
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	Answer Text	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Email	90	46.63
	KEMA Area Meetings	49	25.39
	Other: KEMA Board	1	.52
	Regional Meetings	23	11.92
	U.S. Postal Service	5	2.59
	Website	24	12.44
Do the KEMA	Yes, No, Comments.	Choice - Single	Participant Survey
Area Meetings		Answer	Percentage
keep you			
informed about	Yes	88	89.8
the	No	2	2.04
KEMA			
organization			
and annual			
conference?			
	Answer Text	Count	Percentage
	Comments:		
	1. Always something		
	contradicts attending	1	1.02
	2. Don't attend	1	1.02
	3. I haven't been to one yet	1	1.02
	4. Now that we have a new	_	
	VP it will be better	1	1.02
	5. Was not aware of area	_	1.02
	meetings	1	1.02
	6. We didn't have any area	_	1.02
	meetings last year.	1	1.02
Did you enjoy	Yes, No, Comments.	Choice - Single	Participant Survey
the Vendor	res, No, comments.	Answer	Percentage
Reception		Allawei	rercentage
offered on	Yes	82	82.83
	No	2	2.02
Wednesday	INU	2	2.02
night?	Answer Toyt	Count	Dorcontage
	Answer Text Comments:	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	1. Couldn't attend		 F 0F
		5	5.05
	2. Didn't attend	7	7.07



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	3. I did but would like to		
	find a way to get more		
	vendors involved.	1	1.01
	4. Yes but need to change	1	1.01
	the times so it only goes		
	to 6 or 6:30	1	1.01
What did you	Just Right, Too Long, Too	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
think of the	Short, Comments.	Answers	Percentage
Awards	,		
Banquet?	Just Right	81	84.38
	Too Long	6	6.25
	Answer Text	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	1. Couldn't attend	2	2.08
	2. Didn't attend	5	5.09
If you stayed at	Enjoyable, Not Enjoyable, Not	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
the conference	Applicable.	Answers	Percentage
site hotel, how	, Applicable.	7111311213	rereemage
was your stay?	Enjoyable	67	59.82
was your stay.	Not enjoyable	6	17.86
	Not applicable	20	5.36
	Answer Text	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	1. Okay, except the power		<u> </u>
	outage Friday morning	5	4.45
	2. Even with the power		
	outage it was good.	1	.89
	3. I ran into some room	_	.03
	issues, beyond that it		
	was fine.	1	.89
	4. I will not let my people	_	.03
	stay at the Ramada due		
	to many poor		
	experiences there.	1	.89
	5. It was nice to be in the	_	
	same facility.	1	.89
	6. OK	2	1.78
	7. Reservation process was		•
	not handled very well by		
	the hotel. Repeated		



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	hard time getting an		
	appropriate receipt. But		
	this is nothing new.	1	.89
	8. staying on site made the		
	conference more		
	accessible	1	.89
	9. That hotel is beyond		
	awful. Spent the last		
	morning using my cell		
	phone flashlight to get		
	readyand walked out		
	the door and found no		
	emergency lights.	1	.89
	10. The room had a strong		.03
	smell of sewer gas 3 of		
	my 4 nights I was on the		
	11th floor	1	.89
	11. The room was noisy	-	.03
	(interstate) and had an		
	awful sewer smell!	1	.89
How would you	Excellent, Good, Average, Fair,	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
rate meals	Poor, Comments.	Answers	Percentage
served at the	1 doi, comments.	Allsweis	rerecitage
conference?	Excellent	14	12.61
comercince:	Good	58	52.25
	Average	20	18.02
	Average Fair	20 8	18.02 7.21
	Average	20	18.02
	Average Fair Poor	20 8 3	18.02 7.21 2.70
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text	20 8	18.02 7.21
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food	20 8 3	18.02 7.21 2.70
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except for the sandwich lunch.	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except for the sandwich lunch. The banquet meal was	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except for the sandwich lunch. The banquet meal was not worth \$35. Should	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except for the sandwich lunch. The banquet meal was not worth \$35. Should have included lobster for	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage .90
	Average Fair Poor Answer Text 1. After a couple days you get tired of motel food 2. All were superb except for the sandwich lunch. The banquet meal was not worth \$35. Should	20 8 3 <u>Count</u>	18.02 7.21 2.70 Percentage



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	3. I am a vegetarian and		
	specified that on my		
	registration form. One		
	lunch was sandwiches		
	and soup with meat in it.		
	Instead of just having a		
	cheese sandwich, I ate		
	offsite.	1	.90
		1	.90
	4. I don't normally eat red		
	meat, so not having a		
	chicken option at the		
	banquet was		
	disappointing.	1	.90
	5. Ran out of food. :(2	1.80
	6. Banquet steak not good	3	2.70
Do you think the	Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree,	Choice - Multiple	Participant Survey
conference was	Comments.	Answers	Percentage
well managed?			
	Strongly Agree	41	40.20
	Agree	55	53.92
			0.00
	Disagree	4	3.92
	Disagree Answer Text	Count	Percentage
	Answer Text		
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and the room was too cold	Count 1	Percentage .98
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and the room was too cold	Count 1	Percentage .98
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and the room was too cold	Count 1	Percentage .98
	Answer Text 1. I wish you folks did the KSFCA 2. One of the social events I signed up for during the pre-conference wasn't on the schedule when I arrived. During the pre-conference presentation that the American Red Cross put on, there weren't any breaks and the room was too cold	Count 1	Percentage .98



			Consulting and Technical Services
On a scale from 1 to 5 (5 being the best), please rate the educational content of this event.	1,2,3,4,5	Choice - Single Answer	Participant Survey
	Answer Text	Count	<u>Percentage</u>
	1	0	0.0
	2	2	1.96
	3	17	16.67
	4	56	54.90
	5	27	26.47
How would you rate the conference overall?		Choice - Single Answer	Participant Survey
	Answer Text	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
	Excellent	35	34.31
	Good	50	49.02
	Average	14	13.73
	Fair	3	2.94
Do you plan to attend the conference next year?		Choice - Single Answer	Participant Survey
	Answer Text	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
	No	2	1.98
	Yes	99	98.02

Additional Comments

Question	Comments
Do you have suggestions for	1. Someone talk about the wildfires they have had in
future conference speakers?	their County. What challenges they had. Small
	Counties with limited resources.
	2. Avoid using PhD speakers at the conference. Would
	prefer to hear from persons who have actually gone



- through a disaster and how they handled it. What went right/wrong
- 3. Thanks!!!
- 4. Although it was nice to have speakers that were from outside our area, it would have been nice to have more local. People coming in from outside the area don't know how we operate and what restrictions we have.
- 5. I know KDEM instructors are cheap, but not always what we need. I liked the first speaker, did not like the second. Some of the KDEM breakouts were a little disorganized.
- 6. I'd like to see a federal agency send someone to speak.
- 7. I like the speaker with real life event feedback.
- 8. Recent flooding events. Large scale event organization
- Definitely have speakers that have dealt with disasters in their area. Maybe emergency manager or IMT person that was involved in some of the hurricane responses. Other option would be someone that could speak on how to develop and deliver creative exercises
- 10. Managers involved in recent hurricanes and flooding
- 11. decrease the number of national weather service speakers
- 12. I would like to see a special session for County Commissioners and Legislators. This would gains dividends by showing them what we do as well as having a one on one conversation with them. I would suggest a forum for them to answer questions and a reception.
- 13. Speakers from Houston or Florida or FEMA to speak on response and recovery for those areas affected by the hurricanes
- 14. David Naster
- 15. Wondering about a media panel discussion.
- 16. If KDEM references other state agencies in the presentations the other agencies should be present.



- 17. I realize you can't get to all the breakout sessions that you may want to and you have to assign according to the speakers schedule also but there were some I wasn't able to attend.
- 18. Jim Lemay form editor of CNN
- 19. Different classes as most of the information is repeated year after year.
- 20. Participants in hurricanes and fires
- 21. I learned valuable information from the representative from Boulder County EMA. Please continue to have at least one speaker that presents a 'lessons learned' session that they have personally participated in.
- 22. Perhaps more law enforcement sessions
- 23. Focus on new ideas and lessons learned. I'd love to hear more research.
- 24. I'd like keynotes to be sharing information. One of the keynotes, ROI, was more about give and take of information. While that is great for a breakout, it's not as good for a keynote.
- 25. Probably should screen the academics from those with experience in the EM or related field. Having someone present on how she perceives our business from a strictly academic aspect versus having experienced our real world did not really go over too well in my opinion.
- 26. I failed to connect with Dr. Jensen. Future speakers who could bring some life experience to the podium would, I feel, be better received. Her passion did not translate to anything practical that I could bring back to my county. I found Ms. Danzl and the breakout sessions that I attended to be very informative.
- 27. A speaker from a university who experienced a shooting incident or major disaster.
- 28. I really liked the Hesston presentation. However, it would be nice to have actual responders, present their issues and how they were specifically involved.
- 29. More of Jeff Welshans, his classes are great and informative.



Please list topics you are interested in hearing about at future events.

- 1. Cyber Security
- 2. Computer/Cyber-security issues.
- 3. Let's get EM's involved in the what if's and how are they going to do accountability of all the responders along with the other duties.
- 4. Cybersecurity
- 5. Where we're at with CMS
- 6. How to manage volunteers
- 7. Radiation
- 8. More topics that would be beneficial to new emergency managers or individuals
- Case studies continue to be interesting. A little more content aimed at urban managers as opposed to rural would be helpful
- 10. More on homeland security
- 11. Response, Recovery, IMT Interface in a big community, Storm spotting / discussion
- 12. cybersecurity; recovery efforts after wildland fires
- 13. capabilities/ use of drones
- 14. Regional Response Teams; Volunteer Corps
- 15. Recovery of a disaster, after the recent events this year across the US and beyond this should be a huge topic to cover since recovery will be very long lasting in these area.
- 16. Lessons learned from actual events, do's/don't of getting elected officials involved.
- 17. EMI stuff
- 18. I would like to have more breakout sessions with local and regional emergency managers and partners talking about new ideas, and new lessons learned.
- 19. Best Practices; Cyber Security; I'm sure there is more.
- Two areas I'd like to see more on is EOCManagement/Support and Long-term Recovery.
- 21. Leadership; Marketing Topics and Techniques and how to apply those to Emergency Management; Cyber Security; Additional case studies from relevant events/disasters; Emerging topics



22. I	think we have a unique opportunity to learn about
r	nega disasters after everything that has happened
tł	nese last few months. I would think by next year we
C	ould find a couple of folks from EM or related fields
W	ho participated in these and who could share their
e	xperiences.
23. lr	nformation relating to smaller communities. CERT

- information. Social Media
- 24. Professional Development, Active CERT team procedures/projects/events/leveraging volunteers, How to engage other county departments in planning processes
- 25. -emergency management in academic settings (K-12 and university settings); - a 'mini workshop' session to create an emergency management elevator speech (each person creates their own speech through a facilitated discussion on what should be key points for focus
- 26. Anti-Terrorism, protection at large group activities.

In what ways do you think the conference could be improved?

- 1. I think the disasters took away several of the topics/speakers which is no fault of the conference or its preparation. As a result it was an average conference as opposed to a great conference. Very little can be done to solve this issue since it is the arena we live in as EM's. I did not find the second keynote address to be interesting and missed a few breakout sessions that were canceled as mentioned above. Had the presenters of those sessions not been deployed for the hurricanes, I think the conference rating would have been good to excellent and that issue is beyond the control of KEMA and the event planners/organizers.
- 2. It was a bit confusing to have every day's schedule start at different times. It would have been beneficial to have some sort of map showing everyone where at the sessions would be located.
- 3. I'd like to see more sessions from technical experts and subject matter experts. The sessions were good,



Consulting and Technical Services

- but a lot of the KDEM topics have been discussed at previous conferences.
- 4. I think it went well. Perhaps we can get federal speakers.
- 5. Breakout discussion sessions.
- Better communication on times, and locations or breakout sessions and auxiliary items of interest.
 When are raffles being held, etc.
- 7. Make sure breakout sessions embrace the title of the session. The session on Environmental Emergencies was misleading and disappointing.
- 8. More interesting classes and speakers. I know it is difficult to get people with fresh new ideas that don't cost a fortune. The LEPC Conference had guest speaker John Packett from the Omaha Zoo come in. It was super interesting to hear how they do things. They also had Aerial Horizons Commercial Drone Systems speak and bring equipment for EM's to fly.
- 9. More educational offerings
- 10. Different hotel at least but have it more in the middle of the state.
- 11. I thought for my first time it was great.

Please provide any additional comments you have about the conference.

- 1. Given the deployments and presenter cancellations due to active responses, I think the group did well to keep the conference going and as organized as it was. While I have attended KEMA conferences in the past that I enjoyed more, I still found this conference to be mostly beneficial and still learned quite a bit in the process of attending. Thanks to all who worked to set this event up. I know it is not an easy task.
- 2. Enjoyed!
- 3. I am always impressed with the giveaways at the end of the conference. You sure know how to make people stay to the end! The vegetarian plate at the banquet was very good. Thank you for providing that option!
- 4. The conference was well organized.
- 5. Thanks!



- 6. Thanks, Gary.
- 7. For my first conference and being new to the role as assistant director, the classes were good. Breakout sessions where we can discuss topics and voice concerns.
- 8. I know we shop for best price to get a good deal on the hotel, but the conference needs to move around the state and our members need to be exposed to more parts of Kansas, see and understand the people and enjoy the various commerce of the different regions. The culture of our state is diverse and we need to experience it all. Price should not be our only consideration.
- 9. It was fair to not good. Need change to improve.
- 10. Start each day at the same time. Don't vary from day to day. Stay consistent. If you have to add another local keynote speaker that can speak on a relevant topic.
- 11. It would be good if the Award winners could know ahead of time that they are going to get an award.
- 12. A/V continues to be an issue. Projector setups seem to be thrown together at the last minute and are often glitch prone or difficult to see
- 13. Overall the conference was great. The hotel parking wasn't good. More refreshments for attendees.
- 14. Overall very well done, I learned a lot of new information, and good networking
- 15. Excellent to see students involved.
- 16. The conference went well. Seemed to me that most everyone was picking up on great topics and was interested in the break out courses. Thanks for the conference you folks did a great job!!
- 17. Improved take-aways on key learning strategies
- 18. It was a great conference. Thank you for all your hard work!
- 19. Registration was much more efficient. Loved seeing the student involvement. Liked having the cocktail hour prior to the banquet, especially for those who are not staying in town.



20. Overall a v	ery good	conference.
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- 21. Thank you for a great conference!
- 22. I personally got a lot out of the lessons learned from the Hesston shooting incident. To hear about the communication challenges with outside agencies was beneficial to hear straight from the person who had to deal with those challenges. Please continue to invite personal testimonials.

Conference Registrants Demographics

174 registered attendees

170 from Kansas; 2 from Missouri; 1 from Nebraska; 1 from New York

19 guest banquet tickets were sold in addition to 4 purchases with a partial pass (for example, Wed-Thurs pass + Banquet Ticket).

5 attendees made special dietary requests, 1 was a guest for the banquet.

16 nonmembers attended

Member attendees by region:

North Central -11

North East – 69

South Central – 30

North West - 13

South West – 23

South East - 10

Missouri – 1

Nebraska – 1



Registration Items sold:

Full Member pass – 147

Full Non-Member pass – 10

Wed-Thursday Member – 5

Wed-Thursday nonmember – 2

Thursday-Friday member – 1

Thursday-Friday nonmember – 1

Wednesday Member – 2

Wednesday nonmember – 3

Thursday Member – 3

Thursday nonmember – 0

Friday member – 0

Friday nonmember -0

Employment Entities represented:

Universities and colleges – 7

Business sector – 4

KDEM - 24

United Way – 1

National Weather Service - 7

HealthCare related – 7

Fire department – 3

Ks Department of Labor – 1

KDHE – 1

Military – 2

Police – 1



Ks Department of Agriculture – 1

KHP-1

Ks Department for Children & Families – 1

Local Emergency Management

3 city

110 county

Number of full conference passes registered for before Sept 5 (Early Bird cutoff date): 146

Number of full conference passes registered after Sept 5: 11

2017 KEMA Conference Breakout Evaluation Summary

Session		Cvent	Actual	Evals	Rating	Present	Content	Relev.
Wed	Agricultural Emergency Response System	87	56	42	4.72	4.71	4.71	4.76
Wed	Emergergency and Disaster Response	107	76	42	4.47	4.38	4.45	4.58
Wed	Keynote Follow-Up: Amy Danzl	57	61	*23	4.84	4.96	4.83	4.74
Wed	Public Assistance: The new process:	50	44	30	4.56	4.63	4.47	4.57
Wed	FEMA Substantial Damage Estimator System	36	34	18	4.61	4.61	4.56	4.67
Thurs	Keynote Follow-Up: Dr. Jensen	64	33	14	4.79	4.86	4.71	4.79
Thurs	Crisis Public Information in a Small Community	98	86	59	4.75	4.69	4.75	4.8
Thurs	Fire Management Assitance Grants:	61	65	26	4.54	4.42	4.58	4.62
Thurs	Kansas State Animal Response Team (KSART):	47	65	31	4.59	4.61	4.58	4.58
Thurs	Emer. Prep. Regs for Health Care Facilities	65	54	33	4.72	4.7	4.7	4.76
Thurs	Facilitating a Training & Exercise Workshop	97	46	26	4.86	4.88	4.88	4.81
Thurs	Incident Support	131	73	*18	4.61	4.56	4.61	4.67
Thurs	Debris Management 101	8	21	17	4.8	4.82	4.76	4.82
Thurs	EM-101: New Coordinators' Workshop	18	24	12	4.78	4.75	4.83	4.75

Average Rating: 4.69

*2nd session only