

# 2004 NCEMSF 11th Annual Conference a Success

Baltimore, MD - The eleventh annual conference of the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF) was held February 27-29, 2004 in Baltimore, MD. Over 400 representatives of campus EMS organizations from schools across the U.S. attended the conference, hosted by the Johns Hopkins Emergency Response Organization (HERO) of The Johns Hopkins University.

NCEMSF is a professional network of campus EMS organizations and their members. The annual conference is an opportunity for campus EMS providers to convene and share ideas.

"What is most impressive about campus EMS groups is that much of this service to campuses is primarily being provided by students attending those colleges and universities," said Dr. George Koenig, Jr., NCEMSF President.

"Students are taking leadership roles and often fully run these services. They range from providing basic first responder services to full paramedic level ambulance services serving the campus and in many cases the surrounding community. This allows students to develop leadership, communication, and decision-making skills while positively impacting other people's lives," Dr. Koenig reports.

"This was the largest NCEMSF conference to date," said Dr. Scott Savett, NCEMSF Vice-President. "Collegiate EMS organizations from across the country were able to share information on how to implement or improve campus EMS at their school. Being able to ask a large group of people specific questions about campus EMS operations is a huge benefit."

This year's conference seminars included programs on insurance for EMS, club drugs, sexual assault, leadership development, professionalism in collegiate EMS and beyond, suicide, and tactical EMS.

The Richard W. Vomacka Student Speaker Competition afforded conference attendees the opportunity to deliver a 50-minute presentation on a topic of their choosing. Corey Pitts of Virginia Tech Rescue won the competition with a seminar entitled "Training for Excellence."

Several individuals and campus EMS organizations were recognized at the conference with annual awards for service. They include:

- Collegiate EMS Provider of the Year – Ana Papasin of Santa Clara University EMS
- Collegiate EMS Advisor of the Year – Debbie Wilson of Loyola University EMS
- Collegiate EMS Organization of the Year – Penn State University EMS
- Collegiate EMS Web Site of the Year – Villanova University EMS
- Service Award – Anna Johnson of University of Vermont Rescue

Five schools were recognized for the outstanding quality of their EMS organizations with the NCEMSF "Striving for Excellence in Campus EMS" recognition. They were:

- The George Washington Emergency Medical Response Group
- Harpur's Ferry Student Volunteer Ambulance Service – Binghamton University
- Syracuse University Ambulance Service

- Rochester Institute of Technology Ambulance
- University of Rhode Island EMS

The annual Collegiate EMS Skills Competition tested each team's EMS skills, leadership skills, and creativity, to tackle everyday situations. The scenarios replicated emergency situations, with an emphasis on the college environment. The winners of the skills competition were:

- First: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign EMS (team #2)
- Second: Loyola Marymount University
- Third: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign EMS (team #1)

For more information about NCEMSF, please visit the foundation's website at <http://www.ncemsf.org>

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