

THE JOURNAL OF HIGHER EDUCATION SAFETY

FIRE SAFETY, SECURITY & RISK MANAGEMENT ON CAMPUS

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WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL OF HIGHER EDUCATION SAFETY: SAFETY, SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT ON CAMPUS

Welcome to "The Journal of Higher Education Safety" - this inaugural issue is the official publication for Campus Fire Safety, Security and Risk Management Professionals worldwide.

A free publication written by campus safety professionals for campus safety professionals. Our publication team has years of experience in authoring, editing, and the publication of informative and educational articles related to campus safety. This team created the popular "Campus Fire Zone" (the first non-subscription based newsletter for campus fire safety). We have taken that Fire Zone concept and expanded it to meet today's "Campus all Hazards Issues".

Our team has also contributed and edited articles for publications including NFPA Journal, College Planning and Management, School Planning and Management, Campus Fire-Watch, and CCFS publications to name a few.

The nice thing about the "Journal" is, each issue will be written by safety and industry professionals, the content is easily downloadable to your smart phone and desktop for easy printing and distribution. We look forward to spending time with you in each issue.

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ENGINEERING, EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT (THE 3 E'S)

College students rarely enter their freshman year as expert cooks. They have mastered a few meals in microwaves and can boil a few food items and most of the time to do so safely. However, we all know that as they move into campus housing they are distracted by all the opportunity college brings - from new friends to free movies unlimited student groups to join and a new demanding class schedule. As a result, they can quickly become distracted when they are back in their residence hall. Universities across North America are now seeing the results of these distractions - cooking fires.

At the start of the fall semester we can anticipate that there will be an increase in cooking related incidents. We also see this uptick in cooking fires as midterms and finals approach. Schools with lower housing fire incidents recognize these points in the school year and

take a three part approach to reduce the number of cooking incidents. Over the next few months we will look at each of these three components as they relate to cooking fires and how each can be employed to reduce the number of alarms and fires in our housing buildings. Engineering fire safety into cooking operations for students can take place several ways. Strategic placement of the kitchen in relation to sleeping rooms and installing stoves with technology that reduces or eliminates the risk of fire are two items that schools can look at. Placing common kitchen areas in highly visible locations can help reduce the fire risk in several ways. First, the visual connection from hallways inside

the apartment or wing will help all students and live in staff monitor kitchen activity. If there is a stove with pots on it and it is unattended anyone can step in to turn off the appliance or watch it until the resident returns. A highly visible area also allows for rapid visual detection should cooking material start to burn on the stove or in the microwave. Installing stoves with heat limiting elements in lieu of traditional electrical elements will also help eliminate cooking fires. Using elements that only heat to 650 degrees will allow residents to cook any food items that they desire but will virtually eliminate cooking fires from starting in the first place. For microwaves, there are sensors that can be added to the vent side of the unit that will detect smoke and shut power off before a fire can start.

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Engineering fire safety into cooking operations:

Strategic placement of the kitchen in relation to sleeping rooms & installing stoves with fire reducing technology