

Campus Alert System

Background

Overview

Providing accurate information and notification to the expansive, mobile UC campus community in a timely fashion is a necessary tool for effective emergency management. After exploring many options to provide students, faculty, and staff with rapid, automated notification in the event of a campus or community emergency, the Board of Regents (BOR) has developed UC's emergency notification system.

Encouraging Campus Participation

As UC considered emergency notification vendors and solutions, two primary objectives shaped the evaluation process. First, the selected tool / approach / methodology would have to facilitate and encourage sign-up / adoption by the campus community. As a result, **students** will sign up for emergency messaging by following instructions sent to them via email after they've registered for classes. **Faculty and staff** will also receive instructions via email. The system will retain information from semester to semester, so it will not be necessary to repeatedly enroll in this system unless the information needs to be updated.

Ensuring Reliability - The System Must Perform in a Crisis

The second objective is robustness - the system must be reliable in a crisis. The BOR has contracted with the SAME vendor Virginia Tech is utilizing for emergency messaging. This vendor (3N - please visit <http://www.3nonline.com/>) will host a complete copy of UC's emergency messaging data in dual locations. Therefore, if UC were to suffer a catastrophic disaster and lose all local information technology resources, students and staff would still be able to message the campus using the vendor's web interface.

BOR Retains Control of all Emergency Notification Information

Please note that the BOR will house and maintain the authoritative (original copy) database of emergency messaging information. Consequently, if the selected vendor proves not to be efficacious, The BOR will be able to contract with another service provider as needed