

Managing Emergencies Is A Day At The Office

For SU graduates Jared Beafore M'07 and Julius M. Jones Jr. '06 and M'09, success in college opened doors to careers with the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Jared is a business analyst in the Strategic Resource Management Office dealing with the National Protection and Preparedness Directorate. His connections at SU landed him an interview with a former deputy administrator and he entered the Federal Career Internship Program in 2008. Now, Jared has a wide array of duties that range from budgeting and procurement to project management. Some of his human resource responsibilities include leading business process improvement teams and acting as point of contact for employee teleworking, travel and training.

Jared asserts that the time he spent at SU juggling his M.B.A. coursework with his Sports Information Office graduate assistantship provided great real-life exposure to the hectic schedule and high expectations he has found at FEMA. He explained: "I really learned how to be more personally accountable and responsible for what I needed to accomplish and achieve. SU also really prepared me in terms of budgeting my time and learning how to master multitasking to make sure I was being as efficient and effective as I could. I am now more comfortable with reaching out and assisting inside of FEMA." For Jared, he is most proud of these great working relationships he has established at FEMA.

Julius, a former SU SGA president who was the first and only student to serve as the University's government and community relations coordinator, was no stranger to the political arena when he began his job with FEMA. A project manager in the Office of Counterterrorism and Security Preparedness, Julius credits his success to the networking skills he gained at SU: "Since I have the gift of gab, talking to people and getting to know them helped me build relationships and establish a network of contacts who I could reach out to at any time. The old adage 'It's not what you know, it's who you know,' comes to mind, but I like to add 'it's what you know that keeps you there.'"

He currently provides technical assistance to 72 Fusion Centers, terrorism prevention and



response centers, around the United States. As a member of the National Response Coordination Center Activation Team, the group that handles medium- to large-scale events, Julius has the unique opportunity to step away from his "day job" and assist with disaster relief efforts. During the recent Haiti earthquake effort, he helped firsthand: "They didn't have any food for the infants, and we were able to have those supplies there in under 18 hours after the request was made. I can't tell you how rewarding it was when we heard the reports of its arrival."

It is comforting to know that these exemplary Sea Gulls are behind the scenes at FEMA in times of crisis.

Graduates interested in learning more about opportunities through the Federal Career Internship Program may visit:
www.opm.gov/careerintern