

# NEWS:



Edward A. Diana  
Orange County Executive

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 20, 2011

Contact: Orysia Dmytrenko, (845) 291-2700  
[odmytrenko@orangecountygov.com](mailto:odmytrenko@orangecountygov.com)

## **Orange County Emergency Management Voted Best Internship Site** *Valuable contributions to SUNY New Paltz internship program recognized*

**(Goshen, NY)** – Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana, Commissioner of Emergency Services Walter C. Koury and Deputy Commissioner of Emergency Management Seamus K. Leary are pleased to announce that the Orange County Division of Emergency Management was voted Best Internship Site by SUNY New Paltz, Institute for Disaster Mental Health and recognized for its valuable contributions to the school's internship program.

"I'm proud of our staff at Emergency Management," said County Executive Diana. "Not only are they ready to get the County through any emergency, but they are sharing their knowledge and insight with our next generation of leaders."

The Institute's Director, James Halpern, Ph.D., recently visited Orange County's Emergency Services Center in Goshen to recognize the Division of Emergency Management and its Program Coordinator Shannon Fisher, who mentors the college students.

"SUNY New Paltz believes in the importance of the internship experience and the importance of mentors like Shannon Fisher. Her work and efforts with our students benefits them, the college, and the community," said Dr. Halpern.

The Institute for Disaster Mental Health (IDMH) at SUNY New Paltz was founded in 2004 to prepare students, community members, paraprofessionals, and professionals in the helping fields to care for others following a disaster via evidence-based disaster mental health interventions, content, and skills.

For more information please visit [www.orangecountygov.com](http://www.orangecountygov.com) or [www.newpaltz.edu/idmh](http://www.newpaltz.edu/idmh).

###



***Director Dr. Halpern of SUNY New Platz, Institute for Disaster Mental Health, presents Orange County's Emergency Management Division with an award recognizing their valuable contributions to the internship program. Pictured (L-R), Dr. Halpern, Intern Becky Rodriguez, Intern Samantha Bennett, Intern Carlene Pinto, Commissioner Koury, Intern Cindy Pincay, Intern Lindsey Yates, Programs Coordinator Shannon Fisher, Deputy Commissioner Leary and County Executive Diana.***