

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

TULANE FAMILY WEBINAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026, 6 PM CENTRAL



PANELISTS:

Meredith Beers, PhD, MPH, LEM

Associate Director Emergency Preparedness & Response

Office of Emergency Preparedness & Response

Donald Veals, LEM

Associate Director Emergency Preparedness & Response

Office of Emergency Preparedness & Response

MODERATOR:

Penny Wyatt

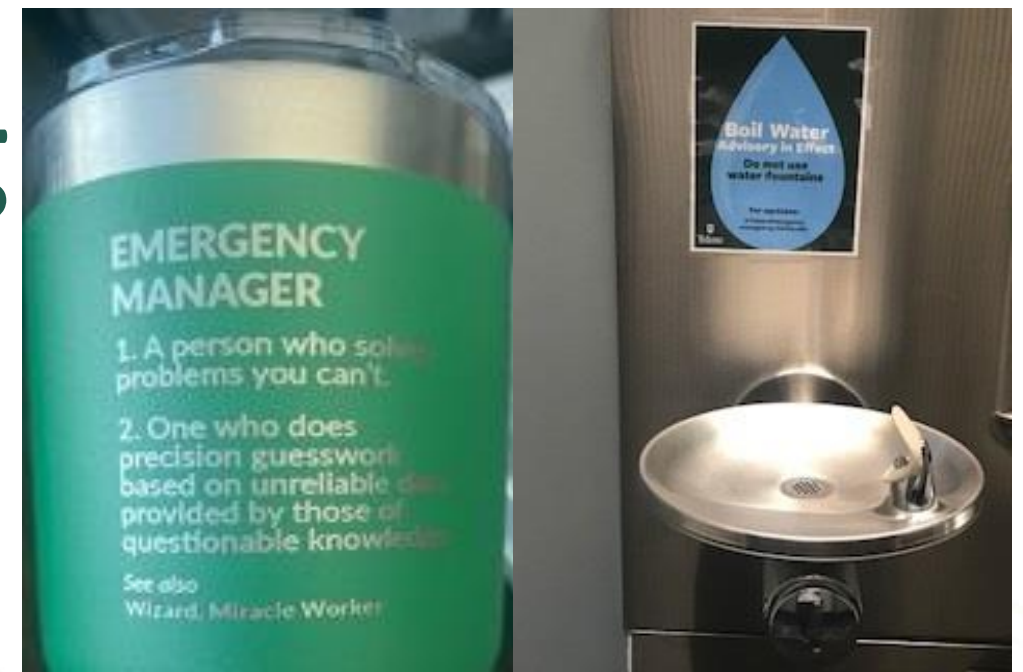
Director, Parent Programs and External Relations

Division of Student Affairs



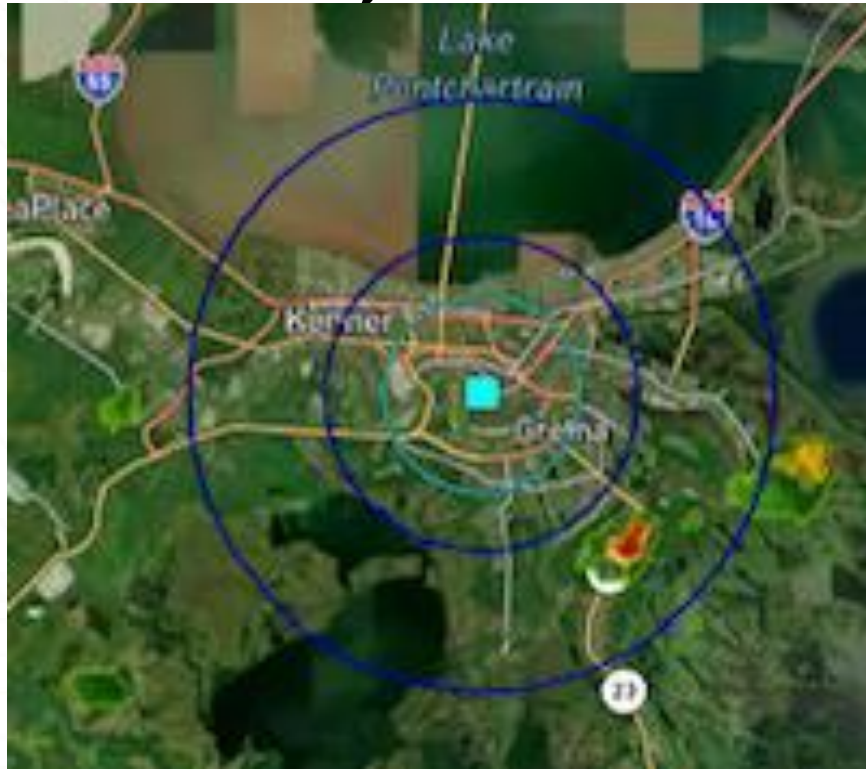
Emergency planning

- We help prepare, help prevent, and respond to incidents
- We prepare for all hazards
- Our plans are flexible and scalable
- Our number one goal is to protect the life safety of our students, faculty, and staff



All-hazards preparedness

- Each year we prepare for the most likely scenarios
- Example hazards:
 - Active shooter
 - Boil water advisories
 - Fire, bio/chemical spill
 - **Hurricanes**
 - Pandemics
 - Power outages
 - Severe weather
 - And much more!



Tulane University: T U ALERT: A tornado WARNING has been issued for our area. Remain in/seek shelter in the nearest building immediately.

nixle.us/DHAHA

Tulane University: T U ALERT: Tornado Warning All Clear nixle.us/DHAJ2



Stay safe in today's extreme heat!

Stay Connected to #beTUready



Hurricane Communications With *Families*

Email



Emergency
Webpage



Tulane Today



Social media: @TulaneU and @TulaneEmergency



Hurricane Communications with *Students*

PRIMARY METHODS

- Email (Tulane-assigned email address)
- Emergency website: <http://emergency.tulane.edu/>
- Mass Notification Communication System – “TU Alert”
 - Text Messages (students are automatically enrolled)
 - Email (students are automatically enrolled)
 - Everbridge App (students should download this app)



Hurricane Communications with *Students*

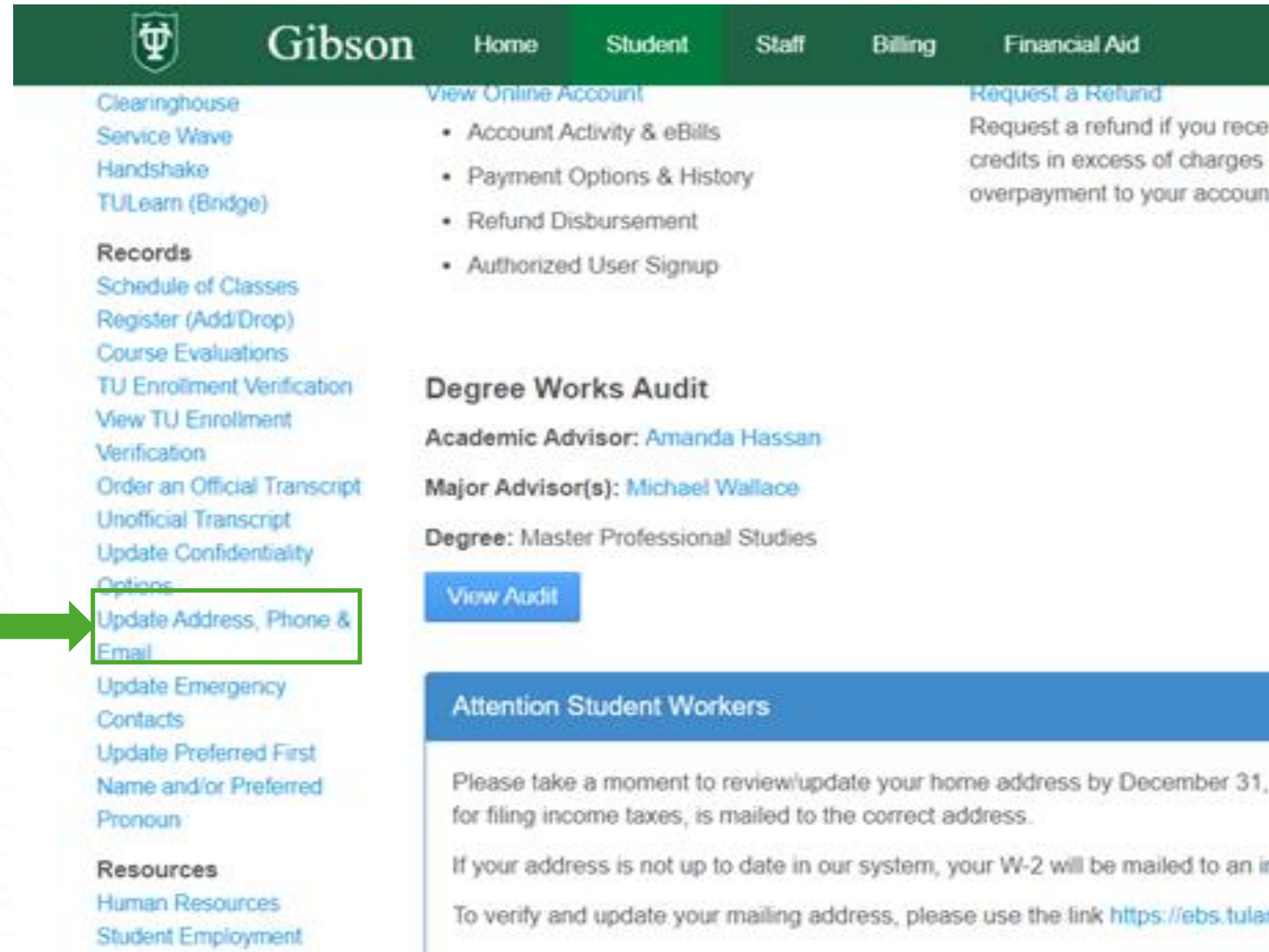
SECONDARY METHODS

- Housing & Residence Life and Dining Services will communicate with students via their Tulane email addresses
- Social Media
 - @TulaneEmergency on Instagram
- Students **must** follow directions from university officials, including Student Affairs & TUPD



Text alerts

- Your student should log into Gibson
- Look under “Records”
- Use the link to confirm or correct *their own* contact information (including cell phone number!)



The screenshot shows the Gibson Student portal. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Student, Staff, Billing, and Financial Aid. The Student section is active, displaying options like View Online Account, Request a Refund, and Degree Works Audit. The Records section is expanded, showing links for Schedule of Classes, Register (Add/Drop), Course Evaluations, TU Enrollment Verification, View TU Enrollment Verification, Order an Official Transcript, Unofficial Transcript, Update Confidentiality Options, and Update Address, Phone & Email. The Update Address, Phone & Email link is highlighted with a green box and a green arrow pointing to it from the text on the left. Below the Records section are links for Update Emergency Contacts, Update Preferred First Name and/or Preferred Pronoun, and Resources (Human Resources, Student Employment).

Gibson Home Student Staff Billing Financial Aid

Clearinghouse
Service Wave
Handshake
TULearn (Bridge)

Records
Schedule of Classes
Register (Add/Drop)
Course Evaluations
TU Enrollment Verification
View TU Enrollment Verification
Order an Official Transcript
Unofficial Transcript
Update Confidentiality Options
Update Address, Phone & Email
Update Emergency Contacts
Update Preferred First Name and/or Preferred Pronoun

Resources
Human Resources
Student Employment

View Online Account
• Account Activity & eBills
• Payment Options & History
• Refund Disbursement
• Authorized User Signup

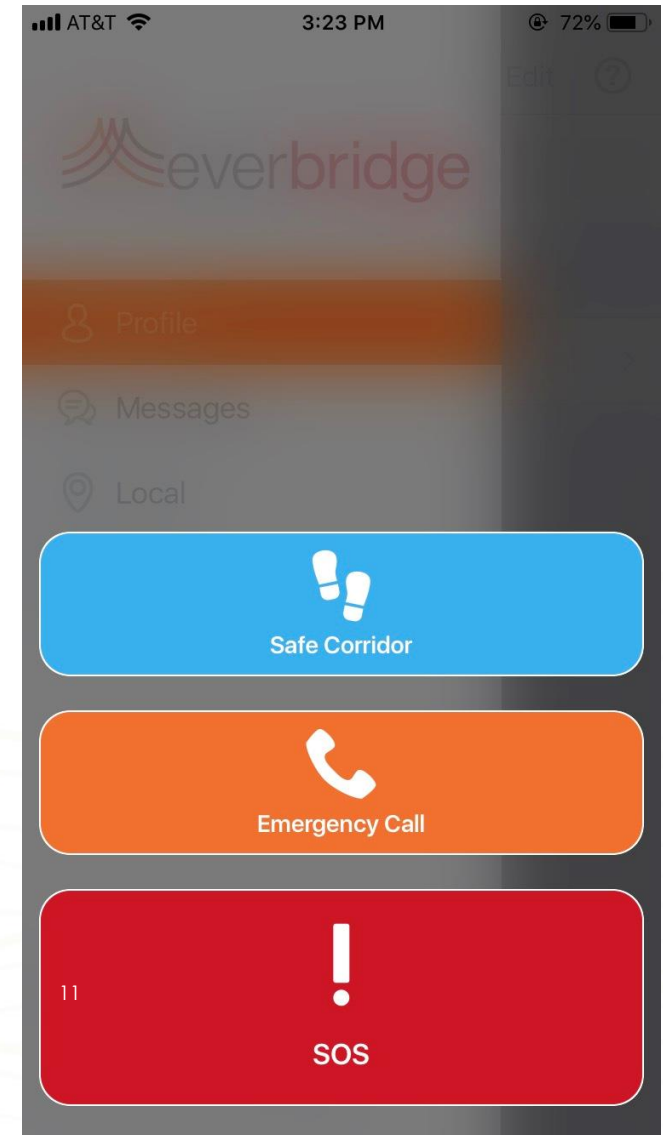
Degree Works Audit
Academic Advisor: [Amanda Hassan](#)
Major Advisor(s): [Michael Wallace](#)
Degree: Master Professional Studies
[View Audit](#)

Request a Refund
Request a refund if you receive credits in excess of charges or overpayment to your account.

Attention Student Workers
Please take a moment to review/update your home address by December 31, for filing income taxes, is mailed to the correct address.
If your address is not up to date in our system, your W-2 will be mailed to an incorrect address.
To verify and update your mailing address, please use the link <https://ebs.tulane.edu>

Everbridge app

- Available in the Apple and Android store
- Free to Tulane students, faculty, and staff who have a tulane.edu login
 - Family members, this won't work for you
 - ***please note that your student will not be able to log in until move-in in August
- Additional safety features:
 - Safe Corridor
 - Emergency Call
 - SOS



**Opt-in alerts families may receive
during move-in**

Text TUMoveIn to 888777



Hurricane Preparedness



Hurricane 101

Hurricane season: June 1 – November 30

Atlantic Ocean –

- See these form 7+ days before landfall
- ~5 days before landfall start to have a good sense of the storm's projected path

Gulf of Mexico –

- See these form ~4 days before landfall
- Decision to close and evacuate or close in shelter in place made as soon as possible once projected path forecast



Hurricane 101

Hurricane Hazards

- High winds
- Storm surge
- Heavy rainfall and inland flooding

Hurricane Impacts

- Power outages
- Loss of internet service
- Water & sewerage pumping station problems resulting in boil water advisories
- Flooding
- Supply chain disruption/interruption
- Fuel shortages



What Will Tulane Do?

Close and Shelter in Place

- *Transition to online/remote classes or cancel classes, cease normal business operations, and shelter on-campus residents in their residence halls*
- *Expected impacts to New Orleans and Tulane are manageable*

We will run shuttles to the airport

Close and Evacuate

- *Cancel classes, cease normal business operations, and everyone MUST evacuate*
- *Expected impacts to New Orleans and Tulane are significant*
 - *We can declare a mandatory evacuation even if the City of New Orleans does not*

We will run shuttles to the airport

Continue Normal Operations

- *Storm forecast area does not include New Orleans*
- *No expected impacts to New Orleans or Tulane*



How Do We Decide?

- Multiple forecast factors considered:
 - Storm size
 - Storm forward speed
 - Storm surge
 - Storm category
 - Storm direction relative to New Orleans
- Try to announce a decision 2.5-3 days before projected landfall
- Consult with National Weather Service and Perry Weather
- Each storm is unique (no two storms are the same!)



Sheltering in Place

If your student lives **on campus**:

- Residence halls and select other buildings maintain full power, including HVAC
- Students will be provided a three-day supply of shelf-stable food
- Students will not be allowed to leave their shelter location from onset of tropical storm-force winds until after damage assessment team completes initial sweep of campus
 - This could last upwards of 24 hours.
- Recreation activities (including Reily Center and the library) will be unavailable



Sheltering in Place

If/when your student lives **off campus**:

- Students will need to ensure they have bottled water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, etc. in their homes
- Sheltering on campus cannot be guaranteed
- Very likely they will lose power
 - Could be without power for days – weeks
- Boil water advisory and sewerage pumping station issues possible
- Campus does not reopen immediately



Evacuation - What to take

Students should plan to be gone **at least 5** days

- Clothes, medications (prescription and OTC), sanitation and personal hygiene supplies (don't forget glasses and contacts!)
- Emergency contact list
- Important documents (government IDs, Splash Card, leases/deeds/titles, proof of insurance)
- Necessary items to attend classes remotely/virtually
- Portable chargers, electronic devices and their relevant chargers
- Valuables & sentimental items (ex., Rolex watches, large amount of cash, family heirlooms, etc.).
*We recommend not bringing these items to college at all!



Evacuating

- Personal evacuation plans must be submitted in the Housing Portal
- Do NOT rely on the university to evacuate your student
 - **WE ARE NOT YOUR PRIMARY PLAN**
 - **Tulane will run shuttles to the New Orleans airport until ~1 day before landfall**
- Your plan CAN change
 - **Ex.: Original plan is you fly your student home/to relatives/to family friends →**
 - Changed plan **for student to evacuate with roommate/friends**
 - **Ex.: Original plan you pick your student up →**
 - Changed plan **for relative or friend to pick student up**



Your role in advance of a storm

You and your student need to decide: are you comfortable with your student sheltering in place during a tropical storm or hurricane?

- It is **REQUIRED** that you have an evacuation plan for your student
- It is OK to evacuate your student before the university announces a decision
 - Your student must communicate with their professors
- It is OK to evacuate your student if the university decides to shelter in place
- It is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** that you ensure your student's belongings are covered under your homeowner's insurance or that your student has renter's insurance
 - <https://www.collegestudentinsurance.com>



You & your student's personal evacuation plan

- **Where will your student go?**
- When will you and your student make the decision to stay or leave?
- **How will your student travel out of the city?**
- Who is your student's designated out-of-town contact?
- **Remember to include your student's service animal, emotional support animal, or (when your student lives off campus) pets in their plan**



Your role as family member

- Read university announcements, check <http://emergency.tulane.edu> for all official updates
 - The various parent Facebook pages are not official sources of information!
- Watch local news (no Weather Channel!)
 - WWL TV
 - Fox8
 - WDSU
- Remind your student to check their Tulane email several times a day.



Post-storm actions

- Students should follow all instructions from Tulane administration
 - Instructions and updates will be sent via email
 - Check <http://emergency.tulane.edu> for latest information
- Students should NOT return to any of the university's campuses or buildings until expressly told by the university that they may do so
 - Buildings may have power but that does not mean they are safe to occupy
- Students should be prepared to attend classes remotely for multiple days or longer post-storm



Questions on how to #beTUready?



Contact us

Follow us on social media @TulaneEmergency

Check out our website: emergencyprep.tulane.edu

Emergency Preparedness & Response Staff

- Jarrod Sullivan, Executive Director
jsulliv@tulane.edu
- Meredith Beers, PhD, MPH, LEM
meredith@tulane.edu
- Donald Veals, LEM
donald@tulane.edu
- Department email emergencyprep@tulane.edu



Thank you and #beTUready

