



EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES & AI WHAT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEADERS NEED TO KNOW



DR. ROCCO CASAGRANDE

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT, CENTER FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE AND SECURITY
MANAGING DIRECTOR, DELOITTE CONSULTING

Dr. Rocco Casagrande has served as a science and technology subject matter expert for the Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) for two decades. Since early 2024, Rocco became Managing Director at Deloitte Consulting after the firm acquired Gryphon Scientific, LLC, the company he positioned as a leader in biosafety, biosecurity, and all-hazards preparedness and response, with market-leading experience in using AI to enhance security and safety. His projects at Gryphon Scientific focus on bringing rigorous scientific analysis to problems of homeland defense and the management of powerful technologies. Dr. Casagrande has led the US's highest level analyses of security and safety implications of emerging technologies. His work help establish US policies for industry on the manufacture of custom biotechnology products and the funding of research to manipulate dangerous viruses. Dr. Casagrande currently serves on the Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory group of the Department of Commerce, which helps set US export control policies, and is a member of the Standing Committee on Biotechnology to assess national security implications of biotechnologies for the US National Academies of Science and Medicine.

From December 2002 to March 2003, Dr. Casagrande served as an UNMOVIC biological weapons inspector in Iraq where he obtained hands-on experience with chemical and biological agents. In Iraq, Dr. Casagrande acted as the chief of the UN biological analysis laboratory. Prior to working for UNMOVIC, Dr. Casagrande led a team of biologists and engineers to test and develop real-time detectors for biological agents while working as a scientist at a Boston-based biotechnology firm.



DUANE HAGELGANS, MODERATOR

CHAIR, IAEM-USA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
PROFESSOR, MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

Professor Duane Hagelgans has been involved in the emergency services for over 40 years. He has been working and volunteering in the field of emergency management for over 20 years. He retired in 2011 from the City of Lancaster, Bureau of Fire, where he held numerous positions including Emergency Management Coordinator for the City. He is the Emergency Management Coordinator for a regional emergency management zone in Millersville Borough and Manor Township. He holds an A.S. in Fire Science Technology from Harrisburg Area Community College, a B.S. degree in Occupational Safety from Millersville University and Juris Doctorate from Widener University School of Law.

Professor Hagelgans currently serves on the South Central Pennsylvania Task Force (SCTF). As a member of the SCTF Incident Management Team he was one of the responders to the October 2, 2006 Nickel Mines Amish School shooting. He is a Professor at Millersville University and has taught numerous emergency management courses for the Department of Homeland Security. He specializes in the area of public information and emergency response. He is currently researching better methods to teach emergency preparedness to school age children and the emergency services, in areas of leadership.

