

FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Action Plan Team: Advocacy, Partnerships and Marketing

Issue of Issue #: 5-42 **Recommendation #145** (page 13 of the Action Plan)

The USFA has not aggressively pursued opportunities for partnership in data collection, curriculum development and delivery, technology applications, public safety education, and research and development.

Summary: Partner with public and private local, state, national and international entities (e.g. DoD's Garland Fire Academy) to improve and expand deliverables and products.

- Recommendations:**
- A. Enhance and expand the NFA Higher Education Conference to become an annual event.
 - B. Combine the NFA higher education efforts with the EMI higher education training efforts and conduct a joint Higher Education Conference.
 - C. Expand cooperative agreements as part of the Degrees at a Distance Program to include national and international entities.
 - D. Identify partnership opportunities with respect to content areas of USFA and seek out agreements to expand and enhance deliverable and products.
 - E. Evaluate the effectiveness of activities to determine measurable goals, objectives, values and usefulness to improve and expand deliverables and products.

Background: There is a need for the USFA to provide National leadership in the creation of a network of training resources, programs, research and informational exchange. The USFA has instruments and processes enabling the USFA to partner with other entities by means of MOUs, Interagency Agreements and other mechanisms with organizations such as NIST, FAA, DOJ, etc. These agreements and partnerships are not generally recognized.

Over time, some of these arrangements and partnerships have been limited or became extinct due to the reduction of financial and human resources necessary to fulfill the management of these relationships.

Timeframe: Ongoing

Conclusion: Although the USFA has been limited for making connections with local, State, national and international fire organizations, over time, the USFA has been an increased focal point for international fire organizations. With respect to training opportunities, there are a number of International students who participate in the NFA courses and share their experiences and expertise.

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