Proposal:
The formation of a primarily faculty Ad Hoc Task Force who would take the initiative and training to become “experts” on emergency planning and procedures for each individual building on campus.

Membership:
At least one faculty member to represent each individual building on campus, each of who would be responsible for being the “go-to” reference person for emergency procedures for that building.

Rationale:
Although posting emergency procedures in every classroom is nice (though the big screw piercing the top third of the pamphlet makes it impossible to flip through the pages while it is still affixed to the wall), it is just a first step. We need actual drill training that is repeated and regular. We need to know what to do in the event of an earthquake because we do live in earthquake country and the Kern County area is past due for a major earthquake. (The longer the time between quakes, the more severe they are because of the build-up of stress.) We need training on what to do in medical emergencies such as a student having a seizure or heart problems.

Beyond the screwed closed clipboards in our classrooms, we need to bring emergency preparedness into individual action plans for the classroom. Specifically, to be included in the syllabus with building-specific and simplified emergency procedures for the class; including what to tell our students. Handouts should include simple key action items, i.e. important phone numbers, evacuation plan, and specific actions to deal with the following: shootings, pandemic, earthquakes, severely disruptive (and/or under the influence) students, bomb threats. We need a system from within the “cement box” (our classroom), as faculty is responsible for the classroom until an official emergency responder arrives on the scene.

We need follow through – an attendance sheet can serve as a check for who needs to be accounted for from the room in an emergency.

We need follow through – an ACTUAL UNPLANNED drill specific for buildings’ particular evacuation and/or emergency procedure plans. The thought was that faculty should just take action and do this every semester, and ask for forgiveness later.

Additionally, there should be regular flex workshops on emergency procedures several times throughout the semester offered at different times of day to make it more likely that a workshop could fit anyone’s teaching schedule. Need a flex workshop on CPR mid-semester—could one of our nursing or health faculty give CPR training? Could one of the fire tech faculty show us how to use the fire extinguisher equipment? Look at the Cerro Coso “In-House Training Center” at http://www.cerrocoso.edu/ihtc/index.htm for an example of short workshops. One of them was on how to use a fire extinguisher and had participants shooting off fire extinguishers—a lot of fun! If flex workshops can’t be done, perhaps faculty could do it in department meetings.