

American Society of Safety Engineers

Northwest Chapter



UMD Student Section



MASTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH

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Spring 2008

UMD-MEHS/MIS ALUMNI PARTY IS BEING PLANNED!

Are you working in or around the Twin Cities?
Are you planning to attend the Minnesota
Safety Council Conference in May?

Then contact us so we can count you in for the
big get together!

After the opening day of the conference,
Wednesday May 14th (place TBA), we will be
uniting old friends and colleagues, and
introducing our new faculty and students.

PUT MAY 14TH ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Words from the President

Ian Wenzel
wenz0042@d.umn.edu

The start of the spring semester is upon us and there are many exciting things yet to come in the remainder of the academic year. We have all had the chance to get our feet wet in the field of Environmental Health and Safety and are now starting to work on finding careers that best suit our individual interests.

In doing so we will be welcoming many speakers, including graduates of the program along with other professionals that will talk about some of the many Environmental Health and Safety opportunities that are out there. It's also helpful to hear about the challenges that must be overcome when students venture into their careers.

In the beginning of February the MEHS students, accompanied by two of the faculty members, traveled to Chicago, IL to attend the 18th Annual Construction Safety Conference. We had the chance to meet many large construction groups and gain awareness on the importance of safety in construction. We also had a booth set up representing the MEHS program.

Upon returning from Chicago we have started on projects and presentations that cover many different areas of Environmental Health and Safety. At the same time we will be starting to attain job placement or internship opportunities that will be effective once the semester is over. To wrap up the spring semester we will also be attending the Minnesota Safety Council Conference that takes place in Minneapolis.

Editor's Corner

Ryan L. Leege
leeg0010@d.umn.edu

I am happy (and relieved) to present the first edition of the ASSE newsletter from the class of 2008. We had an addition of two new faculty members to the MEHS program this past fall, Dr. Todd William Loushine and Wade Roseth. Within you will find profiles of Dr. Loushine and Mr. Roseth, along with thoughts from the MEHS Program Coordinator Dr. Robert Feyen, a summary of the ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference, current class member information, and more.

The class sends its best wishes and congratulations to Kimberly Berens and Reid Romer, who both graduated in the fall 2007 semester.

Also, we would like to welcome alumni to come speak with us about their careers as safety professionals. Just email any member of the class and we would be glad to organize a time for you to come.

Thank you for picking up our newsletter and feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

UMD MEHS Class of 2008

President: Ian Wenzel
Vice President: Jason Lindula
Secretary: Dustin Wilman
Treasurer: Gemechu Gelgelu
Editors: Ryan Legee
Reid Romer

Membership Chair: Tammy Tang
Social Chair: Stephanie Baron
Alumni Liaison: Scott Witkop

Class: Stephanie Baron
Kimberly Berens
Gemechu Gelgelu
Ryan Legee
Jason Lindula
Keith Mullen
Reid Romer
Natalie Stone
Tammy Tang
Jon Trevillion
Ian Wenzel
Dustin Wilman
Jeffrey Winkels
Scott Witkop

Faculty and Staff: Seraphin Abou
Darrell Anderson
Harvey Burski
Robert Feyen
Todd Loushine
Wade Roseth
Jim Stauber
Nancy Tario
Pat Wollack

Scholarship Award Recipients

James Scott Soleim Memorial Scholarship
Keith Mullen
Reid Romer

Gordon Voss Scholarship
Jason Lindula
Stephanie Baron

KellerOnline University Program Scholarship
Keith Mullen

SESHA Scholarship
Keith Mullen

AGC of Minnesota Safety Memorial Scholarship
Jason Lindula
Keith Mullen

Thoughts from the MEHS Coordinator

What's the status of the program?

As some of you are aware, the MEHS program at UMD has experienced significant change in the past 24 months. The departures of Drs. Krageschmidt and Fonooni coupled with the subsequent loss of NIOSH support for our students were significant blows to the program. Coupled with numerous rumors, these events have led many alumni to wonder what's going on with the program.

My name is Dr. Robert Feyen and I've agreed to serve as Coordinator for the MEHS program. In doing so, I've committed myself to ensuring that the MEHS program maintains the integrity and reputation built up over the past 32 years and continues to graduate health and safety professionals of exceptional caliber. But I also have taken on the responsibility of ensuring that the program moves forward, adapting to changes in the profession and remaining a viable, cutting-edge program in both the University system and the community at large. Although you may not know many of us around here other than Pat Wollack, who remains as diligent and devoted to the program as ever and Harvey Burski, who continues to be a valuable resource for the program through his teaching, guidance and wealth of experience, I guarantee that our current MEHS faculty is as dedicated and committed to these objectives as our predecessors in the program.

In that context, I'd like to dispel some rumors about the program. Contrary to what one may hear, the MEHS program is not only surviving, it is thriving. The program is *not* being terminated as a degree program nor is MEHS becoming an engineering-only or a management-only program. However, as the MEHS faculty evaluates the current state of the program, one thing is clear: we will have to change over the next couple of years if MEHS is to remain a vital and vibrant program producing highly talented professionals in health and safety. All aspects of the program are under review and changes will be made to address any shortcomings or problems we identify, changes based in part on input from alumni, industry, other safety professionals at large, and any other relevant sources.

Realistically, we can only hope for consensus on any changes that we make in the program. However, whether or not you agree with a specific change, I ask that you trust we have sound rationale and that we are not making changes arbitrarily. I also ask you to consider how you might be able to help our current and future students learn about the profession. I ask you to express your opinions and provide feedback – whether positive or negative. We will listen. We will accept help. We will consider any and all comments seriously. Ultimately, this effort is not about us as individuals; as noted before, this effort is about respecting the tradition and integrity of the MEHS program while attempting to keep it alive, up-to-date, vibrant, and continuing to produce many of the best health and safety professionals in the world.

The MEHS Class of 2008

Stephanie Baron

E-Mail Address: baro0050@d.umn.edu

Degree: B.S.

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Career Statement: I plan to become a successful safety professional by attaining a rewarding career in the Environmental Health and Safety field where I can continue to implement my knowledge and experience for the purpose of improving the safety and environment for employees.

Kimberly Berens

E-Mail Address: bere0016@d.umn.edu

Degree: B.S.

Major: Biochemistry/Molecular Biology

Minor: Biology

Career Statement: I want to pursue a career in the Environmental Health and Safety field. I will use my learned skills and my work history to create an environmentally friendly and safe work atmosphere for all employees.

Gemechu Gelgelu

E-Mail Address: gelg0001@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Mathematics and Statistics

Minor: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Career Statement: I plan to utilize my unique skills and knowledge to bring a solution to the everlasting challenges of occupational environmental health and safety.

Ryan Leege

E-Mail Address: leeg0010@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Cell Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Career Statement: To apply my scientific background in the field of environmental health and safety. I am dedicated to providing a safe environment for all workers.

Jason Lindula

E-Mail Address: linda073@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Career Statement: I would like to obtain a career in the Environmental Health and Safety field to utilize my skills and knowledge in order to improve working conditions and reduce work related injuries.

Keith Mullen

E-Mail Address: mull0280@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Chemical Engineering

Minor: Environmental Engr, Chemistry, Applied Mathematics

Career Statement: Apply my knowledge and experience as an engineer in the field of environmental health and safety. Specifically, I am looking for a fulfilling career in the field of industrial hygiene.

Reid Romer

E-Mail Address: rome0062@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Business Administration

Major: Organizational Management

Minor:

Career Statement: To engage in a career in the EHS field and provide a safe and healthful workplace to all employees involved. Furthermore, to continuously develop and enhance my professional skills and abilities.

Natalie Stone

E-Mail Address: ston0217@d.umn.edu

Degree: B.A.S.

Major: Community Health Education

Minor: Biology & Psychology

Career Statement: To obtain a challenging and rewarding career by utilizing my background and previous work experience to affect change and create a healthy workplace in the environmental health and safety field.

Tammy Tang

E-Mail Address: tang0156@d.umn.edu

Degree: B.S.

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Career Statement: I plan to pursue a challenging, yet rewarding career in the Environmental Health and Safety field that enables me to utilize my obtained knowledge and abilities.

Jon Trevillion

E-Mail Address: jtrevill@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Economics

Minor: Business Administration

Career Statement: To utilize my education and work experience to benefit the safety of co-workers and improve the profitability of a well established company.

Ian Wenzel

E-Mail Address: wenz0042@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Biochemistry

Minor:

Career Statement: To attain a rewarding career that encompasses the sustainable field of environmental health and safety where I can apply my leadership, knowledge, and professionalism to provide workers and surrounding communities with a safe and healthful environment.

Dustin Wilman

E-Mail Address: wilm0048@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Biology

Minor: Chemistry

Career Statement: I plan to begin a career and lifelong pursuit of knowledge within the Environmental Health and Safety field so that I am able to use my abilities and background in providing a safe and healthful workplace to employees.

Jeffrey Winkels

E-Mail Address: mnfire62@yahoo.com

Degree: B.A.S.

Major: Community Health Education

Minor: Concentration: Emergency Medical Care

Career Statement: To obtain a higher education that will lead to advancing career goals in the health and safety field.

Scott Witkop

E-Mail Address: witk0008@d.umn.edu

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Major: Organizational Behavior

Minor: Management

Career Statement: For years I have been working in positions where safety has been a secondary consideration at best. I want to change this if I can. This program will give me the ability to acquire a position from which I can affect change.

New MEHS Faculty

Todd William Loushine PhD, PE, CSP **Assistant Professor**

We are pleased to announce the new addition of Professor Todd William Loushine to the MEHS faculty. Dr. Loushine began teaching Engineering and Safety courses during Fall 2007 after completing his PhD in Industrial and Systems Engineering (emphasis in human factors and safety engineering) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His introduction to the EHS field began as he received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering (emphasis in environmental engineering) from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and was hired by MNOSHA as an Industrial Hygiene Engineer. While working as a compliance officer, Professor Loushine observed first-hand the relationships between organizational and social factors of a company and the effectiveness of their health and safety program. His inclination to understand these observations drove him to return to graduate school to study human factors and ergonomics, job and organization design, quality management and management sciences, and advanced social and behavioral research methodology. Among Dr. Loushine's many research and teaching interests is the use of user-centered analysis and design to optimize success and safety of individuals and thereby the success of the work system. Professor Loushine selected UMD because the MEHS program's excellent reputation and the opportunity to become involved in program evaluation and development. We are very excited to have Dr. Loushine as a member of the MEHS program.



Wade Roseth CIH, CSP **Instructor**

This year the MEHS program welcomes Wade Roseth to the faculty. As a graduate of the program, Wade is excited to be back. Wade has earned two undergraduate degrees at UMD- a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Biology, a Master of Industrial Safety from UMD, and a Master of Arts in Management from The College of Saint Scholastica. Upon graduation from the MIS program Wade moved to Dallas, Texas to work as an Industrial Hygienist for Texas Instruments and later worked for Boise Cascade in International Falls, Minnesota. Along with instructing courses in the MEHS program, Wade is the Senior Industrial Hygienist for Minnesota Power and an instructor in Biology and Chemistry at Duluth Business University. Wade chose to become part of the MEHS program for many reasons; he wants to give back to his alma mater, he wants to help fulfill the program objectives and see the program grow, and he has a passion for teaching. Welcome Wade, you are a great addition to the MEHS faculty.

Students attend ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference

Jason Lindula

linda073@d.umn.edu

In early November 2007, 6 students and one faculty member attended the 3rd annual ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee. Five students drove the 15 hours there and back while the other student and professor flew. This two-day conference, designed exclusively for ASSE Student Members, is created to prepare the future safety professional for the transition from student life to employment as a safety, health & environmental employee. The schedule included educational sessions ranging from real-life safety experience, extensive networking opportunities with peers, along with guest speakers from within the safety field. The students also had the opportunity to conduct mock interviews and have their resumes critiqued by several faculty members from around the country. While out there the students had the ability to take in what Nashville has to offer as well. Activities included go-karting and mini golf, horseback riding, line dancing, visiting the Dukes of Hazzard Museum, and many other fun and exciting events. Overall the event was a great success and the students who attended would like to thank the ASSE Northwest Chapter for providing funds to allow for transportation to and from this event.



Tammy Tang (left) and Stephanie Baron (right) are excited to attend the ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference in Nashville, TN.

From left to right: Dustin Wilman, Stephanie Baron, Tammy Tang, Jason Lindula, Ian Wenzel, and Scott Witkop. Nashville, TN.





Dr. Loushine and Ian Wenzel in Nashville, TN.



Left to right: Dustin Wilman, Jason Lindula, Stephanie Baron, Tammy Tang, and Ian Wenzel enjoy horseback riding in Nashville.



From left to right: Dustin Wilman, Ian Wenzel, Stephanie Baron, Scott Witkop, Jason Lindula, Gemechu Gelgelu, Ryan Leege, and Tammy Tang. Chicago, IL.



This is Sue- the largest and most complete *T. rex* fossil known. Sue was discovered in South Dakota and lived during the Late Cretaceous Period about 67 million years ago.

The Field Museum, Chicago, IL.

Class of 2007: Who they are and where they went

Caitlin Anderson	Safety Engineer, 3M, Fairmont, MN
Anthony Andrews	Safety Engineer I, Mortenson Construction, Mpls, MN
Kim Becker	EH&S Specialist, JDS Uniphase Corp., Santa Rosa, CA
Samantha Brichacek	Safety Engineer, Palo Alto Research, Palo Alto, CA
Todd Busch	Safety Investigator I, MNOSHA, St. Paul, MN
Reed Engel	Regional Safety Manager, API Group, Las Vegas, NV
Michael Godfrey	EH&S Specialist, St. Jude Medical, Minnetonka, MN
Matthew Hill	Safety and Environmental Director, Norwesco Inc., WI
Matt Johnson	Safety Director, J.R. Jensen Construction Co., Superior, WI
Michael Levar	Safety Specialist, Allete/MN Power, Grand Rapids, MN
William Reynolds	EHS Engineer, ADC Telecommunications, Shakopee, MN
Joe Slota	Safety Trainer, Midwest Manufacturing, Eau Claire, WI

Thank you to visitors and tour guides!

Visitors

Jill Gould
Tim Flint
Laurie Francis
Jay Rodstein
Caitlin Anderson
Rebecca Anderson
Mike Leidholm
Ryan Vieau
Kristin Bigham
Bob Pratt
Marty Kohne
Kay Ingram
Aaron Schifsky
Niki Harriman
Shawn Helmer
Linda Thiry
Chris Wiberg
Dennis Mitchell
Bruce Beckstrom
Amy Lindgren
Debi Backstrom
Anthony Andrews
Chandler Thomas
Michele McGlinchey
Nancy Zentgraf
Clayton Handt

Tours and activities

Field Logic
Cirrus
St. Luke's
StoraEnso
Louisiana-Pacific
Minnesota Power
Seagate

The class would also like to thank the faculty and staff for their continued support and encouragement throughout the year. Here are just a few examples of what they do and teach:

Dr. Seraphin Abou- Industrial Noise and Ventilation Control, Fire Prevention and Emergency Preparedness

Darrell Anderson- Machine safety

Harvey Burski- Regulatory Standards and Hazard Control, Construction Safety

Dr. Robert Feyen- Occupational Biomechanics, Occupational Ergonomics and Injury Management, Human Factors

Dr. Todd Loushine- System Safety and Loss Control Techniques, Risk Management and Workers' Compensation, Organization and Administration of Safety Programs

Wade Roseth- Principles of Industrial Hygiene, Advanced Industrial Hygiene and Health Physics

Jim Stauber- Environmental Safety and Legal Implications, Transportation Safety, Duluth City Councilor

Nancy Tario- Leadership, Teamwork, and Behavior in EH&S

Pat Wollack- Executive Office and Administrative Specialist

Attention Alumni!

Please let us know if you or someone else you know has moved and is not receiving their copy of the newsletter. Send the address change to:

**MEHS Program
University of Minnesota Duluth
Swenson College of Science and Engineering
229 Voss-Kovach Hall
1305 Ordean Court
Duluth, MN 55812-2496**

Or call/email:

Phone: (218) 726-8117

E-mail: mehs@d.umn.edu

For MEHS program information, please visit our website at <http://mehs.d.umn.edu>



Master of Environmental Health & Safety Program

University of Minnesota Duluth

<http://mehs.d.umn.edu>

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