



Editors' corner

Since the first newsletter, there have been many changes and additions to the class. First, there have been five new students added to the program: Shelly Balcer, John Hollingsworth, Marti Kiesling, Hon Siow, and Kevin Sundet. All of these new students come from different backgrounds and make great additions to the class.

This spring, the class is staying busy with course work, tours and conferences. Currently, the class is attending lectures on construction safety, principles of industrial hygiene, occupational ergonomics/injury management, and organization & management of safety programs. One particular event we are looking forward to is the construction safety conference, Chicagoland, this February in Chicago, IL.

As the spring semester gets started, the future graduates are eager to begin looking for potential job opportunities. We are confident that the MEHS program curriculum is preparing to become successful safety professional and major contributors to the profession.

Furthermore, the MEHS's website has been completely revamped and is frequently updated. We encourage you to navigate the new website and feel free to provide any feedback for further improvements. The MEHS's new web address is:

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

Sincerely,

Myriam Trepanier – trep0024@d.umn.edu
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Editors

CPR/First Aid Training at St.Lukes Hospital

Over winter break, we had some great opportunities to receive training outside of the classroom. Local safety professional Mike Marturano offered the MEHS class of 2010 a Train the Trainer certification in CPR and First Aid on January 15th and 16th. Students learned the specifics for administering a training program meeting American Heart Association (AHA) Heartsaver requirements. Topics covered in this two-day session included how to train others on the basics of child and adult CPR, the proper use of an AED, and administering first aid. We are now prepared to align ourselves with an AHA Training Center, conduct our first supervised training session, and get "signed-off" to teach CPR and First Aid within an organization or to the public.

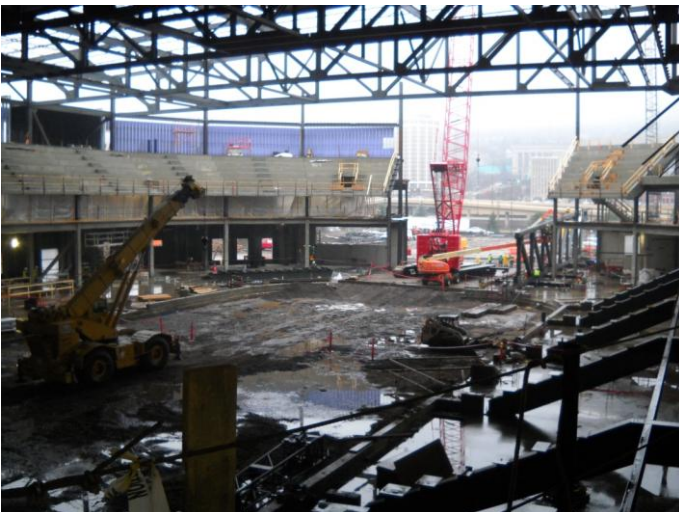
Mike Marturano is a 1992 graduate of the MEHS program. He has worked at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth for 34 years, serving the last 8 years there as Safety Officer. Mike has also taught Risk Management & Workers' Compensation, Toxicology, First Responder, and Emergency Preparedness and Fire Protection as adjunct faculty in the program. He has offered CPR/First Aid Train the Trainer to his students for more than 10 years.

We would like to thank Mike and all other local safety professionals who bring valuable training and real-life experience to us, both in and out of the classroom. It is great to have such wonderful resources as graduate students. Thank you Mike!



DECC Arena Construction Tour

On Monday November 23, 2009 six members of the Environmental Health & Safety class accompanied by Harv Burski toured the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center's new ice hockey area. The class met with Jennifer Hume, Safety Engineer for Mortenson Construction, who showed how a large-scale construction project was managed. Jennifer Hume has worked for Mortenson the last few years falling into a safety career because of her back ground in environmental studies. The MEHS class was able allowed to a full access tour of the future UMD hockey area, walking the grounds when well over 10 sub contractors were hard at work. The project is expected to be complete fall of 2010 and the MEHS class plans to revisit the site this spring for their Construction Safety class.



Special Thanks

We would like to thank **Kristin and Greg Mohs** for their generous equipment donation to the program.

Thanks also to our many guest speakers that have taken the time to come share their knowledge and expertise.

Scholarship Award Recipients

SESHA Scholarship

Myriam Trepanier

AGC of Minnesota Safety Memorial Scholarship

Mike Nilsen Jr.



Congratulations!

Upcoming Events

February 8th

OSHA-10 certification at The Builders Group, Eagan, MN

February 9th

AGC Conference, Duluth, MN

February 16th, 17th, and 18th

20th Annual Construction Safety Conference and Exposition, Chicago, IL

Murphy Oil Inc. Tour

On December 8th, 2009 the MEHS students toured the Murphy Oil Refinery plant in Superior, Wisconsin. John O'Brien gave an introductory presentation about the history of the plant, which was first built in the 1950s. John Raiha also gave a presentation about Murphy's Process Safety Management and On-site Contractors protocols. After the presentations, John O'Brien gave the tour of the facility. He showed us one of Murphy's newer projects the Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel Unit, which was just being built last September and won't be complete until next fall. It was a great learning experience and we like to again thank both Johns for their time and expertise!



The Builder's Group

On January 10th and 11th, students from the MEHS program were given the opportunity to attend training sessions presented by Katie Schofield and John Primozich of the Builders Group in Eagan, Minnesota. On the first day of training we focused on fall protection guidelines and equipment. Throughout the training we wore the full body harnesses which we were eventually able to try in the training room. The second day we covered trenching, scaffolding and confined space entry. To provide us with more hands on training we were required to set-up and take down trenching boxes as well as experience being lowered by tripod in a confined space. We would like to thank Katie and John for giving us for their training expertise and letting us use get hands on experience in the training room.



Alumni Spotlight

*Name: Andy Biondich
Graduation Class: 2009
Employer: Sterling and Associates
Industry: Consulting
Contact Info: bion0015@d.umn.edu*

Where are you currently working at?

I am currently interning at Sappi Fine Paper Inc. North America, located in Cloquet, MN.

What are your responsibilities at Sappi?

My primary responsibility is to help Sappi obtain the OHFAS 18001 certification. The 18001 certification looks at how companies can be proactive in making all of the jobs at the mill safer by reducing the risks associated with them. I also perform physical hazard audits. Most recently I just helped cycle 500 employees through a respiratory training program.

What do you think one of your biggest challenges will be as you continue your career as a safety professional?

One of the biggest challenges will be that safety is such a broad field. Throughout my career I will continually be learning new areas of safety and it will take lots of work to become a well rounded safety professional.

Do you have any advice for this year's graduates?

Take advantage of your professors, start developing good professional networks, and continue to help each other during your last semester and when you enter the industry.

Do you have future goals or specific areas you would like to work in?

Actually, I just was hired by Sterling and Associates in Milpitas, California. They are an environmental health and safety consulting company which specializes in indoor air quality and industrial hygiene work. I will be working as an industrial hygienist and start February 22nd.



Issue #3 coming soon!
Check out our new website at:
www.d.umn.edu/mehs