Hello!

The ECU Student Section continues to remain vigilant in becoming the best Student Section we can be as we bring in the New Year and transition into the second semester of the 2016-2017 academic year. Though we love what comes with having such a diverse group of individuals in our Student Section, the semester transition also has its negatives as member Hamidreza Shaki, our 2015-2016 editor, returned to his family in his home country of Iran to complete his studies. We are excited to announce our attendance as a group to the ASSE Future Safety Leaders Conference, as well as, a workshop dealing with slip-meter training this past November. In February we had the pleasure of attending the NC ASSE Parent Chapter meeting in Raleigh, and planned upcoming local volunteer opportunities. We will continue to keep you updated as the semester continues and thank you for your support.

Kevin Johnson

ECU ASSE Student Section President
In early November six members of East Carolina University’s ASSE student section chapter had the privilege to attend the ASSE Future Safety Leaders Convention in Chicago. Thanks to the support of our Raleigh parent chapter and ECU our trip was almost cost free for all members who attended. This was a great experience for everyone in the group because out of six people only one had previously been to Chicago. While at the convention we had the opportunities to participate in a plethora of different round table events which provided priceless information for our future careers as safety professionals.

Over the two day event each of us were able to personalize our schedules, so we could focus on current interests. Along with all of the valuable information from the individual events scattered throughout the days, the guest speakers were incredibly insightful. One of the speakers we had the privilege to view was Tom Cecich the president of the ASSE. Another speaker worth noting was Skipper Kendricks who closed the conference with a presentation on The Realities of What It’s Like to Be a Safety Professional. Each speaker gave valuable and shrewd advice as we transition from students to professionals.

As a student section we were able to extend our trip for an extra day to also experience the Windy city. The extra day before the conference allowed for our student section not only see the city, but also enjoy its famous deep dish pizza. An added bonus was being in Chicago when the Cubs won the World Series! The excitement that engulfed the city definitely made this trip even more memorable. The trip was an overall success for everyone who attended. One of the best parts of the entire conference was being able to not only network with other future safety professionals, but also prominent faces in the safety world. As a student section we would like to thank our Raleigh parent chapter along with ECU for allowing us to participate in this event.

- Francis Bly
The members of the ASSE ECU student section along with other colleagues, attended a training/workshop on Walkway Auditing and Operator Training for Slip-Test Mark IIIB. This was conducted by John Leffler, a Forensic Mechanical Engineer and Lead Engineering Consultant from Forcon International, on Nov 14TH 2016.

The walkway auditor training shed light on the basics of slip and fall prevention, putting into consideration the statistics according to the National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI), which has nearly 60 percent of all grocery store general liability insurance claims on slip-and-fall complaints and some other sobering statistics show slips and falls affect every industry, which makes the need for slip and fall prevention essential. The aim and purpose of the walkway audit training course and the hands on operating of the slip-test tribometer was to have graduate students in the safety field obtain sufficient knowledge on how to conduct a walkway audit or safety inspection. Slip and fall accidents can be caused by a number of things, like liquid on the floor, dust, debris, obstacles in the walkway, poor cleaning procedures, the wrong cleaning solutions, and bad maintenance.

The training course covered these following parts:

- Guidelines and implementation of standards incorporated by the Standard Development Organizations (SDO).
- OSHA’s revised Walking and Working Surface Requirements
- Walkway designs.
- Exterior and Interior walking surfaces.
- How and why slips, trips and falls occur.
- Walkway materials and their recommended applications.
- Proper walkway maintenance methods and procedures.
- Other structures associated with walkways in various facilities.
- Hands on use of the Mark IIIB tribometer.

The significant importance of walkway audits clearly shows how much slip and fall injuries can be prevented if a company can simply replace being reactive with being pro-active when it comes to preventing slip, trips and falls. We as future safety professionals, found this training session to be detailed and functional, which served not only for educational purposes but also, important in our various careers.

- Kevin Ogoegbunam
On February 16, six members of the ECU ASSE Student Section, as well as, Dr. Mike Behm and Dr. Sandra Cole were pleased to attend the North Carolina ASSE Parent Chapter luncheon in Raleigh, NC. During the meeting a technical presentation was given on how to conduct oneself during and after a job interview, as well as, professional etiquette in the work place. The presentations were given by Drew Duncan, PHR, SHRM-CP and David Smith, Senior Recruiting Partner at Biogen. These two topics were of great importance to us as students and soon to be safety professionals. Collectively, the ECU student section learned invaluable pointers and tips when going into an interview and were given sample topics and questions that tend to present themselves throughout the course of an interview. We also learned how to properly respond to and thank potential employers after the interview phase. In addition, we were treated to another presentation on professional etiquette. This presentation covered a range of etiquette topics from the basics of personal hygiene to the more complicated tasks of developing interpersonal relationships within an office or work environment. These presentations will no doubt serve us well as we transition from student to professional and pursue jobs within the safety field. During the presentations we were also treated to a delicious BBQ lunch that we are most appreciative of and wish to thank the parent chapter and its members for covering!

- Jack Ward

Contact Us!

Phone: (252) 328-9653
E-mail: msstechsystems@ecu.edu
Web: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-tecs/techsystems/msos.cfm