



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

## *American Society of Safety Professionals*

*East Carolina University Student Section*

# *President's Message*

### Editor's Note:

Congratulations to all the recent MSOS graduates

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Hello pirates! I hope you all had a great winter break. As we head into the spring semester, there's a few exciting things happening. East Carolina University will be opening a new student center on main campus January 7<sup>th</sup>. The ASSP student chapter will be holding a social event to ring in the New Year. AIHA will be invited. Several on campus students attended ASSP parent chapter meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Cree. Guest speaker Tom Watson presented about Hexavalent Chromium and Silica. Focusing mainly about industrial and workplace hygiene concepts. Students were also able to visit the V Foundation and further assist them as they continue to develop a workplace safety plan. On November 16<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker Holly Singleton provided an interactive lecture about fall prevention. The event was held by the construction management and MSOS. I hope everyone has had a great start to their spring semester!

Thanks,  
Bahirah

# *American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)*

## *14<sup>th</sup> Annual Future Leaders Conference*

The 2018 ASSP Future Leaders Safety Conference was held in Chicago this year. Bahirah, Floyd, Kong, and Neil were invited to attend the conference. I was pleasantly surprised to see the number of women that attended this year's event. It made me realize how the workforce is changing for the better each day. Being the father of two girls, it gives me hope that they will enter a workforce that is drastically different than it was when I started. I thought the event was a great learning experience for all of us because it gave us a view of the many different jobs that are available in the safety community. I really liked the mock interviews because it allowed the students to experience what they should expect to see when they apply to internships or jobs. I wanted to say thank you to all the companies that hosted the event.

During the event, the ECU ASSP Student Chapter had time to conduct two brief interviews of safety professionals at the event. Floyd and Kong conducted the first interview with Todd Loushine. The second interview was done by Neil, who interviewed Donald Jackson. Each interview was an enormous success because it gave us a chance to see what drives other safety professional.

-Floyd

## *Future Leaders Conference Interviews*



Dr. Todd Loushine  
Vice President of  
the ASSP Council

Dr. Todd William Loushine is the recently appointed (July 1, 2018) Vice President of the ASSP Council on Professional Development. He told us that he has been in the safety field for over 24 years, starting as a Minnesota OSHA Compliance Officer (IH Engineer) in March of 1994.

When asked, "why is safety important to business?", he replied that a company's commitment to their employees' safety, health, and welfare creates an opportunity for a happier, healthier, and more productive workforce. They shouldn't do it because of the threat of OSHA penalties, they should do it for financial and humane reasons.

Todd's advice to new OSH grads: As you transition from campus to workplace, your still in a learning-mode but in this new role you are responsible for your own curriculum and assignments. To make it easy on yourself, focus on making your boss "look good". Ask to meet with them on a regular basis, create a plan with due dates, develop criteria or outcome measures for your projects, etc. Get your work done on-time and beyond expectation. That will get you further in your early career than trying to guess and do things completely on your own. Good luck!



Donald Jackson  
Corporate Safety  
Director at the W.  
Soule & Company

Donald Jackson is the Corporate Safety Director at the W. Soule & Company. Don entered the safety field because he wanted to do work that would have a positive impact on people's lives. He said that being a member of ASSP has been very instrumental because it has given him a platform to share experiences and give back to the safety profession. The advice offered by Don was to be open to new opportunities, learn how a company makes profit so you understand where to get resources from, and have a passion for working with and helping people. The safety side of things will fall in line. Finally, he felt that the ASSP Future Leaders Safety Conference is essential to the profession because everyone that attends the event is the future of the Safety.

## *Board of Certified Safety Professional (BCSP) Foundation 2018 QAP/GSP Student Scholarship*



On November 21, 2018, Floyd O'Connell was selected from a group of applicants to receive the Board of Certified Safety Professional (BCSP) Foundation 2018 QAP/GSP Student Scholarship. Floyd felt honored to receive this award, and it reinsured him that continuing his education was the right choice. He felt the scholarship would allow him to continue his education without the worries that he had before. Floyd was hesitant at first about applying for the scholarship because he was so much older than the rest of the students in his program. However, he feels grateful that he was chosen to receive the scholarship from BCSP and wanted to say thank you to BCSP for the scholarship.

## *Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) Safety Training*



(Left: Bahirah Siddiqi, Floyd O'Connell, Holly Singleton, Wendy Lang, and Kong Meng Lee)

Wendy Laing and Holly Springfield, from the Southeastern OSHA Training Institute Education Center, visited ECU to hold a safety seminar for the MSOS and Construction Management students. The training was used to help participants identify, control, and prevent common fall hazards as was geared toward youth workers. During the training, students learned through a very interactive learning experience. Singleton discussed various aspects of fall prevention including four common hazards, facts related to falls, and safe ladder issues. Four common hazards are falls, being struck by an object, electrocution, and being caught in between. Some interesting facts are 25% of falls occur falling off ladders, some injuries go underreported, and younger workers are more likely to have an accident happen, Younger workers are at more risk due to the tasks they are assigned. Construction is considered one of the most dangerous work areas. Singleton also referenced the OSHA website. There are several useful sources that OSHA mentions along with PDFs that describe ladder safety rules, types of ladders, and facts. Lastly, Singleton provided an activity for students. Students were told to break up in groups and have one student put on the harness with input from other group members. Overall, this presentation was extremely informative and allowed students to ask questions and learn about fall prevention. The training was useful training seminar because many of the students have never received safety training on this subject.

-Bahirah, Floyd

*Congratulations to our Recent Graduates from the  
Master of Science in Occupational Safety!*



(Left: Casandra Hubbard, Dr. Hardison, Jeremy Judd, Jordan Arnold, William Duncan, Gary Higdon, Dr. Behm)



Jordan Arnold  
Safety Manager at  
Metal Tech

The MSOS Program here at East Carolina University has been very instrumental in shaping me as a safety professional. This program is equipped with passionate professors that are there to ensure that you learn the information needed to prepare you for the workforce. As a safety manager, I use the items I acquired through the MSOS program such as networking connections, employee relation skills, and tools and/or methods for mitigating hazards on a daily basis. Graduating with this degree has given me more credibility and many employment opportunities. GO PIRATES!!!



William Duncan  
District Safety  
Trainer for  
Sunbelt Rentals

I am William “Bill” Frank Duncan, graduate of the MSOS degree program in December 2018. I am currently a District Safety Trainer for Sunbelt Rentals, the 2nd largest equipment rental company in the U.S. I apply the knowledge I gained in the MSOS program every day as I work directly with OSHA regulations related to the operation of heavy machinery and equipment. The MSOS program has benefited me greatly because it afforded me the opportunity to completely change my career path at the age of 45. It was an economical program given the demands in the industry as a whole. I intend to take the CSP exam within the year. My goal is to move into a more traditional Safety position within my organization over the next couple of years.





Steve Higdon  
Project Safety  
Manager

When I entered the MSOS program I was already working as a Safety manager and felt that I had an above average knowledge of the industry. For me ECU was my first choice due to its' ABET accreditation and the respect the program has in the industry among practicing safety professionals. Though not an easy endeavor, my opinion of the program, faculty and ECU has only improved.

The first thing I learned at ECU in the MSOS program was how much more there was to learn. The MSOS program will challenge you regardless of your current level of knowledge. The program inspires you to become more professional. The program elevates your knowledge base and improves your technical knowledge, soft skills, and team building effectiveness. This program improves the entire industry by training effective safety practitioners, ready to meet the challenges of leadership in the Occupational Safety field.



Casandra Hubbard  
Corporate Safety  
Occupational  
Health and Safety  
Specialist

I've had the pleasure of working in safety for 24 years in a variety of different industries. I have always wanted to obtain my master's degree but was unable to sit in a traditional classroom setting because of working full-time and being a full-time mom. ECU's distance education program provided me an opportunity to obtain an MSOS while continuing to work and be a mom. I've learned so much in all my Safety classes that enhanced my knowledge, and I have already implemented what I learned in my work environment. Each safety class I took provided me with additional information/stepping stones to enhance my current safety program. I encourage safety professional looking to obtain their MSOS to consider ECU distance education. The program is wonderful, and the professors are knowledgeable and awesome.



Jeremy Judd  
EHS Administrator  
at Keihin-North  
America

Somewhere between school work, note-taking and working a full-time job, the MSOS program here at East Carolina University has given me a deeper understanding of more than course material. This program has given me the opportunity to learn a great deal about myself and the impact I can have on the people in which I work for through safety. While learning alongside one another and building relationships within this program, I have developed into a safety professional. I have gained the confidence in understanding the extent of my abilities in the workforce. This degree gives the opportunity to find personal growth, greater employment opportunities, career advancement, greater credibility, and even financial reward. Tomorrow really does start at East Carolina. Go Pirates!

## *ECU MSOS Alumni Spotlight*



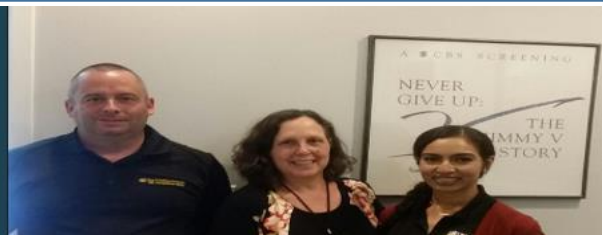
Morgan Brown  
Star Program IH  
Consultant NC  
Department of  
Labor

Morgan is an alumna from the Master of Science in Occupational Safety program at East Carolina University. Currently, she is a Star Program Industrial Hygienist consultant with NC Department of Labor (NCDOL) and has been working to improve North Carolina's safety culture for about 5 years. Morgan's typical workday depends on what she has planned and can vary from leading onsite evaluations, presenting to a company about the Star Program, participating in a ceremony when a company achieves (or is recertified) Star status, handling office duties such as reports, evaluations, and reviewing Star Program applications. When she was younger, Morgan's first two career path choices were between being a teacher or a doctor. Morgan quickly realized that both career choices' environment and line of business did not suit her personality and who she was as an individual. However, she found the perfect way to be both a teacher and doctor when she took her first Intro to Environmental Health course. Since then, the safety field has allowed Morgan to educate people and keep them safe and healthy. Morgan says that the best part of her job is being able to meet and partner with various unique industries in North Carolina. The most challenging part about her job is trying to explain to prospective companies that working with NCDOL is a good thing and that they are there to help. Here is Morgan's advice to those that are interested in the safety field, "Take a course or webinar to see what safety really entails. I would also encourage them to spend a few hours with a safety professional to get firsthand experience. Safety is a thank-less career. In many cases, your efforts will only be noticed when things go wrong – and then they are scrutinized but walking through a plant or jobsite and seeing employees begin to shift their way of thinking because it's the right to do and knowing that they will all go home to their families is all the thanks a safety professional needs."

Link to more information about NCDOL's Carolina Star program:

<https://www.labor.nc.gov/safety-and-health/recognition-programs/carolina-star-program>

## *V Foundation*



The fire prevention and fire drill were postponed until next month because of the holidays. I am also working on a resiliency plan that will cover security measures at the V Foundation and plan on giving a one-hour presentation how employees should react in different situations. I think the training will help the employees remain calm in difficult situations.

-Floyd

## *Master of Science in Occupational (MSOS) Safety Polos*



These are the polo shirts that on-campus students wear to events and around campus to show the pride in our program. Dr. Behm has allowed distant education students to purchase them if they would like to have one. These polo shirts are available in both men and women sizes. We have a calculated a flat price for the polo shirt and shipping, which is \$36.00 per polo shirt. These polo shirts are not required for the program but are nice to have to wear around. If there are any questions about the polos, feel free to contact [oconnelf16@students.ecu.edu](mailto:oconnelf16@students.ecu.edu).

-Floyd

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