



OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE MATTERS

Welcome to the October 2019 edition of Occupational



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Julia Norris - AIOH President 2019

Well the end of the year is fast approaching and as this will be my last presidents update in OH matters, I have taken the opportunity to promote the great work council and our members have been doing.

It has certainly been a year to remember and I am proud that we have remained firmly focused on achieving the objectives of our strategic plan, making great progress towards these.

Business minded approach

Staff performance reviews have been completed and from this the major objectives and professional development plan for each of our staff members will be developed for the next year.

A legal review of the rules and statement of purpose has been complete with legal review stating that we are currently in compliance with the act. Given the longevity and familiarity of our current rules, the compliance lawyer did not recommend a full scale change of our rules. However, he did provide some suggestions for minor changes to remove duplications and improve functionality and when these are finalised council will endeavour to communicate implement these changes through a SGM.

The compliance lawyer also identified that we have been operating outside of the requirements of our current registration as we are registered as an incorporated association in Victoria, but operate in all states. To ensure ongoing compliance we have initiated the process of registering the AIOH as an Australian registered body. This does not require a rule change but does enliven some provisions under

the corporations act that require us to report to ASIC any changes to our constitution, address and directors. It also enlivens the duties of directors provisions.

Professionalism

On the back of a successful round of COH exams in Brisbane mid-year, we have had another 23 applicants apply to sit their COH exams in December. This is a fantastic outcome for the AIOH and our profession and I would like to sincerely thank our hard working certification board for their continued dedication and hard work.

The COH exam preparation course will again be run to help prepare candidates for the exam and I strongly encourage all candidates to participate in this course.

You will also have seen that a Membership pathways working group has been established, chaired by Andrew Orfanos and including representation from the M&Q committee, PD&E committee, COH board, Mentoring committee as well as general members. The aim of this working group is to consider ways to strengthen our professional membership, increase our inclusivity and broaden our range of influence within occupational hygiene and its related fields.



Dr. Ross Di Corleto speaking at BFA event

Enhanced profile

It is with great excitement that I can report that 3 mining **Breathe Freely Australia (BFA)** roadshows have been held in QLD. These were well attended and feedback has been very positive. This has resulted in key stakeholder engagement and attendance of over 120 mining industry health and safety professionals. I cannot thank our amazing BFA Queensland team enough for their fantastic organisation and delivery of these highly successful roadshows.

The BFA campaign has continued with the AIOH invited to present **Breathe Freely Australia** awareness sessions at the Housing Industry Association silica awareness seminars around Australia. So far we have presented to over 200 tradesmen and builders in WA, NSW, SA and Canberra which has been an amazing opportunity to engage with these small to medium size businesses that we have traditionally found difficult to engage with. The seminars are continuing around Australia and I would like to thank those AIOH volunteers who have given up their time to contribute to the program.



Dr. Julia Norris speaking at HIA event

Three further construction/silica themed roadshows have been scheduled for Western Australia and the WA steering group has been working hard to finalise the details for these.

In addition, we are also working with the Office of Industrial Relations in Queensland to contribute the **Breathe Freely Australia** program to their roadshows promoting the newly released code of practice for the management of respirable crystalline silica in the engineered stone benchtop industry.

Advocacy and influence

The AIOH is continuing to advocate heavily for preventative approach to managing occupational disease. As you will have seen from the multiple calls for submission have recently put out, we are actively seeking opportunities to contribute to the development of guidelines and strategies. These include contributions to:

- Weld Australia technical paper on control of fume- Andrew Orfanos has attended the multidisciplinary team meetings of this group and is collating member comment;
- NSW dust disease board enquiry- Andrew Orfanos and Martin Jennings attended this enquiry and gave submissions on behalf of the AIOH. You can see the recording at [Insert photo or link](#)
- Queensland OIR- Code of practice for the managing respirable crystalline silica dust exposure in the stone benchtop industry- Ross Di Corleto and Simon Worland were part of this working group and contributed to the inclusion of good occupational hygiene practice into this code of practice.
- National dust disease task force- call for submissions on their consultation have been invited and the external affairs committee chair, Martin Jennings will collate responses. We have been invited to present to the next meeting of the dust diseases board on 20th November;
- Australian Engineered Stone Advisory Group- accreditation process. AESAG have announced an accreditation process for workshops wanting to purchase engineered stone. We are still in

discussion with them about how we can contribute to the awareness and education program that is needed to compliment this accreditation process.

As part of our strategy for advocacy and influence the AIOH have committed to promoting the profession nationally and internationally. The second IOHA biannual face to face board meeting for 2019 was held on September 8th in Bali in conjunction with the NAR committee meeting. Overall it was a very interesting board meeting. It was interesting to hear that both IOHA and many of our sister organisations are facing the same challenges as us in terms of recognition, resources and funding and engagement of with other professional groups. Lots of opportunity for us to share learnings and definitely an opportunity for us to involve more of our members in international and IOHA activities.

A focus of the NAR committee continues to be to promote alignment with ISO 17024 (2012): Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons. More details will be provided as this project progresses.

I was also privileged enough to be invited to present a keynote presentation at the 4th IHA connect (Indonesian Industrial Hygiene Association Conference). AIOH members Aleks Todorovic, Jeremy Trotman and Brian Eva also presented either PDC's or at the conference and it was great to enhance those connections with our close neighbours and share our experiences.





Improved AIOH organisational efficiencies

Financial invoicing processes have been refined with more efficient processing times and better record keeping. Our financial audit has been completed with feedback from the auditors advising that our record keeping is robust and at a higher standard than other not for profit organisations they audit

Kind Regards

Your President

Dr Julia Norris

president@aioh.org.au (mailto:president@aioh.org.au?subject=OH%20Matters%20July%202019%20)

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NATIONAL UPDATE

2019 AIOH Perth Conference Update

The 2019 Perth Conference Organising Committee is delighted to confirm 9 keynote speakers presenting topics that showcase the conference themes: **ReCalibrate; ReSynergise & ReBrand.**

Cas Badenhorst is one of the keynote speakers and will be travelling from South Africa to share the innovative approach Anglo American is taking in the field of occupational hygiene. Cas is the Group Lead Occupational Health and Hygiene at Anglo American plc. He is a Registered Occupational Hygienist with SAIOH working in the field of occupational health and hygiene for more than 20 years. He is appointed as Extraordinary Associate Professor in Occupational Health and Hygiene at the North-West University, South Africa and is an Honorary Fellow at the University of Wollongong, Australia. He is a Past President of the

Southern Africa Institute of Occupational Hygiene (SAIOH) and the current chair of the Health Working Group of the International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM).



AIOH 2019 | **THE POWER OF MANY**
CROWN PERTH, 30 NOV TO 4 DEC 2019
RECALIBRATE · RESYNERGISE · REBRAND

We're delighted to introduce Keynote speaker - **Cas Badenhorst**,
Group Lead: Occupational Health and Hygiene | Anglo American plc.

**"RE-IMAGINE
OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE
TO IMPROVE PEOPLE'S
LIVES"**

CAS BADENHORST

Click here (<https://www.aioh.org.au/aioh2019/aioh-2019-keynote-speakers>) to check out all the keynote speakers and learn more about the topics they will be presenting.

If you're still on the edge about coming, here are three reasons why 30 Nov to 4 Dec should be locked into your calendar:

- Reenergise your passion by learning from world class specialists across a broad spectrum of topics
- Refresh your world view with real value that you can apply immediately
- Reinvigorate your professional networks at highly anticipated social events

You won't believe the value packed into AIOH2019!

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Events Update

IP601 - Thorough Examination and Testing of Local Exhaust Ventilation Systems, giving candidates a practical and theoretical understanding of best control practice for hazardous substances, the role of local exhaust ventilation (LEV) in this regard, and how to test and maintain LEV systems to a standard which

reduces occupational ill health. Click here (<https://www.aioh.org.au/events-public/aioh-ip601-thorough-examination-and-testing-of-local-exhaust-ventilation-systems>) for information and to register



Chapter Meetings

Register now for AIOH VIC Chapter meeting 24 October | Meet and greet 2019 AIOH Council members and staff | AIOH Members only opportunity | Click here (<https://www.aioh.org.au/events-public/events-docs/vic-chapter-meeting-october>) for information and to register



Register now for AIOH QLD Chapter meeting 29 October | Practical methods for measuring whole-body vibration in the workplace | Click here (<https://www.aioh.org.au/events-public/events-docs/qld-chapter-meeting-october>) for information and to register



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Taskforce to tackle Silicosis and Other Dust Diseases



Martin Jennings and Andrew Orfanos speaking at the NSW dust disease board enquiry

The Australian Government Department of Health has established a National Dust Disease Taskforce to develop a national approach to the prevention, early identification, control and management of dust diseases in Australia. To read more about the announcement and terms of reference, click here.

(/static/uploads/files/207w1004-wfirsvodduyy.PDF)



Professor Brendan Murphy discusses the recently announced Silicosis taskforce on ABC Canberra's AM show.
Click the image to listen.

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National Safe work month

October is National Safe Work Month, and **Safe Work Australia** is asking workers and employers across Australia to commit to building safe and healthy workplaces for all Australians. This year's theme is "**Be a Safety Champion**". For more information or to find out what events are happening near you, click here (<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/national-safe-work-month>)

national safe work month
October

ANYONE CAN BE A **CHAMPION** FOR WORK
HEALTH AND SAFETY



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INTERNATIONAL UPDATE



IIHA Connect 2019

Prama Sanur Beach Hotel, Bali
9th – 11th September 2019

The 4th Indonesian Industrial Hygiene Association Conference IIHA Connect 2019 was held at the Prama Sanur Beach Hotel, Bali on 11 September 2019. PDCs covering a range of topics including risk communication, noise control, heat stress, fatigue management, ventilation, and direct reading instrumentation, were held on 9 and 10 September. The theme of the conference was 'Strengthening the Profession of Industrial Hygienists'.

In the lead up to the conference, the International Occupational Hygiene Association held a meeting of the National Accreditation Recognition Committee on 7 September and its Board Meeting on 8 September.

The conference was well supported by the Australian contingent including President Julia Norris, Honorary Treasurer Aleks Todorovic, Jeremy Trotman, Carey Murphy, Venessa Thelan, Brian Eva, and Philip Hibbs (hope we haven't left anyone out). It was also well supported by representatives from IOHA and ANOH member countries. In all there was something in the order of 150 delegates.

Aleks delivered a PDC on the 'Limitations and Advantages of Occupational Hygiene Direct Reading Instruments'. Jeremy, Carey, and Venessa delivered a PDC on 'Noise Control'. The PDC participants provided very positive feedback.

Julia's Plenary presentation on the 'Relationship between Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Medicine' was well received. Brian presentation on the 'Introduction of MDI based resins to replace urea-formaldehyde in particle board and MDF plants' was also well received.

Brian was asked to do the introduction and welcome to guests for the conference dinner. It was a cultural event with Balinese dancers and local cuisine. Brian looked the part with his Indonesian batik shirt.

The Indonesian Industrial Hygiene Association was very appreciative of the support for 4th IIHA-Connect 2019 by IOHA and AIOH.

Philip Hibbs and Brian Eva



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IOHA Board meeting - 08 September 2019

Twenty-one representatives and observers were present, and two representatives were online.

International Labour Organisation

IOHA was represented at the International Labour Conference (ILC) at Geneva in June 2019 by past President Andrea Hiddinga. The IOHA Statement on Worker Health and Safety was presented to the meeting and is now included on the agenda of the governing body which will meet to discuss March 2020.

International Ergonomics Association

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has requested the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) to draft high-level guidelines and recommendations for HFE in work systems. IOHA will provide input to IEA.

World Health Organisation

The primary focus of the World Health Organisation (WHO) is public health. Jakes Jacobs is working to formulate a strategy for a solid working partnership between IOHA and WHO and to have occupational health on the WHO agenda.

IOHA Website

After 2 years in review and construction, the new IOHA website has been launched. AIOH members are encouraged to review the content. The IOHA website can be found at www.ioha.net (<http://www.ioha.net>). The new website contains updated areas for newsletters, resources, training and webinars, calendar of events, and IOHA activities. New additions include networking portal and job board, and facilities for translation into other languages, an interactive map, and sponsorship section.

Industrial Hygienist Association of the Philippines

The Board ratified the membership of the Industrial Hygienist Association of the Philippines (IHAP) as the latest member of IOHA.

New Membership Applications

A new member application has been received from Argentina and is under consideration. IOHA now has 36-member organisations represent by 33 countries.

IOHA President

Tom Fuller, AIHA representative was elected to the position of President-elect for 2019-2020. At the close of the meeting, outgoing President Jakes Jacobs handed over to the President-elect Rene Leblanc.

Philip Hibbs





IOHA Board Meeting

IOHA President Jakes Jacobs welcomes the Pre



IOHA President Jakes Jacobs congratulates SAIOH NARC Representative Garth Hunter on the successful reassess

IOHA National Accreditation Committee (NARC) Meeting – 07 September 2019

The NARC continues to work through the 2019 Business Plan.

The review of the Southern African Institute of Occupational Hygiene (SAIOH) certification programme has been completed and the IOHA Board accepted the recommendation of the NARC that IOHA recognition of the SAIOH certification scheme be renewed.

Works programmed for 2019 include:

- Assessment of new applications

1. Occupational and Environmental Health Society of Singapore (OEHSS) – almost complete

- Re-assessment of Overdue Renewals:

1. Hong Kong Institute of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (HKIOEH)
2. Japanese Association of Working Environment (JAWE)

- Re-assessment of Overdue Renewals:

1. American Board of Industrial Hygienists (ABIH)
2. Swiss Society of Occupational Hygienists (SSOH)
3. German Society of Occupational Hygiene (DGAH)
4. Malaysian Industrial Hygiene Association (MIHA)

- NARC Operating Procedures, Works Instructions and Forms

- Alignment of certification programmes to ISO 17024

To ensure that the systems and documentation for NAR certification programmes continues to meet current international certification expectations, the IOHA Executive has requested that all certification schemes recognised by IOHA be aligned, and be third party accredited, to ISO 17024. Following a recommendation from the NAR Committee, the IOHA Board has deferred the requirement for third-party accreditation of certification programmes to ISO 17024 for 12 months to allow alternative options to be explored. The requirement for NAR member certification programmes to be aligned to ISO 17024 remains unchanged.

The ABIH has generously offered to provide support/assistance to the IOHA NAR Committee to assist member organisations to align their certification programmes to ISO17024.

Separate to the NARC meeting, Mila Tejamaya and Philip Hibbs met with the local Regulator seeking support for the IIHA to develop an IOHA recognised Certification programme. The responses from the Regulator were encouraging. IIHA has asked for assistance with the development of its certification programme from MIHA and AIOH.

Philip Hibbs



NAR Committee Luncheon

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European Mineralogical School



A number of AIOH members attended the European Mineralogical School, held in early September at Casale Monferrato, Italy. With the title of the 5 day conference 'Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA): from Geological to Medical Aspects', some of the highly detailed and technical challenging topics which were presented by some of the European and American leading researchers and practitioners included:

- Geological processes that lead to the formation and transition of elongate/fibrous mineral forms of non-commercial types of amphiboles and serpentinites.
- Modelling and predicting NOA in geological formations (often a requirement for large construction and infrastructure projects).
- Detailed and specific information on the identification of NOA in bulk samples using the various analytical techniques for such as thin section polarised light microscopy, raman infrared spectroscopy and the transmission and scanning electron microscopic techniques (and the strengths and weaknesses of each methodology)
- Surface properties of NOA and non-asbestos mineral fibres and the chemical analysis used to examine, predict and determine bio persistence and dissolution of asbestos fibres in bacterial

solutions as a model for predicting effects in lung tissue.

- Environmental and occupational factors for development of asbestos related diseases and cancer.
- Microbiological techniques for altering the surface chemistry and properties of asbestos and elongate minerals to accelerate mine and waste site remediation.

The problems of nomenclature and identification of NOA were discussed and it is interesting to note that Australia also shares these issues which often lead to misidentification by laboratories inexperienced in NOA analysis. The application of the above technologies and the presentations on the complex experiences that had been encountered in real world large scale engineering tunnelling, road construction and remediation projects provided insight into future directions in these areas. Alan Rogers also provided a presentation on 'Wittenoom - the Italian Connection' which included the working and exposure conditions of Italian migrants at Wittenoom in the 1950's and 1960's and their disease outcomes along with the use of Wittenoom crocidolite in asbestos industries in Italy during the period 1955-1960.

The location of the University based School in Casale Monferrato also had special significance and meaning. The Eternit asbestos cement factory was located in the town where from 1907 to 1986 over 4,000 workers, including large numbers of skilled women manufactured flat, corrugated and moulded asbestos cement products. The asbestos used at the factory included chrysotile from the local Balangero mine, and crocidolite imported mainly from South Africa and from Wittenoom during the period 1955 to 1960.

Due to the large size of the factory, poor working and environmental controls, high levels of exposure, and continued use of crocidolite up until closure in 1986, this has resulted in an extremely high risk of mesothelioma for male and female factory workers, their families, and those in the community through environment exposures as a result of extensive use of asbestos cement wastes in the local housing, town and surrounding areas. Remediation works are continuing to be undertaken around the town and neighbouring areas to remove the extensive widespread contamination.

As a result, there has been a catastrophic loss of lives due to asbestosis and mesothelioma (currently there is an average of 1 mesothelioma death per week in the town), and due to latency issues, the peak of mesothelioma deaths is predicted to occur from 2020-2025 and may well extend beyond that. Whilst the community still is fighting for justice against the factory owners, it was encouraging and heart-warming to see that in times of such incredible tragedy, sadness and guilt from loss of life, the community has rallied to provide multiple strategies to assist its people including community asbestos awareness, expert and dedicated medical care with specialised patient and family support. The local high school has also developed an innovative asbestos awareness program which uses the latest audio visual technologies to share the Casale story to school children, university students and the wider Italian and European community.

The EMU School also included a tour of the largest European asbestos mine - the defunct Balangero chrysotile mine north of Turin where extensive remediation works are currently being undertaken; a tour of the site of the former Eternit factory (now the dedicated ETERNOT parkland with special tributes and memorials); and the local high school (where the awareness programs are being created and facilitated by the students).

Report by Linda Apthorpe Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH)®, FAIOH, Samantha O’Callaghan MAIOH, and Alan Rogers Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH)® FAIOH.



A memorial to the asbestos victims in the ETERNOT community parkland with flowers laid by AIOH members



AIOH members at the Balangero mine tour



High school students delivering their innovative

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A Brighter Future for Occupational Hygiene in Asia



The 4th ANOH Conference 2019
Asian Network of Occupational Hygiene

**“ A Brighter Future
for Occupational Hygiene in Asia ”**

*November 9–12, 2019
Bangkok, Thailand
Buddy Oriental Riverside Hotel*

 *Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association (OHSWA)*  *Asian Network of Occupational Hygiene*

The 4th Asian Network of Occupational Hygiene Conference

The Asian Network of Occupational Hygiene Conference will bring together attendees and provide them with the opportunity to exchange ideas, experiences, and solutions to advance Occupational Hygiene in Asia and beyond. It will focus on a general topic 'A Brighter Future for Occupational Hygiene in Asia' and explore the areas of Physical Agents, Chemical Agents, Biological Agents, Psychosocial Agents, Ergonomics and Musculoskeletal disorders, Occupational and Environmental Exposure Assessment, Health risk Assessment, Biomonitoring, and new biomarkers, Environmental Health, etc.

(Please note there has been a change of venue to BEST WESTERN PLUS Wanda Grand, 111 / 4 Chaeng Wattana-Parkred 19 Alley, Tambon Khlong Klua, Amphoe Pak Kret, Chang Wat Nonthaburi 11120, Thailand)

Read more here (<http://www.anoh2019.com/>)

Call for Papers - ASTM D22 Symposium



ABSTRACTS DUE: February 28, 2020

October 29-30, 2020

Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld

Orlando, FL

ABOUT THE EVENT

Papers are invited for the Third ASTM Symposium on Silica and Associated Respirable Mineral Particles to be held October 29-30, 2020. Sponsored by ASTM Committee D22 on Air Quality, the symposium will be held at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld in Orlando, FL, in conjunction with the October standards development meetings of the committee.

Objective

Crystalline silica accounts for 12% by weight of the earth's crust and is present in most rock and soils and many construction materials. Chronic and acute respiratory disease associated with occupational exposure to airborne respirable crystalline silica (RCS) has been observed through history and, currently, there is no effective treatment. Therefore, it is essential to understand the working environments where silica dust is present in order to take all necessary precautions for workers health.

Improving and standardizing analytical methodologies across laboratories and countries and developing samplers that provide additional RCS mass for analysis is required to address this situation. Combining these two approaches will allow accurate evaluation of workplace concentrations of RCS and has the potential to allow shorter-term task-based sampling for better understanding of the determinants of exposure. This Symposium builds on the work presented at the first and second ASTM Silica Symposia held in 2004 and 2012 and provides an update on progress towards accurately assessing RCS exposures for compliance with limit values and beyond compliance for improved worker protection. It will be valuable to regulators and bodies which set guidance for RCS exposures, managers and technicians of laboratories engaged in RCS analysis, hygienists and others collecting samples for RCS, risk assessors and managers engaged in determining and managing the risks of products or processes that may result in emission of RCS, and representatives of workers exposed to these products and processes.

Symposium paper topics of all aspects of sampling and analysis of airborne respirable dust generally or respirable crystalline silica specifically are invited and may include:

- Development, implementation, quality assurance and validation of existing or novel samplers
- Direct and indirect sample preparation procedures
- Analytical methods (gravimetric, colorimetric, infra-red absorption or x-ray diffraction).

ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL

To participate in the symposium, authors must submit a 300-word preliminary abstract using the online Abstract Submittal Form (http://a33178.actonsoftware.com/acton/ct/33178/s-05a9-1908/Bct/l-08ec/l-08ec:169/ct2_0/1?sid=TV2%3AcegFAfcrK) **no later than February 28, 2020.**

For more information about the symposium, please visit:

<http://www.astm.org/D22SymposiumCFPOct2020> (<http://www.astm.org/D22SymposiumCFPOct2020>)

Occupational & Environmental Health Society Conference - OEHS 2020

Occupational & Environmental Health Society
Invites you to

OEHS 2020

19-20 Mar 2020

**Conference on
Occupational Health & Hygiene:**
Strengthening foundation; Breaking new frontiers



Keynote speakers



How can OSH professionals prepare for the future of workplace health?

Mr Silas Sng

Divisional Director, Occupational Safety and Health Division
Ministry of Manpower



OSH - Breaking new frontiers, strengthening foundation
Professor David Koh

Distinguished Professor of Occupational Health and Medicine, Universiti
Brunei Darussalam

Professor, SSH School of Public Health, National University of Singapore



Heat injury prevention in occupational settings

Associate Prof Fabian C.L. Lim

Associate Professor of Exercise Physiology

Programme Director, Graduate Diploma in Sports Medicine



***Breaking Frontiers in Hearing Health Protection and
Hearing Loss Prevention***

Er. David Leong, CIH, ROH, PE

Former Chief Occupational Hygienist, Ontario Ministry of Labour.

The image is a promotional banner for the Occupational & Environmental Health Society (OEHS) 2020 conference. It features a blue sky background with a large white gear icon on the left containing a silhouette of a person. The text 'Occupational & Environmental Health Society Invites you to' is at the top, followed by 'OEHS 2020' in large white letters. Below that, the dates '19-20 Mar 2020' are written in red. A white box contains the conference title 'Conference on Occupational Health & Hygiene: Strengthening foundation; Breaking new frontiers'. The location 'Singapore' is written in a large, elegant font. Contact information includes 'Contact us at oehsadmin@gmail.com' and 'www.oehs.org.sg'. The background shows a scenic view of Singapore with the Merlion statue and modern buildings.

Occupational & Environmental Health Society Invites you to

OEHS 2020

19-20 Mar 2020

Conference on Occupational Health & Hygiene:
Strengthening foundation; Breaking new frontiers

Singapore

Contact us at oehsadmin@gmail.com
- www.oehs.org.sg

19-20 March 2020

Shaw Foundation Alumni House
Auditorium

To download the PDF, click here (</static/uploads/files/oehs-2020-conference-announcement-20190725-wfczojmavvus.pdf>)

AIHA's New Virtual Sections

A message from AIHA President, Larry Sloane:

Dear International Colleagues –

I am pleased to report that interest in our new AIHA Virtual Sections (<https://aiha.org/get-involved/local-sections/virtual-section>) is growing. It is a cost-effective alternative to the traditional AIHA International membership (<https://aiha.org/membership/membership-options/individual-membership/international-member>) (currently priced at 54 USD *2019 rate), and is available to individuals from developing economies for only 10 USD per year (vs. 25 USD if you are from a first-world economy).

Virtual Section benefits include:

- Access to digital Synergist family of products
- Access to educational content
- A dedicated community section in AIHA's online community platform (Catalyst) where you can network virtually

1. One room for English speakers
2. Another room for Spanish speakers

- Personal one-on-one contact with industry thought leaders
- And more

If you know of colleagues from a developing/emerging economy, as identified by the US World Bank (<https://data.worldbank.org/country>), they are eligible to join the virtual section without an AIHA national membership for only 10 USD per year. Click here (https://aiha-assets.sfo2.digitaloceanspaces.com/AIHA/resources/AIHA-Virtual-Section-Special-Membership-Form_2019-2020.pdf) for the membership form.

Again, as an alternative – for anyone outside the US/Canada, if they wish to become an international e-member which gives full access to all national member benefits, the price is only 54 USD per year. Click here (https://aiha-assets.sfo2.digitaloceanspaces.com/AIHA/resources/Membership/MembershipApplications2019_Internationaltojoin) to join.

The 12th IOHA International Scientific Conference - IOHA2020



The 12th International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA) International Scientific Conference is the must-attend conference for occupational hygiene professionals worldwide. The theme “Bridging Gaps in OH Development, Opening New Horizons” will provide a wide range of interactive symposiums and case studies exploring emerging occupational hygiene issues in developing and developed countries.

The conference will be held 17-22 October 2020 in Daegu, Korea. The theme is “Bridging Gaps in OH Development, Opening New Horizons.”

Key Dates

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Call for PDCs Proposal | August 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 |
| Call for Symposium Proposal | August 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 |
| Call for Special Lecture Proposal | August 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 |
| Abstract Submission for Podium | October 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 |
| Abstract Submission for Poster | October 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020 |
| Early-bird Registration | December 1, 2019 - April 31, 2020 |
| Sponsors & Exhibition Application | July 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020 |

Read more here (<http://www.ioha2020.org/>)

Philip Hibbs & Brian Eva

OEHS Professional Development Courses - March 18 2020

Occupational & Environmental Health Society (OEHS) invites you to

Professional Development Course (PDC)

18 Mar 2020

Shaw Foundation Alumni House
National University of Singapore
11 Kent Ridge Drive, Singapore 119244

Pre-conference PDCs

Half-day PDC
Smart Applications of Occupational Air Sampling Strategies
Dr. David LEONG
Ph.D., P. Eng., CH, ROH, C. Chem., C. Sci.
Former Chief Occupational Hygienist
Ontario Ministry of Labour, Canada

Full-day PDC
Local Exhaust Ventilation System- Principles, Design, Operation, Testing and Maintenance
Adjunct Associate Prof TAN Kio Tang
Registered Industrial Hygienist (Singapore)
Former Senior Consultant at the OSH Specialists
Department, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore

PDC Logistics

There is a separate registration fee for each PDC.

- Full-day PDC includes two tea breaks and lunch
- Half-day PDC includes a tea break

The soft copy of PDC handouts will be made available prior to the course date and successful participants will be emailed their soft copy. No hardcopy handouts will be provided so please bring your electronic copy for your own use during the course.

Course Certificate

An electronic course certificate will be issued to PDC participants upon completion of the course.

Professional Development Course (PDC)

OEHS 2020 Conference is proud to present two professional development courses (PDCs) leading up to the OEHS 2020 Conference.

The courses are formalized learning experiences that, through in-depth instruction by two field experts, renowned in the field of industrial hygiene in Singapore and in Canada.

18 Mar 2020

Who should attend?

The two PDCs have been specially designed to be of professional help to

- Occupational hygienists;
- Workplace safety & health professionals;
- Providers in industrial hygiene assessment and laboratory services

Fees

| Full day PDC | Half-day PDC |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| OEHS Member | |
| \$400* | \$200* |
| Associate Member | |
| \$ 440* | \$ 240* |
| Non-member | |
| \$ 500* | \$ 300* |

oehsadmin@gmail.com
www.oehs.org.sg

OEHS 2020 Conference is proud to present two professional development courses (PDCs) leading up to the OEHS 2020 Conference.

The courses are formalized learning experiences that, through in-depth instruction by two field experts, renowned in the field of industrial hygiene in Singapore and Canada.

For the full brochure, click here (</static/uploads/files/oehs-2020-pdc-announcement-20190725-wfesdwuhspjd.pdf>)

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RESEARCH BITES

Breathe Freely Australia responds to occupational lung disease

AIOH President Dr. Julia Norris was recently interviewed for the Australian & New Zealand Journal of Health, Safety and Environment on the Breathe Freely Initiative. To read the article, please click here (</secure/breathe-freely-responds-to-occupational-lung-disease.pdf>)

Safe Work Australia workplace exposure standard review - open for comment



SWA is evaluating the Workplace Exposure Standards (WES) for airborne contaminants to ensure they are based on the highest quality evidence and supported by a rigorous scientific approach.

The AIOH will be submitting comments on behalf of members. Members are encouraged to participate and provide the AIOH with your comments. To view the SWA release schedule click here (<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/release-schedule-review-workplace-exposure-standards>). If you would like to be part of the AIOH submission please refer to the release schedule and provide your comment to the AIOH one week prior to the SWA deadline. Please send your comments to admin@aioh.org.au (mailto:admin@aioh.org.au?subject=AIOH%20member%20submission%20SWA%20WES).

If you would like to make an individual submission please refer to the SWA website here (<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/workplace-exposure-standards-review-methodology#contribute-to-the-review>).

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The University of Wollongong: New Courses Available for Enrolment!

By Occupational Hygiene Course Co-ordinator: Jane Whitelaw, CIH, Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH)® FAIOH



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

UOW has delivered robust, nationally and internationally accredited and innovative Occupational Hygiene courses for over 10 years; producing award-winning professional Occupational Hygienists, many leaders in their field. We are pleased to announce that in 2020 we are launching a dedicated **Master of Occupational Hygiene** degree and reintroducing a **Graduate Certificate in Occupational Hygiene** as a stand-alone qualification; or as an alternate entry pathway to the Masters.

These courses will allow students even more practical hands-on time with practising COH's to concentrate on Occupational Hygiene techniques and apply skills and knowledge to a broader range of workplace issues. **Enrolments are open, apply now for 2020:**

<https://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/information/index.html?course=master-occupational-hygiene>
(<https://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/information/index.html?course=master-occupational-hygiene>)

Contact Jane Whitelaw for more information jane_whitelaw@uow.edu.au
(mailto:jane_whitelaw@uow.edu.au)

Commonwealth Supported Places are available for domestic students.



James is pictured (centre) with Leanne Treadwell, Professor Annette Braunack-Mayer, Linda Apthorpe, Terry Gorman (3M), Jane Whitelaw and Professor Brian Davies.

AWARDS:

3M has generously awarded the application of Occupational Hygiene Principles; with best student project of 2018! Terry Gorman is pictured here with James Davies and some of the UOW OHS Academic Staff. You may recall James polished presentation of “Formaldehyde exposure and mortuary workers: A Dead Cert Project” at AIOH 2018.

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News from Edith Cowan University

2019 has been a busy year for the students and staff at ECU! It is great to see the diversity and impressive number of research projects being conducted, in particular in collaboration with industry and government partners. There are over 20 PhD research projects at the moment. Many of them are developed from student's previous Masters projects, or as required by their employers. There have also been 12 Master of Occupational Hygiene and Toxicology projects being completed this year.

ECU is this year hosting an Occupational Hygiene and OHS alumni event in Perth in conjunction with the AIOH2019 conference on the 30th November, to which all ECU graduates and students are invited. Further information can be obtained from Sue Reed.

The quality of our student research will be showcased with 5 students, or graduates presenting at the AIOH 2019 conference on the outcomes of their research projects that they completed as part of the Master of Occupational Hygiene and Toxicology.

We are proud to inform you that ECU continues to be the top public university in Australia for skills development and overall educational experience and ECU, has received a 5-star rating for teaching quality for the 12th year in row and in 2019 has been ranked in the top 2.5% of universities in the world.

More information about studying occupational hygiene at ECU can be found at:

<http://www.ecu.edu.au/degrees/courses/master-of-occupational-hygiene-and-toxicology> (<http://www.ecu.edu.au/degrees/courses/master-of-occupational-hygiene-and-toxicology>), or by contacting A/Prof Sue Reed (s.reed@ecu.edu.au (<mailto:s.reed@ecu.edu.au>)) or at 08 6304 2243.

If you are interested in studying OHS then go to: <https://www.ecu.edu.au/degrees/courses/master-of-occupational-health-and-safety> (<https://www.ecu.edu.au/degrees/courses/master-of-occupational-health-and-safety>) or contact Dr Marcus Cattani (m.cattani@ecu.edu.au (<mailto:m.cattani@ecu.edu.au>)) or at 08 6308 2346.



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AIOH COMMITTEE UPDATES

Certification Board

Key dates for COH Exams in Perth 2019

- September 30th – COH exam applications [closed]
- November 7th (19:00 AEDT) – COH exam preparation session #1 of 2
- November 14th (19:00 AEDT) – COH exam preparation session #2 of 2
- Thursday 21st November (19:00 AEDT) - COH Panel briefing (examiners only)
- Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November exams (from 08:00 to 16:00).

COH audit 2020

- COH members who are due for audit in 2020 are reminded to make sure their evidence is available and loaded into MyCOH.
- Please contact the membership Coordinator Felicity on membership@aioh.org.au (<mailto:membership@aioh.org.au>) if you need assistance with navigating the site.

Neil Goulding, Chair - Certification Board

coh@aioh.org.au (<mailto:coh@aioh.org.au>)

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REGIONAL UPDATE

NSW Chapter Meeting - Occupational Hygiene in the Construction Industry

LIAISON OFFICER/S: Kerry McDougall, John Tiong, Carmen Naylor

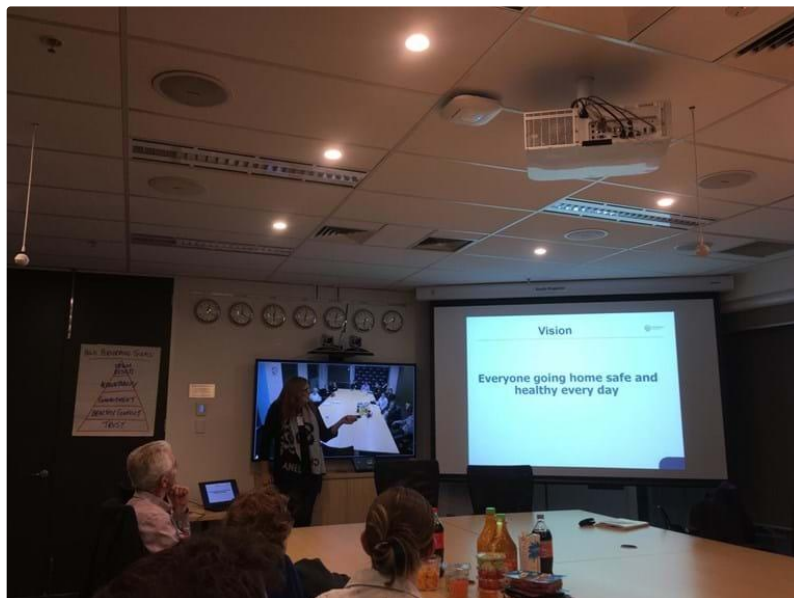
This NSW AIOH Inc chapter meeting was such a treat. The quality of work that Sydney Metro do in the space of Occupational Health is 10/10! Thank you to Michael Fisher, COH Sydney Metro who delivered the key message - let's start to treat health with the same significance as safety in the workplace! Michael described some of the key non compliances in controls in the construction industry: workers not being fit tested, no/insufficient ventilation, ventilation not being recorded, incorrect use of PPE and workers not being clean shaven. Hopefully the work Sydney Metro are doing to address the issues with occupational health exposures flows through to the rest of the construction industry.

Dr. Catherine Field from IMMEX provided us an overview of what Occupational Health Surveillance looks like and what it doesn't. i.e. Health surveillance is not fitness for work or health and wellbeing programs. Dr. Field commented on some of the key issues with construction and how they can impact occupational health programs - for instance workers work over a large variety of work sites which makes it difficult to standardize programs. However, the construction industry presents a high risk of significant long-term exposures – therefore there is opportunity for us to integrate occupational hygiene results with medical assessments, to educate and reduce risk.

Kate Cole, MAIOH COH #STEMSuperstar followed and this is where the Breathe Freely campaign comes in! The Breathe Freely program is such a necessary program to help industry, particularly construction, manufacturing and mining industries, to start getting the balance right and treating occupational illness seriously! If you haven't done so already go to the Breathe Freely Australia website where there are great resources and audit tools to help educate and inform industry of best practice
<https://www.breathefreelyaustralia.org.au> (<https://www.breathefreelyaustralia.org.au>)

Thank you to everyone who made it! Thank you to Alan Rogers for also reminding us the importance of giving back and using our expertise to improve best practice

Victoria Chapter Meeting - A day in the life of Newcrest Mining, Principle Advisor Occupational Hygiene



LIAISON OFFICER: Theresa Walsh

What a fabulous and informative evening we had at the AIOH Victoria Chapter meeting. **Drew G Duddy** (https://www.linkedin.com/company/newcrest-mining?trk=public-post_share-update_update-text) shared with us her personal and professional journey to becoming Principle Occupational Hygienist for global operations for **Newcrest Mining** (https://www.linkedin.com/company/newcrest-mining?trk=public-post_share-update_update-text). What a job! Drew has a plethora of challenges in this role - DPM & RCS exposure, ground water at 86°C, explosives, remote work environments... and not to mention bears, but what great work and outcomes! A very passionate and informative presentation! Thanks to Drew and thanks to all who attended!

WA Sundowner - Breaking Bad Downunder



LIAISON OFFICER: Kelly Hey

Thanks to the ChemCentre for hosting yet another successful WA Chapter sundowner in August, this time with one of their own, Jessica Murdock, as guest presenter. Jess is a forensic chemist with the ChemCentre and in her presentation "Breaking Bad Down Under" she provided an eye-opening glimpse into her world of work as a specialist in the area of illicit drug investigation.

On paper, this would read something like "attends and assesses clandestine laboratory scenes, advises regarding scene remediation, undertakes testing and research for drug profiling, delivers related training programmes and presents findings in court as an expert witness." In person, and with real-life examples from WA clandestine lab crime scenes, Jess delved into the depths of what this means in practice and touched on the many challenges faced by police, government and others engaged in fighting the battle against illicit drug production and its consequences.

In particular, it was surprising and shocking to see how clan lab numbers identified over time in WA have trended as restrictions on methamphetamine "ingredients" have come into force – only to increase again as manufacturers quickly adapt, finding new production means and methods of synthesising materials

they need. It was also quite alarming to learn about the risks people take in manufacturing drugs and what people like Jess, the police and the community at large may be exposed to as a result.

The WA Chapter is grateful to Jess for sharing her experience in this role with the audience in her interesting and enlightening presentation. We also thank the ChemCentre for providing the venue and ongoing support for these events. Finally, thank you to others who contributed time to organising and running the sundowner, including WA SLO, Kelly Hey, and the team assisting at the registration desk.

We look forward to seeing members and other guests at our final sundowner for 2019 on November 18th. Keep your eye on your inbox and follow AIOH Inc (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/aioh-inc/>) on LinkedIn for further information closer to the date.

Queensland Chapter Meeting - The importance of correct sampling for occupational chemical exposure monitoring

QUEENSLAND SOUTH LIAISON OFFICER: Mark Russell

The 'Yarning Circle' at WSP's Brisbane office was host for the September meeting for Queensland South members.

Dr. Ashely Tronoff is the current Chair of the RACI QLD Analytical & Environmental Chemistry Group Chemist and Mr David Pass, Senior Chemist for Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Service presented to 35 members on 'the importance of correct sampling for occupational chemical exposure monitoring'. Ashely outlined some of the capabilities of Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Service Organic Chemistry section with key applications in the occupational and environmental spaces. He outlined the degrees of exposure, the importance of correct sampling times for Biological Exposure Indices and what it all means, both in terms of potential health risk and from a legal perspective.

David then gave an analytical perspective on assessment and management of VOC exposures, describing methods for assessment ranging from the simply Draeger tubs all the way through to field GCMS units. In one of the better show-and-tells recently, Jeff Herse (also from Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Service) and a member of the Queensland Fire & Emergency Services Scientific Section bought along the QFES Scientific Services support unit for members to look at, but not press buttons.

Thank you to Ashley, David and Jeff from the Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Service, and to Peter Aspinall, Peter Ruff and the WSP team for hosting this event and to our event attendees for their participation and questions.

The next session scheduled for 21 October with Professor Robin Burgess-Limerick of the Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre, The University of Queensland presenting on Practical methods for measuring whole-body vibration in the workplace. Please contact me on md.russell@bigpond.com (<mailto:md.russell@bigpond.com>) or 0448 338 033 for suggestions on future Queensland South meetings.



Dr Ashley Tronoff presenting to Queensland South members



Attentive Queensland South members

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Shaving for a cure - Amy Dobson

AIOH member Amy Dobson (from Sydney Water) is shaving her hair on March 13th 2020 to beat blood cancer. She is aiming to fundraise 10k for Leukemia Research, the most common cancer in children. To support Amy's fundraising journey, click here (<https://secure.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/registant/FundraisingPage.aspx?RegistrationID=764888>).

Best of luck Amy!

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