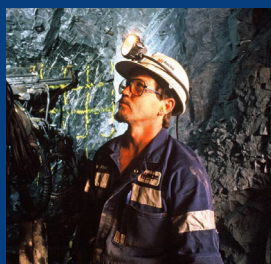


# occupational hygiene MATTERS

ISSUE 129 • DECEMBER 2014



## PRESIDENT • ALAN ROGERS • READY FOR TAKE OFF



Hope most of you have all recovered from one of our best ever Conferences as 2015 looks like being a very hectic year for Council and Committees, hopefully I will still be able to squeeze in some fishing time.

Members may have been left somewhat confused when the election results were announced at the AGM. By way of explanation the AIOH is regulated according to the *Victorian Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and Council has a legislative duty to conform to the requirements listed in the Act. In this instance the requirements for dealing with Council elections are as set out in our Rules and Statement of Purpose which is registered with Consumer Affairs.

Prior to the 2014 AGM Caroline Langley nominated for President-elect, there being no other nominations she was elected into that position. Caroline also held the position of

Treasurer which was to continue until the 2015 AGM. Members rightly asked was this proper.

At the AGM the newly elected Council for 2015 was in a bind to respond to members concerns as having just been elected it had not met to discuss this issue and to determine how workable the dual position it would be in 2015. The AIOH Rules and Statement of Purpose and also the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* are silent on the issue of Officers holding more than one position. Council gave a commitment to the members at the conclusion of the AGM to resolve the situation.

Prior to the first meeting held the morning after the AGM at 0745 on Wednesday 3rd December, Caroline Langley resigned her position of AIOH Secretary. Council then acted at its first meeting according to the following Rule;

*"24.3 In the event of a casual vacancy in the office of Secretary and/or Treasurer, the Council may appoint one of the Councillors to each vacant office and the Councillor(s) appointed may continue in office up to and including the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment."*

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Nominations were called from the Council meeting and councillor Terry Gorman was the only one who expressed interest and was duly accepted into the position of Secretary until the next AGM (Perth December 2015).

This then left a casual vacant position on Council, again according to the following Rule;

*"25.3 In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the office of Councillor, the Council may appoint a Full or Fellow Member of the Institute to fill the vacancy and the member appointed shall hold office, subject to these Rules, until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting held following the date of the appointment."*

Council considered the voting intention expressed by the members at the AGM and decided in fairness to offer the vacancy to the non-elected member with the highest vote in the council election, that being Michael Shepherd who accepted the position.

The rationale applied and the results were announced to members and delegates at the morning conference session Wednesday 3rd December 2014.

The 2015 Council now consists of:

- President: Alan Rogers
- President-elect: Caroline Langley
- Secretary: Terry Gorman (until 2015 AGM)
- Treasurer: Dianne Allen
- Councillor: Kate Cole;
- Councillor: Linda Apthorpe;
- Councillor: Michael Shepherd (until 2015 AGM)

The next meetings for the 2015 Council are, 21st January Strategic Planning Day where major decisions will be made into the directions and strategies to be taken in 2015, followed on 22nd January with a Council Meeting dealing with business activities. The Risk Audit Finance and Quality (RAFQ) Committee will be meeting on the morning of the 21st to review the AIOH system for purchasing and financial delegation and in addition will further refine the budget based on financial estimates from the Melbourne Conference and advise the Council accordingly.

Wishing all members, their family and friends a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • BARRY WESTHORPE



***It is said that the strength of the tallest buildings lies within their foundations.***

As the AIOH continues to grow I'd like to tell you a little bit about the building blocks that make it so strong.

The AIOH is a fortunate organisation in that it promotes the noble, and very real pursuits, of health and wellness in the workplace.

Being fairly new at AIOH I have been most impressed with the culture of passion, focus and teamwork,... underpinned by team cohesion ... and the overall organisational alignment for better performance and strategic execution.

As Helen Keller, the deaf and blind humanitarian said "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

What has also impressed me at AIOH is the people wanting to give something back to the profession that has impacted on their lives; to make a difference to the lives of others; to help the workplace environment; and/or to be part of a valued Committee team.

Our young hygienists are a particularly impressive group.

In the business world, emergent leadership is about team members taking the initiative to accept more responsibility and perform work outside of their general roles. If leaders encourage and promote this type of drive, our young team members will be ready to rise within the organization, and we will be better off for it.

I believe there are four ways we can prepare our young people for leadership:

- Showcase their talent. Let them be the face of the organisation. Encourage them to contribute to blog or contribute to industry publications, take training courses, speak at conferences and trade shows, and collaborate on ways to improve organisational systems and offerings.
- Manage them, not their work. If you have the right people in the right jobs, don't micromanage their efforts. Set boundaries and then back off. Allow them to be innovative and develop systems, processes, and methodologies that will get the job done.
- Let them fail. While providing guidance and leadership, we must also allow for failure. Encourage young leaders to take calculated risks when appropriate. When things don't go as planned, use that as a coaching opportunity to help them understand how to succeed in the future.
- Link their effort to tangible results. As we develop leaders, give them goals and milestones to hit so they understand the road-map for success. Ensure that they know exactly how their efforts and results drive the organisation forward.

If we can help further develop our emerging leaders in our organisations we will be stronger and have a more loyal foundation for growth in the future.



# member news

## LOOK WHO'S CERTIFIED NOW

Becoming a Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH) is a major step in the career path of our members.

Congratulations to the following members who were successful in gaining COH status following the Oral Examinations held Melbourne on Sunday November 29, 2014:



- **Peter Aspinall** - GCG Health Safety & Hygiene, Qld
- **Drew Duddy** - Barrick Mining, WA
- **Samantha Forster** - Department of Natural Resources & Mines, Qld
- **Richard Jackson** - IPM Safety, Tas
- **Adelle Liebenberg** - The University of Newcastle, NSW
- **Gary Mace** - AECOM, NSW
- **Simon Sharpe** - Newmont Mining, WA
- **Craig Tayler** - Simtars, Qld

## FOR THEY ARE JOLLY GOOD FELLOWS

Congratulations to Brian Eva, Kerrie Burton, Yanel Lara and Wayne Powys (pictured below from left with outgoing President, Dr Sue Reed) who were awarded Fellow Membership during the AIOH Gala Dinner on December 3 at the Pullman Hotel.

Nominated by their peers, these outstanding members have made a distinguished contribution to the advancement of occupational hygiene and the AIOH.



## TIME TO MOVE ON • MIKE SHEPHERD



After 19 years Mike Shepherd has left Parsons Brinckerhoff. Mike has partnered up to establish Brisbane based COHLABS – a team of certified occupational hygienists, qualified trainers, building surveyors, engineers, NATA asbestos technical assessors, hazmat specialists and NATA asbestos accredited laboratory personnel. You can contact Mike at [m.shepherd@cohlab.com.au](mailto:m.shepherd@cohlab.com.au).

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### ASSOCIATE

Ian Burman - Acoustics & Audio Production, WA  
 Hannah Caveny - Rio Tinto Alcan Yarwun, Qld  
 Tracy Destree - Risk Tree, WA  
 Jane Latham - Rio Tinto, WA  
 Michael Luebke - Draeger Safety Pacific Pty Ltd, Vic  
 Leigh Mullenger - JBS&G Australia, Vic  
 Lauren Pickering - Mairin OHSE Consulting, ACT  
 Ida Smith - Mobile Dewatering, WA  
 Ashleigh Stewart - Rio Tinto Iron Ore, WA  
 Fang Wang - Alcoa, WA

### STUDENT

Navdeep Aulakh - WA  
 Caitlin Bayliss - WA  
 Kate Bell - WA  
 Dannielle Brown - Qld  
 Esther Chen - WA  
 Carl Cocila - Coffey, WA  
 Lydia Cook - WA  
 Hollie Farrell - WA  
 Ric Fisher - Ric's Window Cleaning, ACT  
 Jonathan Garde - iSentia, Qld  
 Sayed Iqbal - WA  
 Katherine Joyce - Anglo American Coal, Qld  
 Emma Rowland - Tweed Shire Council, NSW  
 Kevin Seeger - , Qld  
 Kambiz Soleimani - , WA  
 John Trewin - Falck Australia, WA  
 Olivia Yu - , Qld

## SAVE THE DATE

# AIOH PERTH



iGiene inspire • integrate • inform

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & Exhibition  
 Crown Perth | Western Australia  
 December 3-9, 2015

# professional development

## EDUCATION COORDINATOR • KERRIE BURTON

The final quarter of 2014 saw the Pete McGarry from Workplace Health and Safety Queensland and Howard Morris from SafeWork Australia facilitate a successful seminar on Nanotechnology and thanks to Kate Cole for her update on this seminar.

Basic Principles Courses were held in Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and leading in to the annual conference in Melbourne (thanks to Simon Worland for his report). We were excited to be able to introduce our Executive Director Barry, Westhorpe to the course participants in Melbourne and he had the opportunity to see some of the action.

Planning for 2015 has begun with the following courses scheduled:

- Canberra | 23-27 February, 2015
- Perth | 9-13 March, 2015
- Bunbury | 8-12 June, 2015

If you are interested in courses in other states or want to be notified of these, please advise your interest to the Conference & Events Manager at [conference@aioh.org.au](mailto:conference@aioh.org.au). Also please feel free to contact me if you have ideas for seminars and speakers for 2015 at [jkbarton@bigpond.com](mailto:jkbarton@bigpond.com).

At this stage, we are proposing the following additional Basic Principles Courses:

- Sydney | 20-24 April 2015
- Brisbane | May, 2015
- Darwin | 14-18 August, 2015
- Sydney | 19-23 October, 2015
- Perth | 2-6 December, 2015



## BPC BRISBANE, OCTOBER 2014 • EDDIE FOORD



The AIOH Basic Principles course was recently held at the Brisbane Mantra Hotel. This course proved to be a great event that was made even better by the fantastic people who attended. It was the diversity in the backgrounds of the attendees which really made this course special.

From Doctors and Medics managing health effects to HSE professionals managing the root causes of exposure made the course vibrant with knowledge, input and real world examples. This coupled with industry professionals coaching through a wealth of topics meant that we got to the heart of each subject with practical's solidifying what had been taught. Everyone had a great time and managed to grab a laugh at some of the driest of topics!

After 5 days of intense training and an exam, the post course drinks tasted like Nectar! The crew that had come together over 5 days had earned some much needed kick back time. Great connections were made across industries and no doubt some of these contacts will be maintained for life.

A big thank you goes out to Air-Met and Thermo Fisher for loan of the equipment that was used in the course practical sessions.



## BPC MELBOURNE, NOVEMBER 2014 • RENEE DAWSON



Some close friends and colleagues over the years have recommended “you really should consider completing the 5-day basics course”. “Yeah yeah yeah, I’ll get to it in time”... as like many people I have a number of intellectual interests and career pursuits. It was one of many ‘shoulds’ added to the growing ‘learn this / watch that / visit here / don’t do that’ list. The time seemed right in 2014 after relocating to the Northern Territory for work - a move that threw up a number of occupational hygiene emergency jobs from clients. Right, I’m ready to learn and check this out.

AIOH does not get the chance to visit the Northern Territory very often so I had to go to them. To make the most of my occ hygiene exploration I enrolled in the 5-day occupational hygiene basics course – Wednesday 26th to Sunday 30th November immediately before the 3 day 2014 AIOH annual conference in Melbourne. Yep, I knew my brain would be exploding by the end of the week but the opportunity to learn more and meet some respected practitioners was too good to resist.

The 5-day basics course was everything I wanted and was looking for. Such a brilliant opportunity to learn from experienced practitioners such as Kerrie Burton, Linda Apthorpe, Mark Solomon and of course my fellow study buddies. Whilst 5 days was somewhat intensive amidst receiving some devastating news regarding a beloved colleague it was the place I needed to be. Rather than jumping on a plane I jumped back in the classroom to embrace the

learning’s. It was what my good friend and colleague would have wanted and expected me to do.

I had the opportunity to admire the theory and science, connect with experienced yet like-minded practitioners, old colleagues, new friends and have returned to the Northern Territory excited at the opportunity to learn and do even more to protect and enhance worker health. Something I have been passionately working away at in my own little way for over 11 years now. I hope to attend future AIOH events and recommend if you’re curious about learning more - get along, get involved and make the most of any valued opportunity presented before you. You never know where it will take you.

## NANOTECHNOLOGY SEMINAR SYDNEY • KATE COLE

Assessing and measuring exposure to nanoparticles is not something I have done in my career to date, so in an attempt to figure out all that I don’t know, I recently attended a seminar presented by Dr Howard Morris from Safe Work Australia and Peter McGarry from Workplace Health & Safety Queensland (WHSQ) on the topic.

It was a fantastic seminar and I learnt that there are a number of (very) useful guides that have been developed on nanotechnology in the Workplace. I also got to measure the amount of nanoparticles that were present in the middle of George St, Sydney...double bonus!

Like most other occupational hazards, the same assessment process exists. That being you need to identify the hazards, assess the risks; implement precautions; supervise and maintain controls; monitor exposure etc etc. To assist, WHSQ is implementing the Queensland nanotechnology work health and safety program as part of a national program facilitated by Nanotechnology and Work Health and Safety (Safe Work Australia). You can find out more about it here.

Safe Work Australia’s Nanotechnology work is Australia-focused, but also contributes to global efforts on nanotechnology work health and safety. Their focus areas are to:

- Ensure nanotechnology is covered appropriately within the Work Health and Safety Regulatory Framework;
- Improve understanding of the hazardous properties of engineered nanomaterials;
- Assess the effectiveness of workplace controls in preventing

exposure to engineered nanomaterials;

- Develop procedures for detecting and measuring emissions exposure in workplaces;
- Provide information and guidance for Australian nanotechnology organizations; and
- Ensure consistency with international approaches & contributing to international work.

There are a number of very useful information sheets freely available on the SWA website which provide a great deal of information to get you off to a good start such as:

- Measuring and Assessing Emissions of Nanomaterials from Processes
- Safe handling and use of carbon nanotubes in the workplace information sheet
- Emissions of Nanomaterials during Machine Processes
- Safety Hazards of engineered nanomaterials
- Classification of Carbon Nanotubes as Hazardous Chemicals
- Assessing and Controlling Laser Printer Particle Emissions in Workplace Environments

In addition, WHSQ have useful information such as a register and a nanomaterial control banding tool worksheet that are available for use.

Overall I left this seminar knowing a lot more about these little particles than I did before.

# committee updates

## CERTIFICATION BOARD • GERARD TIERNAN

The Certification Board is responsible for running the AIOH certification scheme. A Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH) is the premier level of professional recognition of occupational hygiene in Australia.

The certification oral examination was run on the weekend prior to the 2014 conference and 16 candidates sat the exam. This rate of take-up of certification continues to grow steadily and this was among the largest number of applicants in the 10 years the scheme has been running.

A training session was held for examiners on Saturday morning and another on Saturday afternoon for candidates.

The key activities in 2015 for the Certification Board will be the review and continual improvement of the oral examination process based on feedback from candidates and from the examination panels.

The routine work for the Board includes the assessment of seminars and conferences for the allocation of certification maintenance points.

In addition the Board will be reviewing the certification maintenance worksheets for those COHs coming up for the renewal of their certification, which is usually every 5 years.

Please feel free to contact me or other members of the Certification Board for information about the certification process.



## EXPOSURE STANDARDS • IAN FIRTH



### Committee Changes

We have had one member change that occurred at the conference - Geza Benke has stood down from the committee to be replaced by Greg O'Donnell.

### Positions Paper

The committee currently has draft versions of position papers on nickel, sulphuric acid and nanotechnology to review, with promises of papers on biological monitoring and vibration later in the year. The asbestos position paper is also currently being updated to include information on asbestos in soil and perhaps more information on naturally occurring asbestiform fibres in mining.

## NEWSLETTER • ROB SUTHERLAND

The Newsletter Committee held a meeting on Wednesday 3rd December at the Conference Venue.

Initiatives under discussion were:

- the provision of regular reports from SLOs and Committees
- research news – a section to provide information on research programs, spotlighting specific research projects, researchers, upcoming research areas, funding and scholarships.
- young hygienists section – providing news relevant to new hygienists, new technology, training, developing trends, career and work opportunities.
- awards and fellows – the achievements and work history of AIOH awards winners and fellows to be highlighted within the Newsletter.

In movements within the Committee, Wayne Powys and Eric Lengling resigned in November; their contribution to the Newsletter and the Institute was noted at the AIOH Annual General Meeting. We thank both Wayne and Eric.

The Committee now comprises:

Michael Weller (NSW), Brett Young (WA), Gavin Irving (NSW), Sharyn Gaskin (SA), Janine McClements (WA), Rob Sutherland (Vic), Vanessa Thelan (ACT), Holly Fletcher (NSW), Terry Gorman (Council Liaison) and Laura Loschiavo (Design and Publication).





# AIOH2014

## EXPLORING THE BOUNDARIES • NOEL TRESIDER

Well, the AIOH 2014 Conference in Melbourne is done and dusted, so let me offer some reflections on our efforts.

### *The Team*



Outstanding combination of wise heads (some old), new blood, new ideas, a balance of academia, industry, suppliers, consultants, government and AIOH support (one missing from photo Raelene Young)

This was start of the new Conference Committee format where Laura Loschiavo (AIOH Administration - Conference & Events Manager) was imbedded into the Conference committee which meant that we did not need a secretary or treasurer. The 'wise heads' were the basis of the 2007 AIOH Melbourne conference so we had 'been there', done that'. The new bloods were the ladies with energy and passion for the task, in fact 7 ladies and 5 men.



The Other Team is the AIOH Membership. Any request for help to chair a CES or Concurrent Session or Plenary Session was always greeted with 'happy to help'.

### *The Program*

We had been collecting international speakers for over a year from previous international conferences, so we knew their presentations, hence the strong international presence. However our AIOH conference also attracts local speakers and it was a challenge to get the balance right.



**John Henshaw**  
Cardno Chemrisk



**Dr Lesley Rushton, OBE**  
Imperial College London



**Dr Mike Brandt**  
Los Alamos National Laboratory



**Frank Hearl**  
NIOSH



**Prof Malcolm Sim**  
Monash University



**Chris Lorenzo**  
AIHA



## The Stats

Total registrations	516	International registrations	55
First time attendees	61	Countries represented	17
CES sessions	22	Total CES attendance	337
Site Visits	1	COH & Full Membership Preparation	21
Local Presenters	26	International presenters	10
Posters	24	Exhibitors	40
Welcome functions	400	3M Night	327
Gala Dinner	372	GCG President's Cup Golf	27
Partner's Program	6 + 3		



3M Night - Exploration

## New Innovations –Exploring the Boundaries

### Electronic posters

Those papers which could not be placed in the program were offered a place in the poster session. This was a PowerPoint presentation of 4-5 slides and displayed on one of four electronic touch screens in the Exhibition Hall

### “Ignite AIOH2014”

“Ignite - enlighten us, but make it quick” The Ignite session originated in the high-technology profession and has spread worldwide. In five-minute presentations, speakers share their professional and personal passions using 20 slides that auto-advance every 15 seconds. It was run at BOHS 2014 (Kate Cole participated) and AIHce 2014 (Holly Fletcher and Brooke Best participated to a packed audience – they were featured on the AIHA website home page). This was the first time it has been presented at the AIOH Conference and it was coordinated by Kate Cole. – Well Done.

### Canary award

Scott Safety supports The Canary Prize!

The Canary aims to bring the best out of our members by gathering your ideas on the topic of, “What is Occupational Hygiene” or “What does an Occupational Hygienist do?” or “What can an occupational hygienist do for your workers and the company’s bottom line?”

And the winner was - Alex Wilson (see over page)



### QR Codes on registration

This was the first time that we have used QR codes for delegate and exhibitor to scan delegates details electronically on their mobile phone. More work is required to refine the process.

### Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

This set out targets for our performance and to judge our progress and where we needed to put more effort.

We were able to achieve everyone of the KPI's

### The Venue

One of the benefits of having the Conference at the Pullman was that all the social functions were either at the Pullman or within walking distance.

### Our Conclusion

Another successful AIOH Conference; it had a good feel about it - not everything was perfect and there are lessons learned for future conferences.

Our message for AIOH 2015 Perth – Do it better than AIOH 2014 Melbourne Conference.

We hope you had a great time in Melbourne at the AIOH 2014 Conference

## The AIOH CANARY HAS FLOWN! • KATE COLE



Our new President introduced us to the newest member of the AIOH at the recent Conference in Melbourne. Although a little shorter than most of our members, the AIOH CANARY certainly was popular, with many AIOH members vying for a piece of the Canary Prize.

The AIOH Canary is all about **Communicating Awareness** - a New Approach Representing us on YouTube. It involved our members creating a short video (less than 5-minutes) using any means or script they wished.

The AIOH Canary Prize, proudly sponsored by Scott Safety, aimed to challenge our members to step up for our profession by gathering ideas on the topics of, ***“What is Occupational Hygiene”***, ***“What does an Occupational Hygienist do?”***, or ***“What can an occupational hygienist do for your workers and the company's bottom line?”***

The winner of the inaugural AIOH Canary was Alex Wilson with his video, “Occupational Hygiene”. Kristy Thornton was awarded the Runner Up with her video, “Occupational Hygiene...the best job in the world”.

A very big thank you goes to Scott Safety for their support of this initiative. Special mention also goes to the AIOH Communications Committee for organising and facilitating the competition and the Awards & Sponsorship Committee for undertaking the tough task of judging the many entries received, which will be used to help promote the AIOH. You can view all the entrants by searching for “AIOH” and “TheCanary” on Twitter (or google!).

The AIOH Canary will be back next year, so get ready to start your creative ideas flowing for your entry in 2015!



# state liaison officers

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER • JWALIT PARIKH

The recent SA Chapter Meeting was held on 12th September 2014 at the Thebarton Training Centre of the University of Adelaide. Twenty one people representing industry, SA EPA, Safework SA, consulting and academia/ research attended the chapter meeting.

Len Turczynowicz, Toxicologist and Principal Risk Assessor at Golder Associates delivered his presentation on "Time Dependent Inhalation Exposure". Working on the issue over a number of years, Len addressed the group on past and current approaches to determine vapour intrusion and inhalation dosimetry concepts for indoor environments. Len also discussed methods and new modelling approaches to address concerns such as assessment of short term high exposures which could have effects on different target organs compared to long term exposures through a case study of trichloroethylene (TCE) measurements in an indoor environment. Due to recent findings of TCE contamination in soil and the ground water in an industrial/ residential area of one of the Adelaide suburbs and ongoing sampling and media attention around the issue, the presentation was timely, well received and attracted in depth discussion among the attendees.

During the second session of the chapter meeting, Shelley Rowett, Chief Advisor Work Environment from Safework SA provided SA WHS Legislation update to the attendees.

The SAAIOH Chapter would like to thank Len Turczynowicz and Shelley Rowett for delivering very informative sessions and we look forward to our next meeting planned for March 2015.

*Editors Comment – refer to ABC News report for more details*

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-07-10/cancer-causing-tce-contamination-risk-for-another-adelaide-subu/5586566>



## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY CHAPTER • VENESSA THELAN



Our inaugural meeting on 18 August was run in conjunction with the Australasian Acoustical Society. We had over 20 people in attendance which was a fantastic first turnout.

Marion Burgess from the University of New South Wales, Canberra provided a summary overview of human vibration measurement and assessment. She explained the background to the EU Directive and the effect of the subsequent legislation in the EU countries, in particular the UK.

Paul Taylor from Safework Australia provided a summary of the current approach to management of vibration in the workplace in Australia. He then talked about the plans for the future pathway to the establishment of exposure limits to hand arm and whole body vibration.

In case you consider that due to the limited heavy industry in ACT this is not an issue - check out this site which explains the fining of a UK company in relation to the garden maintenance workers who were using hedge cutters and trimmers <http://press.hse.gov.uk/2014/company-in-court-after-workers-suffer-nerve-damage/>

The second meeting was on nanotechnology presented by Safe Work Australia's, Dr Howard Morris, this was a shortened version of the one day seminars held earlier in the year. Howard summarised the following;

- Common nanotechnology applications and the hazards of ultra-fine particles, including engineered nanoparticles
- Demonstration of the use of measurement data to assess risk, and the use of a control banding approach for risk assessment and to choose appropriate controls
- Range of methods to characterise airborne concentrations of ENPs
- Observation, and use of, a range of real-time particle measurement devices that can be readily used in a workplace to characterise airborne particle concentrations
- Work Health and Safety regulatory requirements for ENPs.





## WEST AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER • WAYNE POWYS

The final Sundowner of the WA Chapter of the AIOH was held on Monday 25th November 2014 at the WA ChemCentre. The main speaker was Dr Laurie Glossop who presented the final of a trilogy of talks he had given on the topic of asbestos, this being focused on 'Control'. The topic of asbestos is always popular and this presentation attracted eighty-eight attendees. Laurie had brought along his collection of rock and asbestos minerals, which also proved to be popular with attendees.

Following a networking session over food and drinks, Dr Barry Chesson (WA SLO) opened the formal session and welcomed attendees, a large number of whom were

attending the event for the first time, including a significant number of current OH&S students of Curtin University. As is customary, Barry provided an update on the AIOH Council activities, in particular reminding attendees of the upcoming 2014 AIOH Conference in Melbourne.

Barry then introduced Laurie, who is no stranger the WA AIOH Chapter and he began with a review of the first two of his trilogy of presentations, namely: 'To Be or Not To be a Fibre', presented at the March 2012 Sundowner (Reference 1), and; 'Asbestos: Risk vs Risk Perception', presented at the November 2013 Sundowner (Reference 2). He reminded attendees that then as now asbestos is always in the news and briefly described the current news stories, namely the 'Mr Fluffy' asbestos insulation in Canberra houses and finds of asbestos at Rottnest Island.

Laurie revisited the subject of fibre size in relation to the propensity to cause cancer, pointing to the fact that there have been four major crocidolite mines in the world yet mesothelioma was prevalent at just two, Wittenoom and Cape Province in South Africa. The crocidolite mined at the other two locations, Transvaal and Cochabamba (Bolivia) have wider fibres and this suggests different metamorphism mechanisms. Next Laurie went on to discuss the many and varied forms of asbestos, including 'cross fibres' (or seams), oxidised and substituted crocidolite, 'cross fibres' (i.e. veins) and cleavage fragments, all of which have implications for toxicity.



*Curtin Uni OHS Students*



*Left: Laurie Glossop with WA SLO Dr Barry Chesson*

out that the application of PVA is very effective. He also sounded a warning about inadequate cleaning of work boots and so boot washing facilities are essential to prevent contamination of other site areas, such as crib rooms and vehicles. He also noted that simple washing of clothing is very effective and removes almost every fibre.

Laurie then discussed the Third Report (2013) of the National Mesothelioma Register (Reference 3). A total of 575 people contracted mesothelioma in 2013, 60% of whom had a possible asbestos exposure and the remaining 40% having 'background' exposure - raising the possibility of other causes. Laurie invited the audience to nominate the occupations where the 2013 mesothelioma cases occurred before revealing that of the 203 cases to whom a Job Specific Module (JSM) been assigned, 78 had occurred in mesothelioma in the job categories of 'Construction' (carpenter, joiner, builder etc), 28 in 'Electrician', 16 in 'Plumber', 14 in 'Boilermaker – Welder' and 55 in 'Other Metal and Mechanical Trades', the remainder being in the categories of 'Engineer', 'Telecommunications Technician' and 'Other'.

Laurie proceeded to cover the control of asbestos exposure and referred the audience to the Safe Work Australia Code of Practice (Reference 4) and in particular the UK HSE's Asbestos web site (Reference 5), the latter having an extensive range of methods that cover just about every asbestos removal scenario. In discussing the various fibre exposure control methods that are available, he pointed

Laurie's presentation was very well received and a lively Q&A session followed. Barry brought the session to a close then thanked Laurie and presented him with a token of the WA Chapter's appreciation.

The WA Chapter of the AIOH acknowledges and thanks WA SLO Barry Chesson for organizing the event and the ChemCentre for graciously allowing the use of the Seminar Room.

#### References

1. Occupational Hygiene matters, AIOH, Edition 119, July 2012
2. Occupational Hygiene Matters, AIOH, Edition 124, September 2013
3. Australian Mesothelioma Registry, 3rd Annual Report, Mesothelioma In Australia 2013
4. Safe Work Australia, How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace, Code of Practice, December 2011
5. United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive, Asbestos health and safety website: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/>

## NEW SOUTH WALES CHAPTER • JOHN TIONG & KERRY MCDOUGALL



Wow, nearly Christmas again and what an interesting year for occupational hygienists! Many budding hygienists have moved onto new challenges. A number of events were held in NSW during 2014, these included the Basic Skills in Occupational Hygiene, Advanced Mould Seminar and Diesel Maintenance Seminar to name a few.

Kerry resigned from the Regional NSW SLO position early in 2014 but by the time the 2014 Conference in Melbourne arrived she had certainly realised how much she missed being involved in the workings of the AIOH and having contact with members.

No new Workplace Health and Safety Legislation pertaining to NSW has been announced, transitional arrangements are continuing for workplaces to align with the harmonised legislation.

2015 looks like an exciting year ahead. Four Network Meetings have been tabled for the coming year with some great new topics. Hope to see many faces there.

# standards • guides • reports

## SNIPPETS FROM GAVIN IRVING

### SAFework AUSTRALIA PUBLISHES AUSTRALIAN WORK EXPOSURES STUDY (AWES) - LEAD AND LEAD COMPOUNDS

The Australian Work Exposures Study (AWES) was a national survey conducted by the Western Australian Institute of Medical Research (WAIMR) in 2011–12 that investigated work-related exposures among Australian workers to 38 known or suspected carcinogens. The Safework report uses this data to:

- estimate the prevalence of work-related exposure to lead during relatively common workplace activities
- identify the main circumstances of those exposures, and
- identify the use of workplace control measures designed to decrease those exposures.

The report can be found at: <http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/awes-lead-and-lead-compounds>

### LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE INCIDENCE AND RISK FACTORS

The US centre for Disease Control (CDC) recently published an article showing that the incidence of Legionnaires' disease in the US and specifically New York is increasing. See more at: [http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/20/11/13-1872\\_article](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/20/11/13-1872_article)

### HOW ONE AUSTRALIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROTECTS PLAYERS' EARS

Read how the Queensland Symphony Orchestra hearing conservation program has been successfully protecting the hearing of its players. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/11/19/us-hearing-results-musicians-idUSKCN0J329U20141119>

### ASBESTOS RISK IN AUSTRALIA SIMILAR TO BRITAIN

A recent article in the Canberra Times compares recently published figures from SafeWork Australia on Asbestos related deaths to figures from the UK. <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/asbestos-risk-in-australia-similar-to-in-crisis-hit-britain-20141114-113j1y.html>

### NIOSH SCIENCE BLOG - TEMPORARY THRESHOLD SHIFT SCREENING IS NOT WORTH THE RISK

NIOSH has challenged a recent study that recommends routine implementation of a temporary threshold shift (TTS) screening test to identify workers particularly at risk of developing noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) from occupational exposure to hazardous noise. Read the blog at: <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2014/11/21/tts-screening/>



## SNIPPETS FROM PAM GUNN

### INTERNOISE 2014

The International Noise Control Conference, was held in Melbourne in November. The full Proceedings are freely available online at: [http://www.acoustics.asn.au/conference\\_proceedings/INTERNOISE2014/index.htm](http://www.acoustics.asn.au/conference_proceedings/INTERNOISE2014/index.htm). The sessions dealing with Workplace Noise are at U1, U2 and U3 and Buy Quiet at B5. Two other interesting Buy Quiet papers from Hong Kong (by Cheng and Law) are in the Noise Policy A3c session.

### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF NOISE

The full Proceedings of the International Congress on the Biological Effects of Noise held in Japan in June 2014 are now available online at [http://www.icben.org/Post\\_Congress\\_2014.html](http://www.icben.org/Post_Congress_2014.html)

### HUMAN RESPONSE TO VIBRATION CONFERENCE

The 49th UK Conference on Human Response to Vibration was in September 2014 in Buxton UK. The programme is available here:

[www.hsl.gov.uk/health-and-safety-conferences/ukhrv2014/programme](http://www.hsl.gov.uk/health-and-safety-conferences/ukhrv2014/programme). Of particular interest to practising Hygienists was the paper from Paul Pitts of the HS Laboratory "Development of example hand-arm data for HSE Guidance". If anyone is interested in reading this paper, please contact Pam Gunn ([pam.gunn@commerce.wa.gov.au](mailto:pam.gunn@commerce.wa.gov.au)). Another interesting paper from Svantek on their improved HAV assessment method is available here: [http://svantek.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/UKHRV2014\\_06\\_JKuczy?ski.pdf](http://svantek.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/UKHRV2014_06_JKuczy?ski.pdf).

### IRSST THERMAL STRESS AND CHEMICALS

The Canadian IRSST has published a report Thermal Stress and Chemicals - Knowledge Review and the Highest Risk Occupations in Québec It can be found at: <http://www.irsst.qc.ca/media/documents/PubIRSST/R-834.pdf>

The IRSST has also recently published a report on Costs of Occupational injuries and diseases in Quebec that includes a monetary estimate for 'human costs'. This shows that 'exposure to noise' is the condition with the highest average cost per case at more than \$154,000. <http://www.irsst.qc.ca/media/documents/PubIRSST/R-843.pdf>

### REPORT ON WORKER SAFETY USING REVERSING ALARMS

An English version of the informative report on worker safety using 3 different types of reversing alarms by Canadian researchers (Laroche et al) has now been published by IRSST: <http://www.irsst.qc.ca/media/documents/PubIRSST/R-833.pdf>. They found a considerably more uniform sound field behind heavy vehicles for the broadband alarm than for the tonal and multi-tone alarms. Abrupt variations in sound pressure levels of 15 to 20 dB over short distances (less than 1 m) were noted with the tonal alarm. Thus, auditory perception of the broadband alarm in the proximity of a heavy vehicle should also prove more uniform. Despite laboratory findings showing some advantages of the tonal alarm, the broadband alarm may ultimately

prove superior for detection and perceived urgency in the actual work environment given its more uniform sound propagation behind vehicles. Also, a 2 to 4 dB advantage in loudness of the broadband alarm over the tonal alarm noted in laboratory conditions should hold true in the field. Front/back sound localization is also best with the broadband alarm compared to the tonal and multi-tone alarms, a finding critical for worker safety given that front/back confusions can lead workers to move or to focus their attention towards the wrong direction. Overall, no contraindication to the use of broadband reverse alarms was identified during objective and subjective measurements. To ensure their optimal use, however, and to clarify regulations, the researchers give the following recommendations:

1. Revise the SAE J994 standard to specifically include broadband alarms;
2. Use alarms that can self-adjust based on ambient noise levels and determine the optimal characteristics of adjustment algorithms to ensure adequate audibility in a variety of background noise scenarios;
3. Determine optimal mounting positions on heavy vehicles that will provide the most uniform sound propagation;
4. Use earplugs instead of earmuffs for better sound localization;
5. Familiarize workers with the broadband alarm before it is used in work environments, in the hope of increasing perceived urgency for this warning signal in the field.

### UWA STUDY ON PARENTEL EXPOSURE TO AROMATIC SOLVENTS

A recent UWA study has shown an association between parental exposure to aromatic solvents and childhood brain tumours in off-spring. See <http://www.nature.com/bjc/journal/v111/n5/full/bjc2014358a.html>.

### SWA NOHARMS

Safe Work Australia has commenced a project the 'National occupational hazard and risk management surveillance (NOHARMS)' This is a study of workers' exposures to noise, vibration and dusts and risk management practices in mixed crop farming. <http://www.safework-australia.gov.au/sites/SWA/australian-strategy/priority-industries/Documents/national-agriculture-activity-plan.pdf>

### NIOSH DATABASE - OCCUPATIONAL NOISE EXPOSURE

The US NIOSH has put online a database of occupational noise exposure measurements taken during its Health Hazard Evaluation Program between 1996 and 2012: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/data/datasets/RD-1005-2014-0/>.

### CONSTRUCTION SOLUTIONS DATABASE

The US Center for Construction Research & Training has created Construction Solutions, a database of work hazards and practical control measures to reduce or eliminate hazards. This includes sections on noise and vibration. <http://www.cpwconstructionolutions.org/hazard/>. It also has the ROI (Return on Investment) Calculator to help evaluate the financial impact of new equipment, materials and

work processes introduced to improve safety and health. <http://www.safecalc.org/>

#### UK NOISE AND VIBRATION PARTNERSHIP GROUP

UK industries in the energy, extraction, manufacturing and construction sectors along with the HSE have formed a Noise and Vibration Partnership Group. This industry led group will work together, long term, to increase awareness of the risks associated with noise and vibration in the workplace and promote effective management and control. They have two new posters, see:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/noise/nv-partnership-group.htm> and construction noise information here: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/healthrisks/physical-ill-health-risks/noise.htm>

#### TESTING THE ATTENUATION OF HEARING PROTECTORS TO AS/NZS1270.

A New Zealand laboratory, Imtest - SAI Global (NZ) <http://www.saiglobal.com/product-certification/Imtest-Testing/> has recently been accredited to test the attenuation of hearing protectors to AS/NZS1270. This adds to the one in USA (Michael & Associates), one in Finland (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health) and one in UK (SATRA).

#### KOREAN OCCUPATIONAL NOISE ANNOYANCE STUDY

A Korean study has shown that occupational noise annoyance is significantly related to mental health, including depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation. However, prospective studies with quantified noise exposure assessment are needed to elucidate causality: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0105321>

#### WA WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY BILL OPEN FOR COMMENT

On 23 October 2014, the Western Australian Minister for Commerce tabled in Parliament the Work Health and Safety Bill 2014 (WHS Bill) and announced a public comment period closing on 30 January 2015 for this draft legislation. The WHS Bill is a WA version of the model Work Health and Safety Bill developed by Safe Work Australia for implementation in Australian states and territories. The WHS Bill contains the core provisions of the model WHS Bill with some modifications to suit the WA working environment. For more details on the changes to the Model WHS Bill, you may wish to view or download a list of the sections (clauses) that have been changed. Should you wish to make comment, you are encouraged to use the template for submissions.

## VALE CHRIS WINDER • PHILIP TURNER

Professor Chris Winder died on 20 May 2014 after working in toxicology since 1979, and in occupational health since 1985. His final professional posting was at the Australian Catholic University, where he was a Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health.

His former roles included Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health at the School of Risk and Safety Sciences of the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Senior Lecturer in Occupational Health at the University of Sydney (1990-1996), Senior Lecturer in Toxicology at the Australian National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (1987-1992), Coordinator, Hazard Evaluation Program, National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) (1987-1990), Director and Chief Toxicologist, Chemicals Section, NOHSC (1985-1987), Principal Toxicologist, Commonwealth School of Health (1984-1985), and a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Sydney.

Occupational hygienists will remember him as an irreverent colleague, a sought after lecturer and professional trainer, a generous project supervisor (a total of 11 PhDs, 3 masters by research, and 120 honours/coursework projects), a pleasure to have at long meetings, an irregular media commentator, and a prolific writer. Some will remember that he studied for the 13-week short course in occupational hygiene at Worksafe Australia, but did not complete all of the coursework because he was only interested in chemical hazards, and not physical hazards such as noise.

We were joint winners of the 3M best paper award at the Bendigo conference, and the same work was later published in the Annals of Occupational Hygiene – my only published paper - but one of many for Chris.

His busy professional life included work as an author (of The Developmental Neurotoxicity of Lead), editor (of the 2004 second edition of Occupational Toxicology, the Journal of Health, Safety and Environment, and the CCH publication Managing Workplace Chemical Safety), an Australia Museum Eureka Award in 2006 (for research into in vitro methods to assess toxic chemicals, replacing the use of animals), work on many committees (Standards Australia, NICNAS, NPI), and many consulting projects.

Chris was also an advocate for community and workplace safety. He was an advisor to the LEAD group (an NGO campaigning on lead safety issues), and coined the term aerotoxic syndrome in response to jet oil mist exposure during commercial airline flights, spoke at parliamentary inquiries, and represented the ACTU on national chemical committees.

Chris is remembered by many for his sense of humour - even among those who crossed his path only once. I have a copy of the wickedly satirical Worksafe Chronicles for any insider wanting to re-enact the early days of WorkSafe Australia.

Several AIOH members were able to attend a memorial service held at Centennial Park in Sydney. His memorial mass is at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQnT9SQggSA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQnT9SQggSA).

The LEAD Group has assembled some tributes from former colleagues, which can be viewed at [www.lead.org.au/lanv14n3/lanv14n3-12.html](http://www.lead.org.au/lanv14n3/lanv14n3-12.html)



# special features

## ISRP CONFERENCE, PRAGUE • KERRIE BURTON

In July of 2013 I was given the fantastic opportunity to study a Masters of Science by Research at the University of Wollongong, under a scholarship provided by the S.E.A. Group. It was a chance for me to "go back to school" and I was excited to have the opportunity to develop my research skills and knowledge, focussed on the topic of Respirator Filter Efficiency Against Diesel Particulate Matter.

At the initial meeting with supervisors, I was informed that there was an expectation to present my findings at the International Society for Respiratory Protection Conference in Prague – yes that's right Prague, Czech Republic.

Fast forward to September 2014 and Prague here I come – nervous about giving my presentation in front of International Respiratory Protection experts but also excited for the same reasons. As a first time attendee, I thought I'd provide some updates on my learnings from the conference.

The 17th annual ISRP conference was held at the Hilton Old Town in Prague and brought together approximately 140 participants from 14 countries. The conference kicked off with a welcome drinks on the Sunday evening. The opening plenary was given by Dr Maryann D'Allessandro, Director of the NIOSH National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory who outlined the United States Respiratory Protection Priorities of pandemic preparedness, conformity assessment and integration of ISO Standards. Issues for health care workers and also implementation of the ISO standards was a theme continued throughout the conference.

Dr Yoshimi Matsumara from the Technology Institution of Industrial Safety gave an interesting presentation on the issues from a respiratory perspective in natural disasters in Japan such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, including the 2011 earthquake and tsunami which induced the melt down of the Fukushima Atomic Power plants. These disasters required consideration of how to manage potential exposure to asbestos and radioactive contaminants. Another issue she touched on was the provision of respiratory protection to workers exposed to indium compounds, such as those used in the manufacture of semiconductors in flat panel televisions and mobile phones, with a sufficient protection factor to protect workers to the very low exposure standard in Japan. She also invited us to the next ISRP conference in Yokohama Japan,

November 7-11 2016,

Australia was represented by myself and Graham Powe, Managing Director of the S.E.A. Group. Graham presented on development of a device which can be attached to the exhalation valve of a respirator to allow measurement of work rate. This will be useful in gathering data to enable appropriate selection of respiratory protection under the revised ISO standards. He described some of the data collected so far to validate the device.

Wednesday morning was focussed on the development of ISO RPE standards that the ISRP has been leading. The aim is to standardise internationally and close the gaps in some of the current standards, many of which are dated. Protection of the wearer is the focus so it is a Human Factors driven standardisation, moving from the current product focussed standards to performance focussed standards, based on selection, performance and classification. 30 documents are in preparation with 15 published thus far with a target for completion of 2016/2017. The benefit will be that RPD is capable to protect the wearer at the metabolic rate the wearer demands for the application / task. This will also encourage manufacturers to develop improved and innovative products.

The update was followed by a Discussion Panel on the ISO standards and it reminded me of some of the AIOH forums where some very passionate members get the opportunity to express their concerns and opinions – always informative and an eye opener! Graham Powe advised the group that the AS/NZS1716 committee will be reactivated with a focus on adopting the ISO technical standards that have already been published. The committee will meet in October to begin this deliberation.

Simon Smith, ISRP Education officer, discussed the one day training course developed covering the why and the how of using respiratory protection. This program was piloted in Cambodia at the Ministry of Health in 2010, using a train the trainer approach with 32 participants. Subsequently 3000 healthcare workers have been trained in all provinces in Cambodia and respiratory protection is part of the government mandated PPE for infection prevention and control – what a great achievement! ISRP have also formed links with Workplace Health Without Borders.



*Astronomical Clock, Prague*



*If only I had a microphone*



*From left: SEA's Graham Powe, Kerrie Burton and honorary Australian, Goran Berndtsson*

Mike Clayton (HSL Labs and incoming ISRP president) outlined a web based respirator selection tool that the HSE have developed <http://www.healthyworkinglives.com/rpe-selector>.

The social aspects of the conference were well covered with beer tasting organised in a gorgeous art deco building. The awards dinner involved taking a tram through the beautiful city of Prague, with an accordion player providing background music for the journey. The dinner was held in the Grand Monastery Restaurant, usual monastic practices of a glass or two were observed, however silence certainly wasn't.

On Thursday morning Nikki McCullough from 3M spoke about the Ebola virus and the challenge faced in terms of balancing the personal protective equipment required under a precautionary approach and the pros and cons of that such as the increased heat stress risk, supply and decontamination management issues.

A great conference and of course so much more than I've been able to cover here, I'm extremely grateful to the University of Wollongong and my supervisors –Mrs Jane Whitelaw and Professor Alison Jones as well as the S.E.A. group. Presentations can be found at <http://prague.isrp.com/>.

## IMPRESSIONS FROM THE AIHA FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE • KATE COLE & ANDREW BENNETT

Occupational hygienists need to be able to communicate and interact with a wide spectrum of people effectively. Therefore individual and organisational leadership skills are critical to each one of us and to all of us collectively. We all know that occupational hygiene is both an art and a science, but how do you “master the art” piece of that puzzle? You could be the best in the world at measuring and assessing exposure to a certain chemical, but if you can't change a bad situation, or positively influence and effect change then, all of your good work will go to waste.

With that in mind, both Andrew Bennett and I applied in May to be accepted into the AIHA's Future Leaders Institute (FLI) program. The application process required a “Statement of Interest” which was basically one A4-page in which you needed to sell yourself and demonstrate your leadership skills, describe your engagement with the profession, how you wanted to make a difference, and overall, prove that you were passionate about doing it. Thankfully, in amongst 90 applications, we were both accepted into the Program.

We travelled to Washington DC, USA and attended the FLI program this past October. It was hosted by the AIHA and held in conjunction with the AIHA Fall Conference. It brought together a total of 35 people (pictured below) from diverse backgrounds, roles, and cultures from across the world. Although we all had different backgrounds and cultures, we all had one thing in common which was a drive and a passion for our profession as occupational hygienists.

The FLI focused on individual and organisational leadership. This ranged from delving into understanding ourselves, so that we could better understand others; building leadership foundation elements; the fundamentals of teamwork; strengthening professional organisations; leadership in technology; and creating a compelling future together. This was one training course that was all about the “art” of

occupational (or rather, industrial) hygiene.

The FLI was structured in such a way that collaboration in small groups was essential. Those groups kept on changing as the program progressed, so that we ended up working with most people across the entire group. It all seemed to centre on the fact that we all needed to know each other better, and understand how to work effectively with different people, and by continuously changing up the mix of who was in the group, and the number of people in the group, it became very engaging and very interesting. We came away with some great new friends who also happen to be very passionate and knowledgeable hygienists – a handy kind of friend!

We were inspired to take on new challenges and to engage others on that journey. We learnt how to be better listeners and how to go about a better way of doing things by having a greater appreciation of how others may view the situation at hand.

Overall, the resounding message that we took away was to never forget the “why”, as in not forgetting why we are doing what we are doing. We all may have become occupational hygienists for very different reasons and we may work on many different aspects of hygiene; but we all have the same end goal in what we do. Our striving mission is to prevent occupational illness and disease. We learnt that one of the best ways to do that is to never stop learning how to be a better leader in our profession.

We are very grateful to the AIHA, the FLI Advisory Panel, and to the numerous sponsors who supported the program to make it a reality.

It was gratifying to hear at the recent AIOH Conference that the 2015 Council is working towards developing a local Australian version of the “Champions of Occupational Hygiene” to serve the needs of AIOH members in a similar way.





# of note

## ARPAB • BRIAN EVA



The Australasian Radiation Protection Accreditation Board is sponsored by three societies; AIOH, ACPSEM and ARPS. The purpose of ARPAB is to provide a nationally recognised accreditation system in radiation safety.

Presently, ARPAB offers accreditation in ionising radiation, and to a level that can be achieved within one or two years of completing a science degree. ARPAB is soon to expand the accreditation system by offering recognition of skills at the top (expert) level within ionising radiation. This top level accreditation will be designed to integrate with ARPANSA documents that have been published in recent years. ARPAB is also close to formalising a fast-track system that will be

available to people with suitable experience. The fast-track system will allow these people to achieve ARPAB accreditation in a short period of time, through recognition of the work they have done or are presently doing.

Each society provides 4 members to the Board, and ARPAB membership is presently (subject to acceptance by all societies);

Affiliation	Member	Affiliation	Member	Affiliation	Member
ACPSEM	Paul Cardew	AIOH	Brian Eva (Secretary)	ARPS	Kent Gregory (Chairman)
ACPSEM	Simon Critchley	AIOH	Terry Gorman	ARPS	Simon Toomey (Registrar)
ACPSEM	Claire Dempsey	AIOH	Michelle Wakelam	ARPS	Brent Rogers (Treasurer)
ACPSEM	Mamoon Haque	AIOH	Tracey Bence	ARPS	Howard Ackland

For those that are interested in more information, or obtaining the current candidates kit, please follow the link to the ARPAB website or contact one of the AIOH Board members via <http://arpab.org/ARPAB/content/candidates-kit>.

## HAZMAT2015

The Call for Papers for the upcoming HazMat 2015 Conference and Exhibition, to be held on June 16 and 17 in Sydney, has been released. HazMat is the leading conference for the chemical management, dangerous goods and hazardous materials industries. It brings together topical speakers and presentations covering the many niches of these industry sectors. The conference is supported by the AIOH.

The theme of Hazmat 2015 - Information, Understanding, Safety, focuses on creating a safer world though ensuring required information is accurate, appropriate and available for anyone who interacts with dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals. This can include emergency service personnel, manufacturers, formulators, applicators and end-users. Information sources for dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals include chemical registers, emergency procedure guides, labels and safety data sheets (SDS).

Improving the quality of information and encouraging best practices should reduce the potential risks that may occur with dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals.

The Organising Committee is now accepting abstract submissions for HazMat 2015. Papers may address any topical and current themes within the chemical management, dangerous goods, hazardous materials or affiliated industries that address the conference theme.

For a list of submission topics and all requirements for presentation abstracts download the call for papers brochure. For further information regarding HazMat 2015 please contact [events@fpaa.com.au](mailto:events@fpaa.com.au)

Download the application form here <https://promo-manager.server-secure.com/download/files/03024/296083/HZ15%20-%20C4P.pdf>

or printer friendly version here <https://promo-manager.server-secure.com/download/files/03024/296084/HZ15%20-%20C4P%20BW%20Friendly.pdf>





# SEASONS GREETINGS

The AIOH Council and Administration would like to wish our members, sponsors and supporters a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy new year.

We hope you all enjoy a well deserved break over the holiday season and look forward to 2015!

The AIOH Administration office will be closed from Friday 19th December and will re-open on Monday 5th January.

**AIOH**AUSTRALIAN  
INSTITUTE OF  
OCCUPATIONAL  
HYGIENISTS



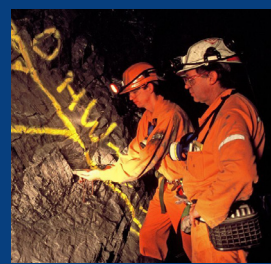
# editor's note

## DECEMBER EDITION • VENESSA THELAN & HOLLY FLETCHER

We wish to thank contributors to the December edition of the Newsletter.

This edition highlights the AIOH2014 Conference. Those who attended would have been impressed by the social program, the technical sessions and the efficient manner in which the event was run. Congratulations to the Conference Committee, as someone once said "this was the best (Olympics or Conference) ever". Also evident was the impact of our young hygienists, the Institute is in an enviable position, having a growing number of young influential members. All very positive for the future.

**Rob Sutherland | For the Newsletter Committee**



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### NEXT EDITION

The next issue of Occupational Hygiene matters is due out on 15th March 2015 with copy due to the office by 1st March 2015.

All copy should be sent to the AIOH Administration Manager via email at [laura@aioh.org.au](mailto:laura@aioh.org.au).

We look forward to your contributions.

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