

AOEC E-News October 2009

This newsletter is purposely designed to be informal. Click on the following to go directly for news on: *[View from Vermont Avenue](#)*, *[Courses](#)*, *[Positions Available](#)* and *[Meetings and Conferences](#)*.

AOEC Board Election Results

The ballots are in and the results are final. Re-elected for three year terms on the Board are the Occupational and Environmental Health Clinic, Division of Occupational Medicine, University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and the Occupational & Environmental Medicine Clinic, Harborview Medical Center, Schools of Medicine and Public Health, University of Washington (UW). Elected to a one year term is the Texas Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, University of Texas Health Center at Tyler (UTHCT). The clinics will be represented by Robert Kosnik, MD, DIH (UCSF), Jordan Firestone, MD, PhD (UW) and Jeffrey Levin, MD, MS (UTHCT). Elected to the individual member slot was R. Denny Dobbin, MSc, OH.

Our thanks to those who also ran, the Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of Utah, the Occupational & Environmental Health Center, Cambridge Health Alliance, Elizabeth Lawhorn, MSN, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN, Howard Cohen, PhD, MPH, CIH and David Goldsmith, PhD, MPH.

View from Vermont Avenue by Katherine Kirkland, Executive Director

Congress is back in session but there is still more discussion than action. I gave serious thought to just re-running the first two paragraphs of last month's *[View from Vermont Avenue](#)*.

As yet, there is no movement in the confirmation process for OSHA Secretary. Whether or not you have a strong opinion about who should be confirmed, I urge you to contact the *[Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee](#)* to ask that they move ahead with the confirmation. While AOEC did not endorse any nominee, we did send a letter to the HELP Committee ranking members with the following:

The head of OSHA plays an essential role in helping to protect our nation's workers and their communities. Occupational and environmental health professionals nationwide look to this federal leadership for guidance on important and timely issues relevant to occupational and environmental health. Strong leadership is especially important in this time of great concern about novel H1N1 influenza. An epidemic such as this could have profoundly devastating effects on our nation's emergency response and health care systems, since our first responders and health care workers share the burden of direct risk. Just as concerning is the potential for absenteeism to affect the operations of virtually every business, large and small. Our nation needs leadership in place before a crisis occurs, to ensure that OSHA policy will be clear, relevant, and credible.

....

Certainly, the Congressional confirmation process must be followed stringently. However, to delay this process promotes uncertainty and adds confusion at a time when neither can be afforded. Our nation needs you to move expeditiously to confirm the next Assistant Secretary of Labor to head OSHA.

Barring a level legislative action unseen in DC for years, we are going to have at least one more continuing budget resolution (CR) to keep the government going. As of October 26, only the Agriculture, Homeland Security, and Energy and Water appropriations have passed and been sent to the President for signature. While the appropriations bills are slowly moving (think in glacier time) those of us in DC are anticipating another year with many of the departmental budgets being combined into an omnibus bill at some point in early December.

AOEC's roots are deep in the American Public Health Association (APHA). The organization began in 1987 with members of the APHA Occupational Health Section who wanted their own clinical network. While we are not officially part of APHA, we have remained active in that organization. Our annual fall board meeting is always held in conjunction with the annual APHA conference. This year that will be held Saturday, November 7 in Pennsylvania Convention Center (PCC) Room 102B. On Sunday, November 8 we will host an AOEC "Get Acquainted" Breakfast from 7:30am-9:30am in PCC, Room 203A. Throughout the conference members of the AOEC staff will be in the Exhibit Hall at Booth 1242 so if you are attending, please stop by and say hello.

For those of you not at APHA, all this activity has implications. Since most of the staff will be at APHA, we may not be quite as responsive as usual. We will be checking e-mail and there will be someone in the AOEC office answering phones and passing on messages to our cell phones. Nonetheless, this means that between November 9 and November 11, you may find the response time to inquiries a bit slower than usual. I hope you will understand.

Members in Action

Greg Wagner, MD is currently serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) in the Department of Labor. His task for MSHA is very much what Jordan Barab is for OSHA--namely running the agency until the nominated Assistant Secretary is confirmed. Unlike OSHA, the nominee, Joe Main, was voted out of committee earlier this month and was confirmed by the Senate October 22. No word yet on when Mr. Main will take over the reins.

In 2007, award winning photojournalist Earl Dotter and documentarian Tennessee Watson embarked on a project to interview and photograph farmworkers in Maine. It culminated in Farmworkers Feed Us All – an exhibit commemorating farmworkers' lives and working experiences. The photo exhibit will be on display at APHA in Philadelphia on Tuesday, November 10 in the Convention Center, Room 202B. At 4:30 pm Earl Dotter and Tennessee Watson will discuss their efforts with migrant workers to create this powerful exhibit. Migrant Clinicians Network is sponsoring this exhibit/session. For more information, please contact Amy

Liebman at aliebman@migrantclinician.org or visit the gallery on MCN's website www.migrantclinician.org

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, in cooperation with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, will launch a targeted health initiative in January 2010 focused on environmentally-associated cancers. The initiative is being designed to detect cancers and other serious illness resulting from exposure to arsenic and asbestos, two of the Michigan's most frequently encountered carcinogens.

Director and author of the initiative Michael Harbut, M.D., MPH, FCCP, of Karmanos and a long time AOEC member, said that by utilizing existing data that has identified workplace and environmental arsenic and asbestos, "we can determine who is at risk, what preventive care may be recommended and more accurately diagnose and treat those at risk because of the water they drink or air they breathe."

Positions Available

George Washington University Medical Center School of Public Health and Health Services

Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

For full information go to: <http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/faculty/facultyPositions.cfm>

Application Procedure: To be considered for Chair interested applicants should submit: (1) a curriculum vitae; (2) a letter of interest including a statement of qualifications. Only complete applications will be considered. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. *Please submit* all materials electronically to: EOH Chair Search Committee and/or EOH Search Committee, c/o Jo Ann Roberts, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, GWU School of Public Health and Health Services, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 203, Washington, DC 20037, eahjmr@gwumc.edu

Post Doctoral Fellow in Occupational Injury and Disability Research

The Department of Work Environment, School of Health & Environment, University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML)

This is a full-time, benefited position with funding for an initial period of one year. The successful applicant will have a doctoral degree in epidemiology, occupational health, safety or disability research, or a related field. The candidate will have less than five years' post-doctorate experience, a demonstrated record of individual initiative and originality in research, strong analytic skills, and potential to become an independent academic researcher within two to three years.

This position is contingent upon funding. Applications, including resume, a statement of research interests and the names of three references, will be accepted until November 1, 2009. To apply online, go to: <https://jobs.uml.edu/> and search for job reference number 0080056. For questions on the application process, contact UML Human Resources at careers@uml.edu.

Tenure Track Positions: Environmental Safety & Health and Industrial Hygiene Department of Occupational & Environmental Safety & Health

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Two tenure-track positions commencing in August 2010. Both positions require conventional and web-based graduate and undergraduate teaching, academic advising, scholarship/research, curriculum development, and service to the university community. The ESH position requires a research record in the area of environmental safety and health or the ability to develop and carry out a research agenda. The IH position requires a research record in the area of industrial hygiene or the ability to develop and carry out a research agenda.

Additional information at either <http://www.uww.edu/employment/jobs/esh.html> or contact Dr. Alvaro Taveira, Chair Department of Occupational & Environmental Safety & Health University of Wisconsin-Whitewater 800 W. Main St., Whitewater, WI 53190. Tel: (262) 472-5427 Fax: (262) 472-1091 email: taveiraa@uww.edu Visit the Department of Occupational & Environmental Safety and Health web page at <http://academics.uww.edu/safety/>

Four Tenure Track Positions: School of Public Health, The University of Memphis

The School of Public Health at The University of Memphis invites applications for at least 4 nine-month tenure-track faculty positions at the Assistant or Associate level beginning August, 2010. Expertise in the following areas is desirable but not required:

Epidemiology: chronic disease risks and determinants, translational methodology, behavioral and environmental risk assessment, geospatial analyses; and social network analysis;

Health Services and Systems Research: health informatics, organizational theory and management, health policy, quantitative methods, healthcare finance or health economics;

Social and Behavioral Sciences: health equity and social determinants; health communication; social marketing; chronic disease prevention including obesity research; child health improvement.

Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and an attractive benefits package is offered. Additional information about the School of Public Health is available at www.memphis.edu/sph. Applicants should submit a letter of application which includes research and teaching interests, curriculum vitae, and a list of three references. Review of applications will begin December 1, 2009 and will continue until all positions are filled. Additional information can be found at:

<https://workforum.memphis.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1256146183035>

Educational Courses

US-Mexico Border Health Training Opportunity

The South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) Program of the University of Texas School of Medicine-San Antonio (UTSOMSA) provides in vivo training experiences at the US-Mexico Border for medical students, residents and other health professionals in an unusual and informative setting. STEER engages nearly 100 instructors, most of them

volunteers, including health department leaders, community healthcare workers, and professors, to teach the dozens of ½ to 1-day segments that make up the 4-week program.

The STEER program is offered as an elective during the below mentioned dates in both Laredo and Harlingen, TX. There are no tuition fees. Housing is provided at no cost to students from the University of Texas Health Science Center. Housing for visiting students is \$600 for the month. Students are responsible for their own travel to/from Laredo or Harlingen, meals, personal daily expenses and after-hours transportation and activities.

STEER program is offered monthly if there are at least three qualified applicants. Limit of 10 students per rotation. See the website <http://steer.uthscsa.edu> for information and a downloadable application, or contact directly: steer@uthscsa.edu.

NIOSH Approved Spirometry Courses

All the currently approved NIOSH spirometry courses which are available are listed at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/drds/spirometry/schedule.asp>

North Carolina Occupation Safety and Health Education and Research Center

NC OSHERC NORA Interdisciplinary Seminar (webcast) is Wednesday, **November 4, 2009** from 1:00pm to 2:30pm ET. **Gregg Stave, MD, JD, MPH, FACP, FACOEM**, Consultant in Occupational Medicine in Chapel Hill, NC will present "Prevention of Laboratory Animal Allergy." Slides and evaluation form are available by contacting Susan Randolph at susan.randolph@unc.edu or 919-966-0979

To access the seminar on November 4, 2009 at 1:00pm ET, go to:

<http://breeze.unc.edu/sphnoraseminar/> Log in as a guest. Type in your first and last name and click the "Enter" button.

Occupational Health Nursing

Your Master's in Public Health in the Occupational Health Nursing concentration via distance education from The University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill is only a click away. You can attend classes on-line anytime of the day or night. Tuition assistance is available. For more information contact Judy Ostendorf (judy_ostendorf@unc.edu) or Bonnie Rogers (rogersb@email.unc.edu) and visit our website:

http://www.sph.unc.edu/phlp/distance_mph_in_occupational_health_nursing_2083_7115.html

Earn a Certificate in Occupational Health Nursing via distance education from The University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill. Earn 11 – 12 academic credits in 12 months, which could be transferred into the MPH Program. You can attend classes on-line anytime of the day or night. For more information contact Judy Ostendorf (judy_ostendorf@unc.edu) or Bonnie Rogers (rogersb@email.unc.edu) and visit our website:

http://www.sph.unc.edu/phlp/occupational_health_nursing_certificate_4796_8853.html

30th Annual Occupational Safety and Health Winter Institute February 15-19, 2010 in St Pete Beach, FL <http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/institutes/winter10/index.htm>

Short Course in Occupational Safety

December 15-18, 2009 in Chapel Hill, NC <http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/ce/courses/shortcourses.htm>

31st Annual Occupational Health and Safety Update December 3-4, 2009 in Chapel Hill, NC

http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/ce/courses/sfy_hlth_update09.htm

Certification Review Courses http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/cert_review.htm

Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene Online January 11-April 28, 2010; August 24-December 8, 2010

http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/ce/courses/fund_ind_hyg_online.htm

Occupational Health Nursing Certification Review Course

18th Annual Occupational Health Nursing (OHN) Certification Review Course will be held at the Marriott Suites in Clearwater Beach, FL, January 11- 13, 2010. It is offered by Bonnie Rogers and Associates and twenty (20) contact hours will be awarded. Content relevant to OHN concepts and practice, industrial hygiene, ergonomics, health promotion, toxicology, management, legal issues, research and counseling will be provided. For brochure and more information, call (703) 497-2119, fax name and address to (703) 491-9656, or send email request to rogersb@email.unc.edu

Respirator Selection and Cartridge Change Out Schedules

February 23 & 24, 2010 Hampton Inn and Suites, Salt Lake City, UT Fee \$430. Contact Roy McKay, PhD, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, PO Box670458, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0458, 513-558-1234 or www.DrMcKay.com

Sponsored by the University of Cincinnati Medical Center

Correspondence Course: Practical Aspects of Health and Safety Management

Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (RMCOEH)

Practical Aspects of Health and Safety Management, that is based on the Royce Moser, MD, MPH text, "Effective Management of Health and Safety Programs--A Practical Guide, 3rd Edition". Reflecting the additional chapters and other material in the 3rd edition, it is approved for a maximum of 45 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. It is also approved by the American Board of Preventive Medicine as meeting the requirements of an educational module under the ABPM re-certification program. Information on the book can be found at <http://www.oempress.com/product/347/1>. A brochure for the correspondence course can be found at <http://medicine.utah.edu/rmcoeh/ContEdProg/pammgmt1.pdf>.

Free Online Continuing Education Course for Health Professionals on Pediatric Environmental Health

Now Available at: http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/emes/health_professionals/pediatrics.html

This course is based on the Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit: An American Academy of Pediatrics endorsed clinical tool. This is an online course developed in conjunction with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) Division of Toxicology and

Environmental Medicine, the University of California San Francisco Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, and Physicians for Social Responsibility, Greater Boston.

Free 1.5 Credit Hours for: Physicians, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, other health professionals (check the course site). Use this free interactive online course in the comfort of your own home or office to increase your knowledge base of common pediatric environmental health issues. Users can log in and out to complete the course in several sessions.

Massachusetts Nurses Association- Health and Safety Courses Online

Available at <http://www.massnurses.org/nursing-resources/continuing-education/mna-ce-online>
Course topics currently include: Workplace Violence, Fragrance Free! Creating a Safe Healthcare Environment, Latex Allergy Program, Fatigue and Sleeplessness, and Work-related Asthma in Nurses and their Co-workers.

Program requirements: To successfully complete a program and receive contact hours, you must read the entire program, take and pass the Post-Test and complete the Program Evaluation. To pass the Post-Test, you must achieve a score of 80% or above.

Accreditation: The MNA is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

*All programs are free to MNA members and others.

Conferences and Meetings

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting November 8-11, 2009

An exciting schedule awaits members of the APHA Occupational Health and Safety Section attending the **APHA 137th Annual Meeting and Exposition** in Philadelphia.

AOEC will have a booth in the exhibit hall as usual. You will find us at booth 1242.

For AOEC members and those interested in learning more about AOEC we have:

Sunday 11/8/09 -- AOEC "Get Acquainted" Breakfast

7:30am-9:30am in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Room 203A

Also of importance to AOEC is the OHIP Program Presentation Session. It will take place on **Tuesday, November 10, 2009 from 2:30 - 4:00 pm** in the Philadelphia Convention Center Room PCC201B.

For a list of all OHS Section Social events and Business Meetings

<http://www.apha.org/membersgroups/sections/aphasections/>

For all the OHS Section Sessions

<http://www.defendingscience.org/upload/OHS-Final-Program-2009-2.pdf>

For a list of all Environmental Section events, visit

<http://apha.confex.com/apha/137am/webprogram/ENV.html>

The Health Activist Annual Dinner (formerly Activist Physician Dinner) at APHA

Sunday, Nov. 8 at the Ocean Harbor Restaurant, 1023 Race St., Philadelphia

\$45 in advance, \$50 at the meeting Make Checks Payable to: OHSI – Activist Dinner.

Mail checks to: Occupational Health Services Institute UIC Medical Center (MC684),
835 S. Wolcott Street, Chicago, IL 60612, For more information contact Peter Orris 312-
996-5804, Fax 312-413-8485 porris@uic.edu

**Health and Safety in Transportation Workers: Air, Sea and Land
November 12-14, 2009**

REGISTER <https://www.cme.ucsf.edu/cme/CourseDetail.aspx?coursenumber=MDM10N01>

Phone: To register or obtain registration materials by phone or to inquire about registration status, please call UCSF's CME Registration Office at (415) 476-5808.

On-Site Registration

Time: 7:30 am- 8:00 am Date: Thursday, November 12 & Friday, November 13

Place: Holiday Inn Golden Gateway Hotel, 1500 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 9410

**Nanomaterials and Human Health & Instrumentation, Metrology and Analytical Methods
November 17-18, 2009**

The workshop, sponsored by the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), will be held on in Arlington, Virginia. Registration is free.

Further information about the workshop and registration can be found at:

<http://www.nano.gov/html/meetings/humanhealth/>

**Agricultural Medicine: Occupational & Environmental Health for Rural Health
Professionals**

November 30-December 4, 2009

Greenville, North Carolina, Holiday Inn Express

Participants will have an opportunity to learn about NC's diverse agriculture as well as about agricultural occupational and environmental exposures in the farm environment. Participants will also learn ways to prevent illness, injury, and fatalities as a result of those exposures.

To Register Contact: Division of Continuing Studies, East Carolina University, Phone: (252) 328-9198 or (800) 767-9111 Fax: (252) 328-9342 Online: www.cpe.ecu.edu

Download the course description and registration brochure at:

<http://www.ecu.edu/ncagromedicine/CustomCF/brochures/HeathCourse.pdf>

2009 NECOEM / MaAOHN Conference

**Challenging Global Times: Forging Ahead in Occupational and Environmental Health
December 3-4, 2009**

Boston Newton Marriott Hotel-Newton, MA

Registration information at <http://www.necoem.org/events/2009-12-03-registration.html>

ACGIH Webinar Ethical EH&S

**Effective Implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Economy
December 10, 2009**

Time: 2:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time (GMT -05:00, New York)

To attend this webinar, you must first register for it. Click the following link for further course information including pricing and to register: Registration and Course Information Link:

http://www.acgih.org/events/course/Ethical-EHS_webinar.htm

Webinar speakers will present a comprehensive perspective on meeting industrial hygienists ethical responsibilities in an effective, sustainable and profitable manner.

Making Green Jobs Safe Workshop-Hosted by NIOSH

December 14 - 16, 2009, Washington, DC

The purpose of the workshop is to frame the issues around integrating worker health and safety into green jobs and sustainability processes and efforts. NIOSH will use their Prevention through Design platform for the outcomes of this Workshop.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/PtDesign/>

Registration and additional information at

<http://www.team-psa.com/safeandgreenworkshop/home.asp>

Be Safe, Be Profitable: Protecting Workers in Agriculture

January 27-28, 2010, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

The 2010 ASHCA-NIOSH Conference, *Be Safe, Be Profitable: Protecting Workers in Agriculture*- January 27-28, 2010

<http://www.ashca.com/dotnetnuke/NewsEvents/ASHCAConference/tabid/97/Default.aspx>

For more information on the conference, visit www.ashca.com.

5th International Conference on Children's Health and the Environment

Bangalore February 1 – 3, 2010

Location: National Institute of Advance studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore. Karnataka. India

Organized by the International Network on Children's Health Environment and Safety (INCHES) and the H.P.Foundation, Bangalore

Call for abstracts for posters until December 1, 2009 Additional information can be found at

<http://www.inchesnetwork.net/second%20announcement%20ICCHE%202010%20Bangalore.pdf>