



NORTHWEST  
CHAPTER

## March Newsletter

- Upcoming Events
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### Upcoming Events

#### **April Chapter Program: Student Paper Presentations**

**Date & Time:** April 8, 2025 | 11:30am-1:00pm

[Register Here](#)

The Northwest Chapter's monthly program will give ASSP Members and Guests the opportunity to hear from students from the University of Minnesota-Duluth and the University of Wisconsin-Stout graduate programs present on research topics they recently accomplished. Along with the four presenters, there will be additional students with poster presentations.

Please register to attend this chapter meeting and show support for our students and future leaders.

#### **Occupational Safety and Health Disparities in Southeast Asia**

Elizabeth Mcdermott, UMD

The World Health Organizations South-East (SE) Asia Region, home to over a quarter of the world's population, faces unique challenges in occupational health and safety, and has been estimated to have one of the highest rates of

work-related mortality. The presentation will discuss unique aspects of the SE Asian economy, occupational hazards, and opportunities for advancement of occupational safety.

Elizabeth Mcdermott is a student at the University of Minnesota Duluth, working on completing her master's degree in Environmental Health and Safety and is a NIOSH trainee. Before attending UMD, Elizabeth studied Social Work at the University of Kansas for her undergrad, then took a year to teach English in Chachoengsao, Thailand. After graduating from UMD, she will be interning at Travelers Insurance, focusing on risk control.

### **EHS for Child Care Employees in the Workplace**

Brooke Carlson, UMD

Workplace safety and health for childcare employees is essential to ensuring a supportive and productive environment, both for staff and the children. Childcare workers face various challenges, ranging from physical demands and exposure to contagious illnesses to the stress of managing young children's needs and behaviors. The presentation will explore demographics of this occupational sector, highlight key issues facing childcare workers, and discuss EHS solutions

Brooke Carlson is a graduate student at the University of Minnesota Duluth, where she is earning her master's degree in Environmental Health and Safety and is a NIOSH trainee. She previously attended the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, earning a degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders with a certificate in Child Welfare. Brooke's background includes years of experience in the early childcare industry, where she worked as both a teacher and a director. This experience gave her firsthand insight into the unique health and safety challenges faced by childcare employees. By combining her academic knowledge with real-world experience, she brings a valuable perspective to the field. Following her education, she has accepted a full time safety position back in her hometown in Wisconsin.

### **Cooling Tower Winterization Risk Assessment**

Emily Conn Revere, UW-Stout

After contacting a prior employer for ideas on possible tasks to assess for my Risk Assessment project in 2023, one of the tasks suggested by the Facilities Manager was to review the winterization process of a cooling tower for a small office location managed by the company in downtown St. Paul. This

project involved video recording every step of the process, discussing procedures and policies with the associated Facilities Manager and Facilities Technician, and researching related incidents through OSHA's injury records.

I have developed a great appreciation for risk and safety after working at the Minnesota Historical Society where I worked within the Facilities & Risk Management department. My fellow coworkers at the time truly opened my eyes to the significance of risk and safety initiatives. I am closely approaching my final courses to complete the UW-Stout Risk Control & Safety Management graduate program; after which, I hope to earn a Risk Manager position or similar. My long-term goal is to also acquire the Certified Risk Management Professional (CRMP) certification from the Risk Management Society. On a personal note, I've been happily married for 5 years this year, and we have one soon-to-be 3-year-old, and one child soon to arrive!

### **Dental Hygienist Ergonomic-Related Challenges**

[Bryan Edwards, UW-Stout](#)

Dental hygienists were assessed for work related musculoskeletal disorders. Each hygienist was observed performing routine daily work tasks and the time they spent with their neck in forward flexion as part of their total work time. Photographs and photogrammetry were used to illustrate posture concerns, along with self-assessments completed by the hygienists.

Bryan Edwards recently graduated with an MS from the Risk Control program at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He attended Mankato State University and is a two time inductee in the MSU sports hall of fame for cross country and track. He has a B.S. in Vertebrate Physiology and Doctor of Chiropractic from Northwestern College of Chiropractic. A motor vehicle accident led him to pursue the Risk Control degree.

[Register here.](#)

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### **Save the Date: May Chapter Meeting Robotics and Technical Tour**

Date & Time: May 13, 2025 | 11:30am-1:00pm

Keep a look out on our [chapter website](#) for registration to open.

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### **Make Plans Now for Safety 2025**

Summertime may seem far away - especially with the cold temperatures we had in mid-February, but warmer days are coming. Something that makes us think of summer is when Society opens up registration for Safety 2025. Did you see the ASSP email announcement that came out in January with this

announcement? Be sure to make plans to attend the event which runs from July 22 - 24 in Orlando. Each year the Northwest Chapter has a lot of members attending, and there are plans for a Chapter networking get-together down there. Future Chapter newsletters will contain details so stay tuned!



## Meet Your Election Candidates

In case you missed our March 10, 2025 email on our Northwest Chapter election candidates, please see below for those running in our upcoming election. Voting will open after April 10. We will be having an election for the following positions:

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Member at Large
- Advisory Committee Member

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### Vice President Candidates:

- **Tailin Tommerdahl** (bio provided below)
- **Paul Gammelgaard** (bio provided below)

#### Tailin Tommerdahl

Tailin Tommerdahl is a Safety Specialist at Border States and serves as Social Media/Communications Chair for ASSP Northwest Chapter. Before Border States, Tailin worked in the Construction, Manufacturing, and Transportation Industries in the Safety Department for the past 10 years. She holds a GSP (Graduate Safety Professional) designation and attended Waldorf University with a Bachelors in Occupational Safety and Health.



### Paul Gammelgaard

Paul Gammelgaard is Certified Safety Professional with a B.S. in Operations Management and is currently employed by US LBM Holdings, LLC as its Director of Field Safety . I began my career as a residential framing carpenter and slowly, almost reluctantly at times, developed a passion for safety. While working for Carpentry Contractors Company I transition through several roles ending with Operations Manager. My safety responsibilities included safety program development and implementation, training development and execution, incident investigation, risk assessment, hazard mitigation. While cultivating my safety skills, I developed a passion for fall protection in the residential segment. In partnership with MN OSHA, I was asked to co-present in a lunch and learn fall protection seminar hosted by the department of labor to address residential exposures and mitigation strategy. In 2018 I earned Green Belt Certification from the Wisconsin School of Business Center for Professional development by completing the first of many safety-focused process improvement projects. As the National Safety Partner, I continue to drive loss control activities through practical application of operational safety with Lean tools. Additional responsibilities include managing the corporate safety program, managing partnerships with our insurance partners, strategically planning and effectuating of loss mitigation strategies, manage all OSHA, DOT, and EPA interactions.



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### **Secretary Candidate:**

- **Jenn Carlson, CSP** (bio provided below)

#### Jenn Carlson

Jenn has served in several roles on the Northwest Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals over the last twelve years: half of this time in the role of Secretary. Jenn has worked with 3M for over fifteen years, holding a variety of leadership and technical positions in manufacturing, research and development and pilot plant operations. She is currently the Compliance Assurance Senior Manager, where she leads a team executing the Company's internal and external EHS, Product Stewardship and TSCA audit programs. Prior to joining 3M, and while obtaining her graduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, Jenn worked for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in Superfund Remediation. Jenn currently resides in Hudson, WI with her husband Larry and their nine-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer, Maddy-Girl. Although she is passionate about her career, she takes advantage of every moment she can outside of the office exploring the outdoors with her husband. They enjoy paddleboarding, canoeing, biking, golfing, gardening, collecting lake glass and when indoors, listening to vinyl.



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**Member at Large Candidates:**

- **Amy Satterfield** (bio provided below)
- **Bill Wuolu** (bio provided below)
- **Curt Schroeder** (bio provided below)

Amy Satterfield

Amy Satterfield is the Director of Business Development and a Sr. Project Manager with IEA, Inc. She has 27 years of experience providing environmental, health and safety services to property management, government, educational, commercial, industrial and healthcare clients. IEA and Amy's involvement with the facility programs as well as conducting indoor air quality assessments provides a well-rounded view of safety challenges and needs. Amy has been involved in multiple organizations such as Minnesota Educational Facilities Management Professionals Association (Known as MASMS) and MN Chief Engineers Guild (MNCEG) for over 15 years. Amy and IEA see the value of bringing experience and volunteer dedication together to help fulfill the members' and organization's experience.



### Bill Wuolu

I have been in the safety industry for 20 years. One of the most important things one of my mentors taught me was to give back and help mentor others within the profession. Being a part of ASSP has allowed me to do that, especially in North Dakota where I live with my family. I would love to continue doing that as a Member at Large for our Chapter. Currently I work for Acuity Insurance as a Loss Control Representative.



### Curt Schroeder

I've been in the safety industry for around 9 Years. I worked at 3M as a PPE rep for end users and a rep of SCBA's for Fire Departments. At 3M I was Greenbelt certified, with the project of getting better communication while on noisy and difficult to communicate jobsites. Currently I'm the head of all safety sales at Acme Tools, with the task of training outside sales reps, inside sales reps and supplying the stores with the most up to date and current PPE options, while also visiting large end users to collaborate with their safety team. I'm married to my wife Alisa and I have 3 boys, Brixton(11), Knox(9) and Onyx(6).



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### **Advisory Committee Member**

- **Jamison Harrell-Latham** (bio provided below)
- **Mark Nichols** (bio provided below)
- **Kate Carlson** (bio provided below)



### Jamison Harrell-Latham

Jamison is currently a Senior Regulatory Compliance Engineer at Amazon Robotics. His scope of work includes evaluating various types of automation and robotic applications to ensure safe design with industry standards such as Machinery Directive (EU), ANSI B11 (NA), NFPA 79, CE marking (EU) NRTL (NA), and ISO 13849. Jamison actively serves on A3 (Association for Advancing Automation) Technical Advisory Committee's for both ANSI R15.06 Industrial Robots and R15.08 Industrial Mobile Robots. He is the A3 project lead for the OSHA Alliance team that updated OSHA's Technical Manual on Robot Safety requirements for OSHA Enforcement Officers. Jamison received his Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Safety and Health from Murray State University. He is a Certified Safety Professional and ANSI B11 Licensed Machinery Safety Specialist. Jamison has been an active ASSE/ASSP member for 25+ years and former past president for Northwest Chapter.



### Mark Nichols

Mark is a retired safety professional with over thirty years of experience performing risk assessments, safety audits and working as a safety manager – in both the risk management consulting industry and as corporate safety director for a major furniture manufacturing company. During the course of his employment he has worked on construction sites, fishing vessels in the Bering Sea, mining properties in northern Idaho and above the Arctic Circle in Alaska, and in many other industries - from supercomputer manufacturing to poultry processing. He also consulted for a large commercial insurance entity that insured hazardous waste cleanup contractors, recycling companies, and contractors that respond to emergency situations, including train derailments, clandestine drug labs, tractor trailer crashes, and industrial disasters. Mark has served at the Northwest Chapter's Membership and Mentorship

Chairperson since June of 2021, Society Advisory Group, Chapter Level, since 2024. He presently running for the next term of the Advisory Group. His specific objectives are to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Society member recruitment and retention, with a strong focus on encouraging students to enter college and university degree programs within our Chapter territory, and outside that territory, as well.



### Kate Carlson

I'm Kate Carlson, a dynamic Certified Safety Professional with over 15 years of experience dedicated to building, developing, sustaining, and leading strong safety and health cultures within organizations. Throughout my career, I have been motivated by a passion for promoting safety excellence and fostering collaborative environments and relationships. My expertise lies in strategically developing, promoting, implementing, and managing comprehensive environmental, health, and safety programs to ensure full compliance with company objectives and regulatory requirements across multi-site organizations. I thrive on driving change and building buy-in from stakeholders and executive leadership. My approach combines a practical, data-driven methodology with a proven ability to achieve measurable results in change management initiatives.



## **Other Topics**

## **Northwest Chapter ASSP 2025 Scholarship Program**

Multiple Scholarships totaling \$4000 available for students pursuing a graduate degree, Master of Science in Risk Control, at University of Wisconsin-Stout, Master of Environmental Health & Safety, at the University of Minnesota-Duluth or Master or Doctorate in Public Health or an Occupational Safety, Health or Environmental field of study at the University of Minnesota.

*Due dates for your application to be considered are as follows:*

- *US Postal Users must have their application postmarked by March 26, 2025*
- *Last minute filers must deliver their application in person or as a PDF file via email no later than 4:30 pm CDT on Friday March 28, 2025.*

Please visit our [website](#) for further information.

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## **The Dan Hannan Sr., Memorial EHS Scholarship**

EHS professionals serve employers and employees by preserving what matters most—the quality of life. This is accomplished by effectively managing the risks associated with working conditions and human behaviors. No employee should go to work fearful of injury or unknowingly exposed to hazards and conditions that could result in a debilitating illness. To that end, the EHS professional is a vital part of an employer's operations, ensuring sustainability by contributing to the return on investment that a healthful workforce provides to a business.

Dan Hannan Sr.—was a commercial painter for four decades from the 1950's through the 1980's. His passing in 2000 because of lung cancer was caused in part by his occupational exposures that occurred well before workplace controls were established by OSHA in 1970. This onetime \$1,000 scholarship proves to memorialize not only his service to his trade but also his largely unguarded health and safety condition.

Please visit our [website](#) for further information.

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## **Member Get a Member Program**

When a new full member lists a current member as their referring member in the membership application, the referring member gets the credit and is eligible for prizes at different thresholds. The prizes are outlined in the link below as well as a refer-a-friend tool with some suggested messaging to new potential members. Members typically refer their own colleagues, friends, and associates in safety to become members.

<https://www.assp.org/membership/member-get-a-member>

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### **Chapter Board Meetings - Guests are Invited!**

Did you know your Northwest Chapter Board meets monthly to manage Chapter affairs? These meetings usually take place prior to the regular monthly programs and are open to all Members. It is possible to attend these meetings in person or via a conference call. Observing these meetings is a great way to get an inside look at what it takes to be an ASSP “Platinum Chapter”. It is also a good way to learn more about the various Chapter leadership positions and get involved!

If you have never been to a Board Meeting and want to check it out, come early to the location for the monthly Chapter Program and join us. If you want to attend the Board Meeting via conference call, please contact a member of the board to get a unique login credentials.

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### **Mentorship Corner: Need Some Help or Do You Want to Help?**

Sometimes, ASSP members encounter difficult matters that transcend and/or may lie outside the professional literature, their coursework, and experience. The chance to discuss creative solutions and resources (on a confidential basis), with a Chapter mentor can often be helpful.

On the other side of the coin, seasoned professionals, in their roles as mentors can gain significant benefit from knowing that they have helped a mentee negotiate a difficult challenge, and have had a positive impact on the safety and well-being of employee groups connected with their mentee’s workplace, and (possibly) that organization’s customers and the wider community, as well.

We invite you to explore such opportunities.

## Career Opportunities

Check out our [website](#) to see the latest in current openings!



If you do not wish to receive these emails, please [click here](#)  
to unsubscribe from ASSP Northwest Chapter messages.

American Society of Safety Professionals | 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068