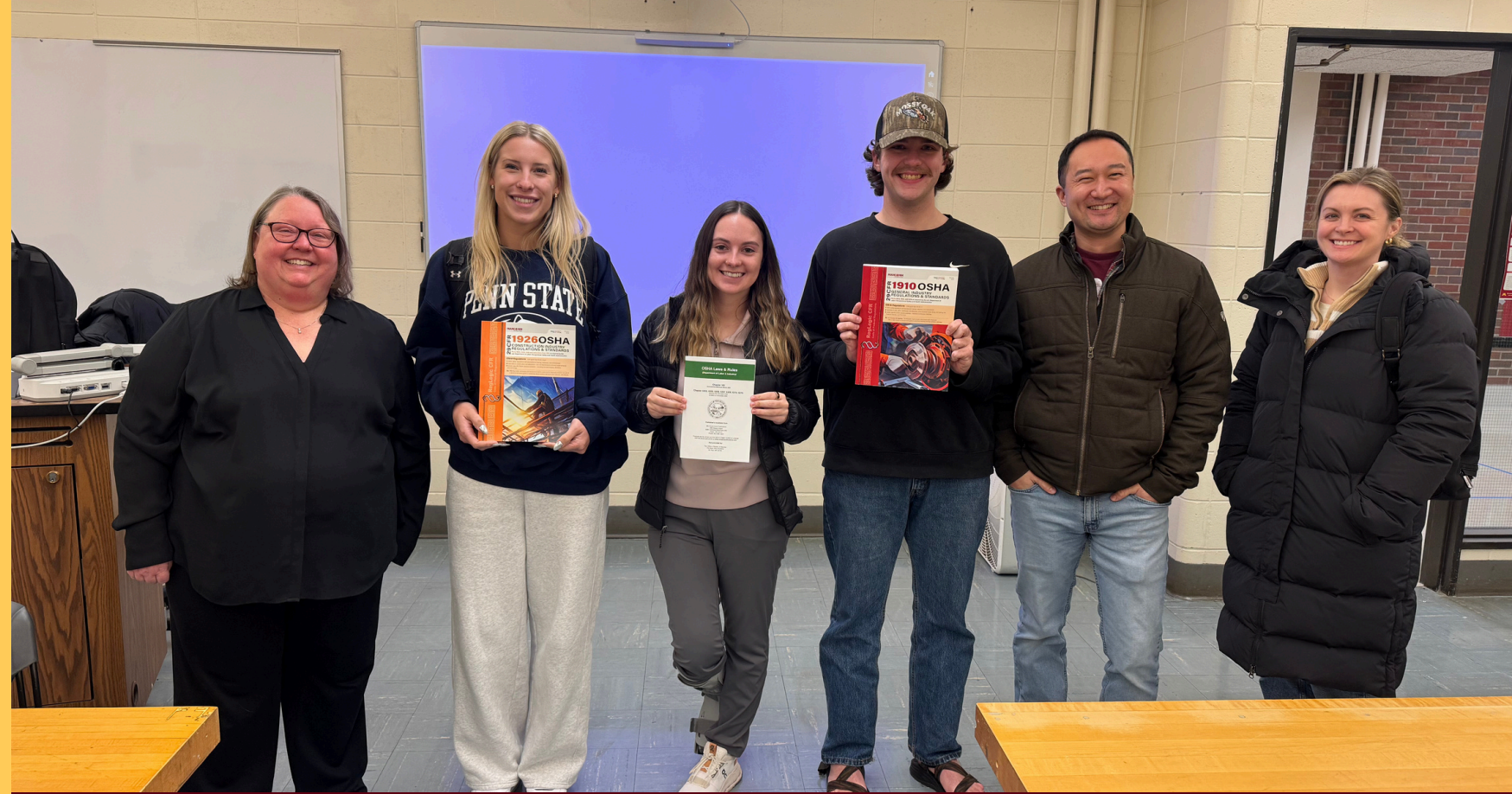


# OCTOBER, 2025 ASSP DULUTH STUDENT SECTION



## MNOSHA

We recently had the opportunity to hear from a representative with MNOSHA's ergonomics division, who shared valuable insights into how state and federal OSHA programs differ. The presentation highlighted Minnesota's unique state-plan authority, which allows MNOSHA to implement and enforce workplace safety and health standards that are at least as effective as federal OSHA's regulations—often going beyond them in key areas such as ergonomics and employee well-being. Students gained a deeper understanding of how these distinctions impact compliance, enforcement, and the protection of workers across different industries. The session offered an excellent real-world perspective on the collaboration between state and federal agencies in maintaining safe and healthy workplaces.



## Fit Testing Pt. 2

As part of their hands-on learning experience, students in the Environmental Health and Safety master's program recently worked with the St. Louis County Safety and Risk Management Department to gain practical training in respiratory protection. The department provided an in-depth session on how to properly fit and set full-face respirators, emphasizing the importance of ensuring a secure seal and understanding OSHA fit-testing requirements. The following day, students applied their new skills in the field by assisting with annual fit testing for the St. Louis County SWAT team during their training day. This experience offered valuable real-world exposure to occupational health practices, collaboration with public safety professionals, and the critical role of respirator programs in protecting worker health and safety.

## Site Tours

We also participated in site tours that connected classroom learning to real-world practice. One group visited the CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) facility in Superior, where they explored the operations, safety systems, and environmental protocols involved in managing alternative fuel infrastructure. Another group toured the CN Ore Docks in Duluth, gaining insight into large-scale material handling, transportation safety, and environmental protection measures along the Great Lakes. Following the visits, each group shared their findings in class presentations, fostering discussion on how different industries approach workplace safety, regulatory compliance, and environmental stewardship.

