



Chicago Section American Industrial Hygiene Association

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Mary A. Ficht, CIH
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Past President

Catherine Simmons, CIH
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www.chicagoaiha.org

A Message from the President



“State of the Chicago Local Section of the AIHA”

The purpose of this letter is to provide the membership with a brief update of the past year's activities as well as a glimpse of the upcoming events for 2007/2008. I would also like to thank the membership for their active participation as well as the Officers and Board of Directors (BOD) for their time and efforts to make our Local Section one of the best.

I have provided the following brief summary of accomplishments for 2006/2007:

STUDENT SUPPORT:

- Official Sponsor of the UIC Student Section & donated \$1,000 seed money.
- The Local Section received special mention from our friends at Purdue at the 2007 AIHCE, recognizing our chapter's efforts and support for their students.
- The UIC Student Section won 2007 AIHCE as the outstanding student chapter.
- A picture of the UIC Student Section members shall be posted on our web site.
- The founding President is Robert Malcolm...great job!

BYLAW REVISIONS:

- Catherine Simmons drove the board goal to completely revise the Bylaws, last amended on Nov. 15, 1995.
- BOD & National AIHA have reviewed and approved the revisions.
- Draft revision shall be voted on using an electronic ballot in July/August of 2007.

OUTREACH GOAL:

- Robert Rottersman chaired a committee & made great strides in 2006/2007.
- The Local Section and local EHS businesses co-sponsored a well attended reception at the 2006 AIHCE Conference in Chicago. Thanks to Mary Ficht for taking the lead and coordinating this event.

18th ANNUAL CHICAGOLAND SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE:

- Cosponsor with the local ASSE Chapters, OSHA, IDCEO & NIU.
- Although attendance was down, our organization received \$3,464 for our efforts.

SCHOLARSHIP & AIHCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

- BOD approved / distributed a total of \$5,000 to UIC, ISU and Purdue students to cover expenses to attend the 2007 AIHCE in Philadelphia.
- Donated \$2,500 to the AIHA Foundation for one Chicago Local Section scholarship.

STUDENT NIGHT:

- Huge success with multiple undergraduate and graduate level posters.
- The Local Section donated over \$800 in prizes for poster judging and other gifts.
- Thanks to Fred Tremmel for chairing the coordinating committee for this event again



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- Much appreciation to all of the corporate gift donations.

CO-SPONSORED FULL-DAY PDC W/ UIC, "Occupational Exposure to Isocyanates":

- Thanks to our Local Section Coordinator, Robert Safe, and Dr. Lacey with UIC for their efforts to organize this very successful PDC.

I have prepared the following outline for the 2007/2008 program year:

I would like to recognize the new incoming officers –

- Michael Rosenow, President Elect and
- Robert Rottersman, Secretary; and

BOD members –

- Glenn Filip (returning for one more term),
- Dr. Serap Erdal,
- Mary Ficht,
- Rita Galvan and
- Dave Regelbrugge.

I would like to thank Karen Boyce-Lindgren for her 2 year term on the BOD and Jeff Chennault for taking over the Treasurer position in January of 2007.

I strongly encourage all members to get involved with the Local Section and encourage your colleagues to participate in our planned events. Please contact any of the Officers or BOD members if you are interested in helping on any level. Keep in mind that the ABIH awards CM points for Technical/Professional Committee Service.

I will be sending out a membership questionnaire this summer in an effort to gather vital information regarding the upcoming program year. Please take your valuable time to fill out and thoughtfully respond to this questionnaire. Attendance was notably lower during the 2006/2007 program year. Cancellation of the November ½ day seminar and December meeting reduced the overall income.

Membership dues should be mailed and/or emailed by the end of August. Please help out our Treasurer and submit your payment in a timely manner. This money is used to subsidize our programs and provide financial support to students. One of the primary objectives is to promote our profession. It is the BOD's opinion that the best way to accomplish this goal is to continue our outreach efforts and support the educational institutions preparing the next generation of IH professionals.

I strongly encourage everyone's help in planning and promoting the Chicagoland Safety & Health Conference (CS&HC) which will be held September 24-28, 2007 at the NIU Naperville Campus. The Local Section benefits immensely from the CS&HC which also helps to subsidize our annual programs, scholarships, student AIHCE expenses and



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keeps annual dues at the same rate. Please make an effort to sign up for the CS&HC this year and make every effort to pass the word to your colleagues, clients and vendors. More information is available at www.chisafetyconf.org.

The 2007/2008 program was prepared at the June planning meeting. The proposed meeting schedule, topic and speakers shall be posted on our web site by the end of this month. Please contact me if you are interested in participating on any of the meeting committees.

- Other items for your consideration
 - o We need sponsorships for Student Night to help defer the student costs to attend this event (i.e. \$10 for Students vs. \$35 for Members). Cash donations shall be used to increase the Poster Session awards from the \$200/\$100 level. The planning committee is always looking for donated items to give away as door prizes and/or during the IH trivia question and answer period. Student Night is also a great opportunity to announce summer internships and meet future IH professionals.
 - o Contact one of the BOD members regarding a company advertisement/link on the Local Section's web site for a nominal annual fee at www.chicagoaiha.org.
 - o Current Members can also use the Local Section web site to post job openings.

I look forward to seeing all of our members at one of our planned events this program year. Our meetings are a great time to network, talk to your peers in the industry and collect hard-earned CM points. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or want to get involved.

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