

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY ASSP STUDENT SECTION

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President's Message

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Christopher Lott

This year at the Future Safety Leaders Conference (FSLC), everything was geared towards leadership, personal branding, and networking which was very beneficial for the students. One of the people I had the pleasure of meeting was Mr. Willie Sease. He is an EHS manager for Sherwin Williams with a Master of Science in Safety Management from Indiana University. Mr. Sease said that he got into safety because his father was injured at work. He was never able to return to work due to his disabilities suffered from his workplace. Mr. Sease has over six years of safety experience and his future goals are to obtain his Certified Safety Professional (CSP) certification and eventually return to get his Doctorates to teach. Mr. Sease is passionate about being a safety leader, prides himself on his safety programs, safety trainings, and leadership. It was a pleasure to talk to and obtain wisdom from Mr. Sease. I am glad to have been able to attend this conference and meet many others like Mr. Sease. One day hope to be an inspiration to the younger generation as well.

ASSP/AIHA STUDENT SECTION TECHNICAL MEETING

Neil Henry



Tony Watson is the president of Workplace Hygiene, a company that he took over after obtaining his Certified Industrial Hygienist certification. Tony Watson agreed to speak to our ECU ASSP student section about the various industrial hygiene services his company provides to clients and his experience as an expert witness in tort litigation. Mr. Watson has more than 20 years of safety and industrial hygiene experience, in which he has been an expert witness in more than 60 tort litigation cases. Mr. Watson gave good insight on what safety professionals should know about, how to prepare, and what to expect if ever asked to be an expert witness. It is important as a safety professional to act with integrity. There is always a chance that you may have to go into a court room and give a testimony.

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MSOS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: STACY FREEMAN

Bahirah Siddiqi

Stacy Freeman is an alumnus of the Master of Science in Occupational Safety Program (MSOS). He received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Technology and Management from NC State University. Freeman currently works as an EHS Engineer for Intel Corporation in Portland, Oregon. As a fresh new safety professional, he has been working for a little over three years. A typical workday as an EHS engineer varies based on projects, clients, or training. Freeman mentions how every day is different. How his experiences continue to help him learn, grow, and adapt to the job. Freeman's love of safety started in undergrad. After taking OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER course at NC State, Freeman felt this was his passion. Freeman also mentions the positives of working for Intel Corporation. He notes that he was intimidated his first few weeks there but found his stride as he gained more experience and responsibility. He describes Intel Corporation as an inclusive company that promotes and accepts creativity from employees. Further stating how the work culture has helped him adjust to his current role. However, with any job there are challenges. For Freeman, he discussed how the company is every-changing. With a tech company, there are always new advancements. As we began to wrap up the interview, Freeman left me with a few words of wisdom. He told me to give it time. Starting a new role with limited experience is stressful. He said to apply what we have learned in class to what the job requires. Stating how we are lifelong learners. Freeman ensured me that the MSOS program has been preparing us for various industries starting with the first day of class. He wants to give Dr. Mike Behm a special thanks for all the advice and support he provides for current and former students.



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2019 BCSP FOUNDATION QAP/GSP

Christopher Lott

One of our very own student in the MSOS program, Kong Lee, received the 2019 BCSP Foundation QAP/GSP scholarship earlier this month. The BCSP Foundation Scholarship is made available to students currently enrolled in ABET/AABI accredited SH&E Qualified Academic Programs (QAP). This award will be made on behalf of qualified candidates directly to their academic institution to offset tuition or other expenses related to their pursuit of a safety degree. This scholarship is competitive, as only one student per year, per qualified program can receive this scholarship. Kong has said that he is humbled and honored to have received this scholarship as it will aid him with tuition and school costs. Kong wanted to thank Dr. Michael Behm, Dr. Dylan Hardison, and Cindy Lowery for their advice and assistance during the application process. The ASSP student section would again just like to congratulate Kong on receiving this scholarship!

"The BCSP Foundation is proud to award such an amazing group of students and future safety professionals. These scholarship recipients are determined to make great changes and make a positive impact in the safety industry. We are truly honored to be a part of their current and future achievements."

-BCSP Foundation



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FSLC INTERVIEWS: LINDA TAPP

Ashley Heien

Linda Tapp, CSP, ALCM, is the ASSP Foundation Board Chair. I was fortunate enough to be able to meet her and talk to her about her experiences in the safety field.

What is your current job title and what is a typical workday like for you?

Job Title - President, SafetyFUNDamentals. I work for myself from home so my days are very different from most safety pros. I create safety training products for other safety professionals so they can make their safety training better or increase retention.

How many years have you been in the safety field?

I've been in safety for roughly 30 years.

What made you desire a job in safety?

I desired a job in safety because it paid more than the other jobs I was being offered as a Bio major. Ha ha! That's actually the truth. I did not know safety was a career option until an insurance company came to campus recruiting for science and engineering majors to fill loss control positions.

What is the best part of your job?

Best part of my job - I get to use my creative side to help many people and come up with and create new safety training product ideas for many different industries.

What part of your job do you find the most challenging?

Most challenging - doing everything. Even really boring non-safety stuff because I work for myself and there is no one else to do it.

What advice do you have for someone who is interested in safety?

For someone interested in safety - I would tell them it's a great career and the need for safety professionals is only going to increase so it's a safe career choice. Also, unlike other careers, you can see how what you do makes a real difference and that's a great feeling.



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FSLC INTERVIEWS: JULIUS RHODES

Christopher Lott

Julius Rhodes has a Bachelor of Science in Human Resources Management from Roosevelt University, Master of Science in Human Resources and Industrial Relations from Loyola University, and completed coursework towards a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Business Ethics at Loyola University. He has a lifetime Senior Professional in Human Resources Certification (SPHR) which is the highest level of official recognition in his profession.

What inspired you to pursue your current career?

Mr. Rhodes stated when he was growing up, his father worked as a full-time butcher and he was dissatisfied with his career. He shared that he wanted to feel value from his career and the inspiration from his father guided his decision to pursue a human resources degree. His passion for public speaking came from watching his mother. In 1983, Mr. Rhodes reflected on being with his mother witnessing her speak to high school students on goal setting. Julius stated, "I wanted to support my mother, so I attended". This event was particularly memorable to him because of the population reflected the third ward of Chicago that consisted of low income students living in the Cabrini-Green public housing.

How many years have you been in your field?

Julius stated that he is celebrating 34 wonderful years working in the human resources field.

Did your education prepare you for the job you are currently performing?

Julius stated that his education along with his decade of professional experiences with companies such as Mobil, General Electric, Baxter Healthcare, Sara Lee Bakery, and the National Labor Relations Board in combinations with his desires to spend time with his family prepared him to start his own business.

Overall, Mr. Julius Rhodes is a great mentor for young professionals entering the field of safety and human resources. His professionalism and image drew me towards sitting at his round table discussion on "Creating and Maintaining Executive Presence". What impressed me the most was when Mr. Rhodes stated his greatest accomplishment in his life was marrying his wife Linda and having their two children. I was truly honored to listen and learn from his words of wisdom and encouragement.



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