PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I am delighted to be an officer of MIHS and am very proud to be the current MIHS President. There have been many great people before me and I hope to attain relatively close to what they have achieved. Surrounding yourself with the right people is usually the best path for success. I am very happy to announce Mr. William (Bill) Kilgore as the President-Elect and is a previous Past President (’85). Bill is recently retired and is extremely knowledgeable in the management and the science of industrial hygiene. Mr. Sarunas (Sharkey) Mingela is the Past-President, completing his third presidency for MIHS (’84, ’06 and ‘14). His contributions have been tremendous and very helpful to me and MIHS collectively. Between the two of them, they have assisted me significantly and provided historical context and guidance. All the current and past Board Members have also been very supportive.

We are always looking for new volunteers and people to run for the board. Additionally, we are always looking to publicize events and discover networking opportunities for MIHS members in the Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) community. Networking is a very important part of the EHS occupation. If you are aware of any upcoming events, please email me to discuss.

On a regulatory standpoint, there have been a few updates recently from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):

- A news release, regarding a final rule for Confined Spaces in Construction, was just announced on May 1st, 2015. This will have tremendous changes to the current standard and construction work operations when it becomes effective on August 3rd, 2015.
- The second effective completion date Hazard Communication (HazCom) Standard regarding Global Harmonized System (GHS) is slated for June 1st, 2015.
- The Request for Information Comment Period has been extended to October 9, 2015, for Chemical Management and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs).

Although downsizing is typical these days, industrial hygiene issues still present themselves in every industry. Proper training, exposure monitoring and engineering is, and always will be, necessary. The problems workers face with regard to industrial hygiene do not disappear when a position is vacated. No matter what segment of work you are currently employed, whether it be academia, governmental or private sector, we each play a significant role to the lives of thousands of workers. The profession of industrial hygiene will always be needed.

Please feel free to contact me or any of the Board members with concerns or ideas on improving our organization. We are all in this together!

Thank you for your support.
Eric Allen
MIHS President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AIHce 2015
Salt Lake City, UT
May 30–June 4, 2015
www.aihce2015.org

Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review Course
Co-sponsored by U of M, MIHS and AIHA
September 21-25, 2015
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Fall Comp Review Course

Exposure and Chemical Monitoring—Beyond IH Fundamentals
October 26-28, 2015
Westerville, OH
Beyond Fundamentals

AIHA Fall Conference 2015
October 24-28, 2015
Orlando, FL
2015 Fall Conference
**Past Presidents’ Breakfast 2015**

The Past Presidents’ Breakfast was held at the Vista Tech Center, Schoolcraft College on March 10, 2015. Mr. Bob Lieckfield of Bureau Veritas presented Industrial Hygiene: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly. The presentation was followed by the annual business meeting.

After the annual meeting, the newly elected officers and board members began their terms of office.

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**TREASURY REPORT**

MIHS Treasurer Aaron Jacob delivered the annual treasury report for the period January 2014 to January 2015 at the Annual MIHS Business Meeting held on March 24, 2015, at Schoolcraft College’s Vista Tech Center following the Past-President’s Breakfast presentation.

**Income**

- Comp Review ................. $7,412.45
- Income Meetings .......... $12,356.26
- Interest Income .......... $10.82
- Dues ......................... $2,425

**Total Income** .......... $22,204.53

**Expenses**

- Awards ......................... $1,025.84
- Bank Charges ................. $2.50
- Non Profit Fee ............... $20.00
- Matching Grants ............. $0.00
- Meetings Expenses ......... $11,118.04
- Office expense .............. $67.21
- PayPal Fees ................. $183.96
- Website ....................... $169.50
- Promotional ................ $300.00
- VoteNet ....................... $350.00
- AIHA Web .................. $5,500.00

**Total Expenses** .......... $18,737.05

**Total Profit** .............. $3,047.48
VISIT OUR WEBSITE

The MIHS website is loaded with information.

- Helpful links
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Board meeting minutes
- ABIH approval numbers for MIHS-sponsored events going back to 2001
- MIHS paraphernalia

TELL US A STORY!

We are always on the lookout for content and items of interest to our members. If you have a story to tell that you feel would be of interest to the group and you would like to see it in the MIHS Newsletter, let us know.

- A “Tale from the Front” about something you have done in the field.
- A write-up on a seminar or conference you’ve attended
- A write-up on a new gadget or “app” you have discovered that might be of interest to others

Pretty much anything industrial hygiene-related. Send your article to andrew.crause@us.bureauveritas.com.

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On March 24, 2015 the Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society (MIHS) held its annual Student Awards night at Genitti’s Hole in the Wall Restaurant in Northville, Michigan. Preceding the dinner and awards ceremonies, Ms. Cindy Ostrowski, AIHA Treasurer and MIHS member presented a brief review of the opportunities available to young IH professionals.

This year, the best student award for the University of Michigan was presented to Ms. Hao Xu. Presenting the award to Ms. Xu was Dr. Ted Zellers. Ms. Xu is an exceptional scholar and has accumulated a GPA of 3.96 out of 4.0, and is pursuing a dual major in safety engineering. Before coming to U of M, Ms. Xu earned a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Science and Technology in Beijing, China, and was engaged in internships and projects ranging from sustainable design to the study of microbial DNA aimed at extracting and sequencing the gene responsible for reducing hexavalent chromium to a less toxic form.

After finding it difficult to find an internship in the US, Ms. Xu took it upon herself to seek out international opportunities and managed to land an internship with GM in Shanghai China.

MIHS and the faculty of the University of Michigan congratulate Ms. Xu and wish her the best of luck in their future endeavors and studies. We look forward to seeing Ms. Xu again when she returns to Michigan for the Certification Review Course.
OSHA SEEKS TO REDUCE EXPOSURES, UPDATE PELs?

On October 14, 2014, and OSHA press release announced the launch of a dialogue with stakeholders on prevention of exposure to hazardous substances and strategies for updating the PELs. Originally, the deadline for comment was April 8, 2015, but that deadline has been extended to October 9, 2015.

The request for information (RFI) document was published in the Federal Register, and may be found at https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERALREGISTER&p_id=24773

The following is reprinted from the OSHA press release.

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced it is launching a national dialogue with stakeholders on ways to prevent work-related illness caused by exposure to hazardous substances. The first stage of this dialogue is a request for information on the management of hazardous chemical exposures in the workplace and strategies for updating permissible exposure limits.

OSHA's PELs, which are regulatory limits on the amount or concentration of a substance in the air, are intended to protect workers against the adverse health effects of exposure to hazardous substances. Ninety-five percent of OSHA's current PELs, which cover fewer than 500 chemicals, have not been updated since their adoption in 1971. The agency's current PELs cover only a small fraction of the tens of thousands of chemicals used in commerce, many of which are suspected of being harmful. Substantial resources are required to issue new exposure limits or update existing workplace exposure limits, as courts have required complex analyses for each proposed PEL.

"Many of our chemical exposure standards are dangerously out of date and do not adequately protect workers," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. "While we will continue to work on updating our workplace exposure limits, we are asking public health experts, chemical manufacturers, employers, unions and others committed to preventing workplace illnesses to help us identify new approaches to address chemical hazards."

OSHA is seeking public comment regarding current practices and future methods for updating PELs, as well as new strategies for better protecting workers from hazardous chemical exposures. Specifically, the agency requests suggestions on:

- possible streamlined approaches for risk assessment and feasibility analyses and alternative approaches for managing chemical exposures, including control banding, task-based approaches and informed substitution.

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Each year the activities of the MIHS have been supported by our Organizational Members. The MIHS appreciates the support and generosity of our Organizational Members.

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