



BEANPOT NEWSLETTER

WINTER EDITION • JANUARY 2025

ASSP GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Conversations Strategies for the
New Year • Pg. 2

President's Message • Pg. 2

Alison Sullivan Interview • Pg. 4

Foundation Update • Pg. 5

Technical Meeting Summary • Pg. 7

2024 Outstanding Woman in Safety
Award Winner Interview • Pg. 8

Chapter Annual Giving • Pg. 10

The Safety Professional's Guide
to Doing the Impossible • Pg. 10

UMASS Student Section Update
- News & Views • Pg. 12

2024 NE PDC Report • Pg. 13

Upcoming Events Calendar • P. 15



NAVIGATING TOUGH CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SAFETY: STRATEGIES FOR THE NEW YEAR

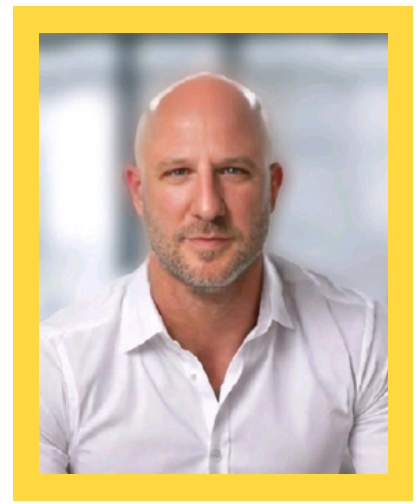
BY MIKI ALROY

As we step into the new year & new budgets, safety professionals often face the challenge of engaging in critical conversations that shape the safety culture and practices within their organizations. From discussing safety spend & investments with senior leadership to addressing resistance to new protocols among seasoned employees, these discussions are vital for ensuring a proactive safety environment and are essential to advancing a culture where safety is genuinely valued and practiced.

Let's explore some strategies for turning difficult safety conversations into successful outcomes, fostering a culture where safety is prioritized, embraced, and respected. (continued on page 3)

GBC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY MIKI ALROY



Dear Members of the Greater Boston Chapter,

As we welcome 2025, I am grateful to be part of this resilient community at the Greater Boston Chapter of ASSP and the broader global safety network. Our commitment is not only to enhance safety in our workplaces but also to fortify the well-being of each member within our community.

This year, I urge each of us to place an even greater emphasis on holistic support, focusing on the mental health and well-being of ourselves and those around us. A strong mind leads to a healthy body, enhancing our capacity to care for others, whether they are our colleagues, loved ones, or ourselves. In our demanding field, mental resilience is as critical as physical safety.

As we face changing times and administrations, it's clear that the landscape of our profession—and the world at large—is evolving. Amidst the current polarization and divisiveness within our country, safety remains a universal priority that transcends differences, uniting us in our common desire for the well-being of ourselves and our families.

In the spirit of unity, let's remember the words of Ryūnosuke Akutagawa: **"Individually, we are one drop, but together, we are an ocean."** 🤝 Together, we can overcome challenges and harness our collective efforts to not only navigate but also shape the future of safety in this era of technological advancement.

Looking ahead, I am excited about the opportunities for growth and the positive impacts we can make. Let's support each other in fostering not only a culture of safety but one of strong mental health and well-being. Together, we can achieve remarkable things in 2025.

Best regards & Be Safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miki Alroy".

Michael "Miki" Alroy
President, 2024-2025
Greater Boston ASSP Chapter



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2023-2024

PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2022-2023



FALL 2024

UMASS LOWELL Student Section Wins Fall Student Membership Drive

This award was received due to the significant Fall student recruitment efforts of our Student Section President Chandni Shahdev



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 - NAVIGATING TOUGH CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SAFETY: STRATEGIES FOR THE NEW YEAR

This article provides a roadmap for effectively navigating these tough conversations, ensuring that safety remains a top priority in budget planning and operational strategies.

Emphasize the Proven ROI of Safety Investments

When it comes to asking for resources, safety professionals often face a tough crowd. Leadership may feel that safety investments are just another line item rather than a critical asset. One powerful way to frame this conversation is by focusing on the proven return on investment (ROI) that safety brings. Studies consistently show that every dollar invested in workplace safety saves a business in incident and injury costs, worker productivity, and morale. By highlighting the financial, operational, and reputational benefits, you can help leadership see safety as an investment that drives both profit and integrity.



For example, instead of discussing safety equipment or training as standalone costs, discuss them in terms of the money they save on potential injuries, workers' compensation claims, and lost productivity. When leaders can clearly see the tangible benefits, they're more likely to support proactive safety measures.

Shift the Budget Perspective: Prevention Over Reaction

A major hurdle in safety discussions is the tendency to overlook safety prevention in the budgeting process. It's common to hear, "We don't have room in the budget." But as we know, it's far more challenging to budget for unexpected incidents and injuries than for planned, preventive safety investments.

To reshape this narrative, underscore the importance of budgeting for prevention over reaction. This approach shows foresight and resilience in the face of unpredictable incidents. For instance, illustrate how a small, regular investment in safety training and equipment can prevent costly disruptions from accidents or regulatory fines. This message can resonate particularly well with leadership when framed as a strategy to avoid unnecessary risk and cost escalation.



Encourage Leadership to Embody Their Commitment to Safety

It's easy to talk the talk on safety, but it takes real commitment to walk the walk. Genuine commitment means more than just stating a safety priority—it means consistently demonstrating it. Safety-minded organizations thrive when leaders model and enforce safe practices daily, setting an example from the top down.

To drive this message home, it can be helpful to point out the disconnect that can arise when there's a gap between what leaders say and what employees see. For instance, if leaders are vocal about safety but lax in practices, employees may be less inclined to take safety guidelines seriously. Encourage leaders to visibly participate in safety initiatives, whether by attending safety trainings, conducting regular safety audits, or engaging directly with employees on safety concerns. This approach makes a lasting impact, showing employees that safety isn't just a checkbox—it's a fundamental part of the organization's values.

Build Trust to Change Behaviors and Perceptions

Changing unsafe behaviors and overcoming negative perceptions about safety takes more than just rules and policies; it requires trust. Building trust starts with conversations, relationship-building, and the human connections we make with colleagues. By cultivating an environment of open dialogue, safety professionals can foster a culture where employees feel safe voicing concerns, asking questions, and suggesting improvements.

One way to build trust is through regular, informal conversations with team members about safety concerns and experiences. For instance, conducting informal check-ins on safety topics can help employees feel heard and valued. Addressing specific concerns as they arise shows employees that their input matters and that leadership is responsive.

Additionally, focus on making safety personal. People are more likely to change behavior when they understand how safety affects them and those around them. Share real-world stories of the impact of safety and involve employees in setting safety goals. This level of engagement can inspire people to take ownership of their actions and feel part of a larger safety mission.

Turn Challenges into Opportunities for Collaboration

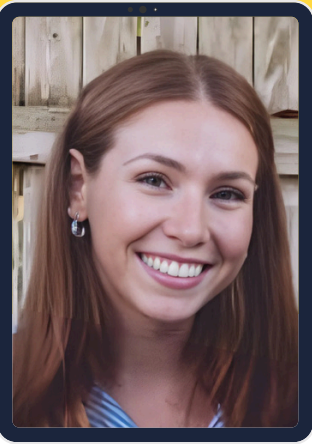
Finally, view these challenging conversations as opportunities to collaborate with leadership and employees alike. Approach difficult conversations with empathy, and frame safety as a shared responsibility. Express appreciation for leadership's existing support for safety and highlight ways to strengthen it, creating a sense of unity and shared purpose.



By embracing these strategies, safety professionals can move difficult conversations toward successful outcomes. The goal is to create a culture where safety is not just mandated but deeply valued. With persistence, patience, and genuine human connection, we can transform challenging safety conversations into meaningful, lasting change.

INTERVIEW WITH ALISON SULLIVAN MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SAFETY ENGINEER AT ELECTRIC HYDROGEN

BY MIKI ALROY &
ALISON SULLIVAN



Alison Sullivan is an Environmental Health and Safety Engineer at Electric Hydrogen, holding a BS in Geological and Earth Sciences from SUNY Oswego. Previously, she

worked at Amazon Robotics, managing safety protocols, and at ATC Group Services as an Environmental Project Scientist. Active in the safety community, Alison is involved with the Greater Boston ASSP's Emerging Professionals and Membership Committees, focusing on outreach to new and existing members.

Can you describe your path to becoming a safety professional and your current role in the startup/emerging technology energy sector?

I started my career as an Environmental Field Scientist in Eastern New England, where my passion for safety began. This led to a role as an EHS Coordinator at Amazon Robotics in North Reading, where I spent three years and advanced to an Associate Safety Professional. In January 2023, I joined Electric Hydrogen, a renewable energy startup, as their first safety professional. My work involves overseeing safety across various settings, including chemical labs and manufacturing areas. Two years later, our EHS team has expanded, focusing on maintaining a safe work environment daily. I find the work in renewable energy particularly rewarding as it contributes to mitigating climate change.

How has technology influenced or enhanced the way safety is managed in your industry, and what technologies do you think hold the most potential?

When I was at Amazon Robotics my team participated in a small sample ergonomics project utilizing wearable sensors.

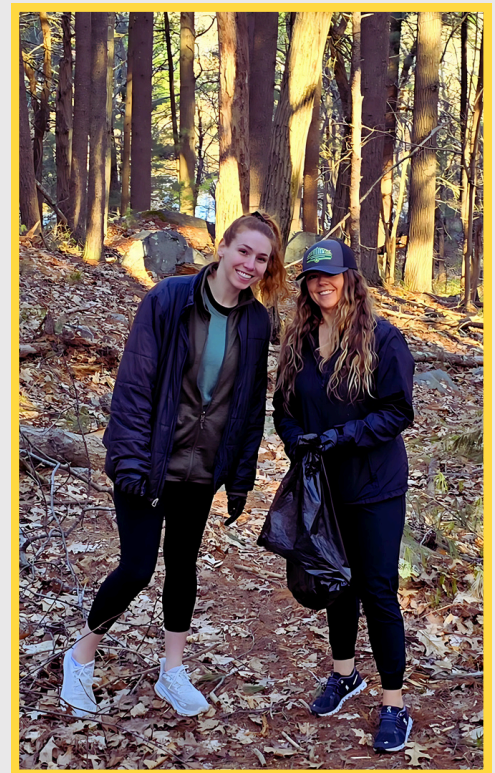
Associates of all gender, heights, ages, and physical abilities wore motion sensing devices to measure how they were bending, turning, and lifting. This data was collected to allow Amazon to better detect at-risk postures and movements, as well as more effectively predict activities that may enhance ergonomic strain in the future. This project was so much fun! I had performed RULA & REBA assessments on the same activities being monitored but being able to compare the assessment results with the real-life data allowed us to make changes. I think wearable ergonomics technology will be a great friend to manufacturing and assembly industries in the future. I am looking forward to seeing how industries continue to enhance ergonomic safe measures.

What trends do you see emerging in the safety profession, and how do you think they will shape the industry in the coming years?

One trend I see emerging in the safety profession is increased emphasis on psychological safety and mental wellbeing in the workplace. All too often easily avoidable safety events occur because someone is overworked and over tired.

When workplaces have generous PTO policies and ensure their health insurance providers cover mental health screenings, therapy and counseling, worker mental health has been proven to improve.

The focus on psychological safety is also important to creating a safe environment for everyone to feel comfortable to speak up. Employees being able to be their authentic selves and not fear the repercussions allows acceptance and respect.



Alison Sullivan pictured with Haley Taylor at the 2024 Emerging Professionals Earth Day Social

Can you discuss how being a member of the Greater Boston ASSP has enriched your experience as an emerging professional in the safety field?

The Greater Boston ASSP Chapter provides a resource for knowledge, networking, and community. The Chapter hosts regular training sessions which have been great!

Additionally, being a member has allowed me to meet and network with many people. Everyone has a story and topics they are most passionate about – getting to learn these stories is what makes the Greater Boston ASSP Chapter such a great community.

What are some of the key goals you have for advancing safety in your work, and how do you plan to achieve them?

One of the key goals I have for advancing safety in my work include continuous improvement with creating a comprehensive safety training program.

I am fortunate to be working with some of the most motivated, talented, and smartest people I have met. Everyday everyone shows up to do their part in creating new technology that will drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the hydrogen industry.

Excellence and attention to detail is required, thus all EHS trainings provided must be excellent and detailed. Generic cookie-cutter trainings with a few site-specific details are not an option and I have been working to ensure each training provided is specific to each team down to the lab they are in. To enhance these programs I have been spending more time working with process owners directly and learning as many different job roles as possible.

I have also been working with our learning & development team to ensure the trainings are effective for different learning styles

Based on your experiences, what advice would you give to others starting their careers in safety, especially in fast-evolving industries?

Based on my experiences, I would tell others starting their careers in safety, especially in a fast-evolving industry, that while its cliché – teamwork does indeed make the dream work. Everyone is moving quickly and working towards the same goal and our job is to ensure that goal is achieved safely. If you work with the employees and are patient, making sure to listen to what they say, then they will work with you. Safety is everyone's job and while you are the safety professional and may have the regulations memorized, everyone brings value. Its is important to work with the more creative problem solvers who have wild out-of-the-box ideas and reel them in a bit at times. If you do not work with them to reach a middle ground, then they will not work with you next time they have a safety concern. They will just act in an unsafe way and hope you don't find out. Safety professionals need to be able to work with everyone in the company. Safety is too important to let an ego or inability to be part of a team prevent progress.



FOUNDATION UPDATE - REMINDER ABOUT AVAILABLE PE GRANTS!

By Dave Crowley

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS! IT'S SCHOLARSHIP SEASON WITH THE ASSP FOUNDATION! ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS until 11:59pm on February 15, 2025 > GET TO IT – DON'T MISS THIS DEADLINE!

ASSP is the charitable arm of ASSP, the ASSP Foundation provides financial and programmatic support of the profession on behalf of ASSP and the ASSP community.

GBC FUNDS: The GBC also has two separate funds established with the Foundation, one dedicated for student scholarships and one professional development grant for existing safety professionals.

THE LATEST: The GBC increased their funding for the Foundation scholarship last year. Our chapter has invested \$90,000 for an endowed scholarship with the Foundation, this enables us to issue a \$2,000 annually. Please help get the message out on this – if you are a student, please consider applying. If you are an ASSP member and you know a student, please let them know about this opportunity!

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION GRANTS: The GBC has a fund established for professional education grants for ASSP members. This is an endowed fund that has a balance of \$60,000 which enables the GBC to issue four (4) \$500 grant awards on an annual basis. This money is open to apply for and use for attending the PDC, attending an ASSP education course, or to use for your professional certification. ASSP members are encouraged to apply at any time. Grants are issued throughout the year. **Submit your application NOW!**

IMPORTANT LINKS: We offer the following links to read and find out more about ASSP's Foundation >

More about the Foundation >
<https://foundation.assp.org/about/>

How you can support the Foundation >
<https://foundation.assp.org/support-us/>

Scholarship application >
<https://asspfoundation.secure-platform.com/a/solicitations/login/8>

Grant application >
<https://asspfoundation.secure-platform.com/a/organizations/main/solicitations/login/10>

I  **...do**
SAFETY **you?**

Show your love for safety
by shopping online at:
www.assp.org/safetystore

*Proceeds from every
sale will directly benefit
the ASSP Foundation.*

It is important to note that, aside from the funds referenced above, the GBC also issues separate scholarships from the chapter budget. Students should stay connected so they are able to take advantage of these funding opportunities! Any questions, please reach out! Cheers, Dave C. 1-617-877-2062 dave.crowley@hphood.com

ASSP GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER PILLARS OF SAFETY AWARDS

EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE: CELEBRATING THE PILLARS OF BOSTON WORKPLACE SAFETY

The ****Pillars of Safety Awards**** are designed to recognize and celebrate local leaders in safety who drive innovation and excellence within the field of occupational safety and health. These awards honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to advancing safety practices, technologies, and culture within various industries. **The 2025 Award Winners will be recognized at our 100 Year Anniversary Gala Event in May.**



**[CLICK THIS LINK TO NOMINATE A
CO-WORKER OR MEMBER OF OUR
SAFETY COMMUNITY](#)**

TECHNICAL MEETING SUMMARIES

BY STEVEN MARCASSOLI



The Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Safety Management

During the technical talk on November 14, 2024, at Legal Seafoods in Burlington, MA, Dr. Athena Wolfe Kennedy from VETTED.work presented on the transformative role of AI in safety management. She discussed how AI enhances safety by analyzing data to proactively identify potential hazards, thus preventing incidents before they occur. Highlighting the benefits of VETTED.work's Hard Hat Buddy program, she explained how the platform acts as a combined LMS database that tracks lagging indicators and uses AI to predict potential incident 'pinch points,' thereby streamlining safety program administration.

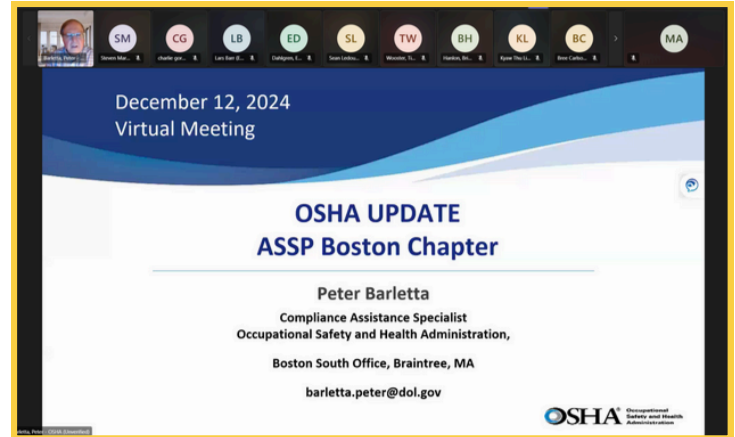
The well-attended meeting included vibrant discussions, and VETTED.work donated several tablets to members to aid in their safety program implementation, emphasizing the broad, impactful applications of AI in improving safety management practices across various industries.



Worker's Compensation 101

In October the Chapter hosted a virtual technical meeting with Bonnie Brook and Jill Scioli-Swygart from Stephenson & Brook, who shared expert advice on managing workers' compensation claims, understanding the Experience Modification Rating (EMR), and best practices for speeding up employee return to work. Their insights offered valuable strategies for lowering injury claims and premiums, catering to both new and experienced safety professionals.

This educational session allowed participants to earn continuing education credits (CEUs) while gaining critical knowledge to navigate compliance issues with OSHA, and to streamline post-injury management. The event effectively made workers' comp management more accessible and practical for safety professionals, enhancing their capabilities in the field.



2024 Annual OSHA Update with Peter Barletta

In December Mr. Barletta presented his annual year-end review of trends within OSHA regarding upcoming regulations, injury trends and enforcement activities. The presentation included a review of available data that shows where enforcements are being conducted (OSHA top 10) as well as upcoming rule making activities (silica dust in construction, powered industrial trucks and updated to the OSHA 300 logs). The meeting was presented remotely, and Mr. Barletta stayed late to answer OSHA related questions.



Emergency Planning & Preparedness

Our most recent technical meeting in January, the Greater Boston Chapter of ASSP hosted a session with Dr. Cora Roelofs, who shared her expertise in crisis preparedness and worker safety. Highlighting Total Worker Health (TWH) principles, she presented tools for identifying business-specific hazards and developing robust emergency plans. Attendees gained practical insights and resources to enhance their crisis management strategies and strengthen organizational resilience.



WISE

Women in Safety Excellence

INTERVIEW WITH SHAWNA FRASER WOMEN IN SAFETY EXCELLENCE CHAPTER LIASON & 2024 OUTSTANDING WOMAN IN SAFETY AWARD WINNER INTERVIEW

BY MIKI ALROY & SHAWNA FRASER NAGLE

Shawna Fraser Nagle needs no introduction, as her reputation in the safety community precedes her. Holding a Master's degree in occupational safety and health from Columbia Southern University (CSU), she is the vice president of safety and a co-owner at Fraser Engineering Co., where she has made substantial contributions since 2003. Her expertise recently earned her Columbia Southern University's Outstanding Safety Professional of the Year Award.

Beyond her business achievements, Shawna is a key figure in safety leadership. She serves on the Board of Certified Safety Professionals Foundation and plays a significant role in the Greater Boston chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP). Additionally, Shawna was recently recognized as the 2024 Outstanding Woman in Safety Award Winner at the Women in Safety Conference held at Keene State University in New Hampshire.



PHOTO CREDIT: COLUMBIA SOUTHERN PRESENTS NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH RECOGNITIONS | FIREHOUSE

1. What inspired you to pursue a career in safety, and how has your journey evolved since you started?

The career in safety pursued me, when I was given the opportunity in 2005 to take on the role of Safety at Fraser Engineering.

2. Can you share any pivotal moments in your career that shaped your leadership style?

There have been quite a few pivotal moments in my career, a few that really resonate with me are obtaining my MS in OSH from CSU which enhanced my confidence and was able to apply the theory of safety to what I was already doing, second being able to share my passion of safety through presenting at safety conferences, and of course being a part of the ASSP GBC executive committee since 2020!

3. As a past president of the Greater Boston Chapter of ASSP, what were some of the biggest challenges you faced, and how did you overcome them?

Everyone has an opinion and different visions. You only have one year to make any changes and that is difficult. Prioritizing what is most important and delegating.

4. What legacy are you most proud of from your time as chapter president?

Getting our meeting's and socials back on track post COVID and the development of emerging safety professionals.

WOMEN IN SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD AND LEADERSHIP

5. Congratulations on winning the 2024 Woman in Safety Excellence (WISE) Award! What does receiving this recognition mean to you personally and professionally?

Thank you! It was very unexpected, I'm truly humbled and honored. Safety can be a thankless position sometimes and this award is recognition that the work we do pays off and doesn't go unnoticed.

6. How has your involvement with the WISE community influenced your approach to leadership and mentorship?

We are all in this together for the same reason to get our workers, friends, and family home safely each day. We can all learn from each other through the knowledge and experiences we have all been through.

7. What strategies have you found effective in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within the safety profession?

Be kind and caring to each other.

MENTORSHIP AND EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

8. As a Greater Boston Chapter WISE delegate, what advice would you give to emerging professionals, especially women, entering the safety field?

Stay true to yourself. It can be tough at times. Keep pushing forward. There will always be obstacles no matter who you are or what career you are in.

9. Can you share any personal experiences where mentorship played a crucial role in your career growth?

Everyone needs "a call a friend" Safety is ever changing and things happen or a situation arises and you don't have the answer. That's where my mentor(s) have come into help. Also, on those tough days mentioned above they are there to continue to encourage and guide you.



PHOTO CREDIT: OSHA TRAINING INSTITUTE
EDUCATION CENTER REGION 1 | LINKEDIN POST

10. What do you see as the most important qualities for future safety leaders to develop, and how can they build those skills

Obviously the knowledge in safety but the soft skills are so important. You need to be able to be kind, caring and fair. And not afraid to discipline when warranted.

IMPACT AND VISION FOR THE FUTURE

11. How do you see the role of women evolving within the safety industry over the next decade?

I've already seen a huge change and it's great. I think woman can bring the sense of nurturing to the safety profession.

12. What trends in safety and health are you most excited about, and how do you think they will shape the future of the profession?

Right now I'm deep diving into the energy wheel and how it is such a valuable tool in identifying hazards.

CLOSING REFLECTIONS

13. What advice would you offer to other ASSP members aspiring to win the WISE Award or step into leadership roles?

Get involved with your local ASSP chapters and other networking opportunities, also continue to work with mentors and become a mentor yourself.

14. Looking back on your achievements, is there anything you wish you had known earlier in your career?

There is always going to be setbacks that you will have to work through, the safety profession is not easy. Continual improvements and adjustments keep safety flowing forward.



GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY GALA

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 1, 2025

AWARDS

COCKTAILS &
PASSED APPS

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR
MORE DETAILS

CHAPTER ANNUAL GIVING

BY MIKI ALROY

This holiday season, the Greater Boston Chapter of ASSP continued its tradition of giving through our annual donation drive for Rosie's Place in Boston, the first shelter for women at risk in the United States.

Reflecting our commitment to supporting vulnerable populations, we focused our efforts on purchasing Target gift cards for their clients, providing essential aid during the holiday season. We were thrilled to have Hayley Taylor of Commonwealth Fusion Systems and Chair of our Emerging Professionals Committee deliver our donation. Our members are passionate about making a tangible difference in the safety and well-being of our community, and this year's efforts were a resounding success.



THE SAFETY PROFESSIONAL'S GUIDE TO DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE (ON ZERO BUDGET)

BY MIKI ALROY & RYAN KOCH

Safety professionals are a special breed. We're the unsung heroes, tirelessly working to ensure everyone goes home with all their fingers and toes. But ask any safety pro about the real challenges they face, and they won't mention confined spaces or unguarded machinery—they'll mention budgets. Specifically, nonexistent budgets.

"SAFETY PROS: WHERE 'THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX' ACTUALLY MEANS 'MAKE A NEW BOX, FIND THE FUNDING FOR IT, AND THEN CONVINCING THREE DEPARTMENTS IT WAS THEIR IDEA TO BEGIN WITH.'"

Welcome to the paradox of safety: Minimize risk, maximize compliance, and implement innovative solutions... all without a dime to your name. And once you've come up with the most cost-effective solution humanly possible? Well, that's when you play the game I like to call, Find the Budget Fairy by the Money Tree.



Here's how it usually goes:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8 - THE SAFETY PROFESSIONAL'S GUIDE TO DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE (ON ZERO BUDGET)

1. Brainstorm Like a Boss

You identify a glaring safety gap that absolutely must be addressed. Maybe it's outdated PPE or training programs as old as the fax machine they're printed on. You've got ideas. You've got solutions. But, uh, no money. So, you do what every resourceful safety pro does: you invent "creative budgeting."

2. Make Friends in High Places (or Any Places)

Armed with a PowerPoint and a prayer, you start your campaign to find funding. You pop into meetings with HR, Facilities, Operations, and Finance. "Hey, I noticed your department might benefit from, uh, safer employees... any chance you can chip in?" **Pro tip:** Always bring coffee & donuts (cannoli & cookies from Modern Pastry in the North End if its a big ask), presents, bargaining chips and IOUs.

3. Become a Master Negotiator

You thought safety regulations were complicated? Try convincing three departments to split the cost of fall protection training by arguing it's both their problem and their solution. It's like selling an invisible parachute—you know they need it, but they're not convinced until they're in freefall.

4. DIY Until It's Do or Die

Can't afford that ergonomic workstation upgrade? Boom: stack some old binders under their monitors. Out of budget for hazard awareness posters? Hello, homemade memes featuring the Safety Cat. When life gives you lemons, you make an OSHA-compliant lemonade stand.



5. Celebrate Every Win

Finally, after weeks of persistence, you've convinced the operations manager to approve \$500 for safety signage. You're a hero, a legend, a budget-wrangling wizard. Never mind that you needed \$5,000—it's the principle that counts.



And there you have it: the unglamorous, ridiculous, but oddly satisfying world of safety on a shoestring budget. If you've ever performed financial acrobatics to keep your team safe, know you're not alone. We're all out here duct-taping our safety plans together and hoping they hold up until the next fiscal year.

Keep up the good work, my fellow safety magicians. And remember: when in doubt, cannoli is key.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT: VOLUNTEER WITH SAFETY FOR NONPROFITS (S4NP)

S4NP is on a mission to improve safety in the nonprofit sector by providing pro-bono EHS advisory services. We are thrilled to announce a new partnership and memorandum of understanding with the National Society of ASSP, enhancing our reach and resources.

WE'RE SEEKING EHS PROFESSIONALS:

- **Make a Difference:** Help nonprofits operate safely and healthily.
- **Expand Your Network:** Connect with peers dedicated to safety and service.
- **Grow Professionally:** Gain unique experiences in diverse environments.



JOIN US TODAY! INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING YOUR EXPERTISE? LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND SIGN UP TO MAKE AN IMPACT. [LEARN MORE & SIGN UP](#)



News & Views



by **Suzanne Norembrega**
Center for Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW)

The Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW) conducts research with working people and employers to overcome workplace obstacles to health. The Center also offers research-based program toolkits and education to help employers support a health-promoting workplace and a vital, productive workforce.

CONTINUING EDUCATION – FREE ONLINE, ON-DEMAND LEARNING FOR SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



Webinar: Employer Crisis Preparedness using Total Worker Health (virtual Feb 5 1pm EST)
90 min virtual peer learning session. Society for Total Worker Health



eLearning: Employer Crisis Preparedness using Total Worker Health
2-hour free online, on-demand course for professionals responsible for crisis planning



Total Worker Health Facilitation Skills Training (virtual Mar 5, 12, 19)
Skill-building training to learn how to facilitate a participatory TWH program for employers.

NEWS & VIEWS EMERGING ISSUE BRIEFS



- [A Total Worker Health Perspective](#)
- [Work-related Suicide: Evolving Understandings](#)
- [How Employers Can Advance Suicide Prevention NIOSH Science Blog](#)



TOOLS AND RESOURCES



HEALTH RISK / WORKERS COMPENSATION CALCULATOR

Find out how much your organization can save by investing in worker health and safety.



SUCCESS: UMASS LOWELL STUDENT SECTION WINS FALL 2024 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

University of Massachusetts Lowell

BY MIKI ALROY



Congratulations to the UMASS Lowell Student Section, led by **Chandi Shahdev**, for their remarkable victory in the Fall 2024 Student Section Membership Drive. The section's innovative strategies significantly boosted their membership numbers, showcasing the dynamic potential of our future safety professionals. The team's efforts included engaging booths at campus events, effective social media campaigns, informative email blasts, and presentations in classrooms.

They also offered compelling incentives like discounted membership fees, exclusive event access, and exciting raffle prizes, enhancing the appeal of joining the American Society of Safety Professionals. Peer-to-peer recruitment was a key component, with current members actively promoting the benefits of membership to their peers. This approach helped to strengthen our community and emphasized the personal and professional growth opportunities available through our network.

Congratulations again to Chandi Shahdev and the UMASS Lowell Student Section for setting a high standard for engagement and growth within our organization. We're excited to see how this success translates into further development of future leaders in the safety field.

SAVE THE DATE!!! 2025 BOSGO FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025



Great Brand Recognition Opportunity
for a great cause !!! Keep an eye out for
registration & sponsorship details



By Don Delikat

HIGHLIGHTS AND INSIGHTS: RECAP OF THE 26TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND ASSP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The New England ASSP Professional Development Conference(PDC) which was held in Springfield, MA, offered two days(Nov 5-6, 2024) of learning, networking, and professional growth for safety professionals. The NE PDC was attended by various ASSP Chapter members (Connecticut Valley, Granite State, Greater Boston, Maine, Region VIII) and 32 exhibitors. Linda Tapp, ASSP President-Elect, was the keynote speaker. A special 100 year Cake Cutting Ceremony for the Greater Boston ASSP Chapter was celebrated during lunch on the first day of the PDC(see picture). The final session on the second day addressed public speaking topics for safety professionals by Natali Olive.

The PDC covered a variety of topics focused on workplace safety, health, and environmental management. Some of these themes were:

- Workplace Safety Best Practices-"Using Technology to Accelerate Your Risk Management Program"(Mike Sample and Eric Voght)
- OSHA and Regulatory Updates-"Important Changes:ANSI/ASSP Z15"(Tim McCarthy)
- Mental Health and Wellness in the Workplace-"Safe and Sound:Creating Your Workplace Mental Health Strategy"(Alessandria Polizzi)
- Emergency Preparedness-"Just Calling 911 is NOT an Emergency Plan: Ensuring Safety for First Responders"(Richard Sarnie)
- Ergonomics:"Ergonomics 101-The What, Why and How of Ergonomics Programming"(Jeffrey Sheridan)
- Leadership and Culture of Safety:"Celebrating 100 years of the Greater Boston ASSP Chapter-Lessons Learned"(Miki Alroy)



The NE PDC featured a wide range of exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge safety equipment, software solutions and consulting services. Some of the numerous exhibits included:

- Employer Services at Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Centers for Ergonomic issues
- Safety Management Systems designed to streamline incident reporting and compliance
- Interactive demonstrations with hands-on experience with new technologies such as Virtual and Augmented Reality simulation for safety training
- ProBono Consulting for Non-Profit Organizations

GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CHAIRS



MIKI ALROY
CHAPTER PRESIDENT



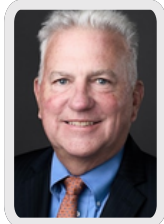
DON DELIKAT
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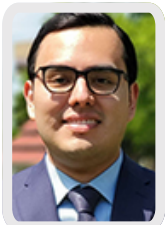
BRIAN HANLON
PRESIDENT ELECT



RICH SARNIE
SPONSORSHIP CHAIR



STEVEN MARCASSOLI
PROGRAMS CHAIR



CESAR MOROCHOCO
SECRETARY



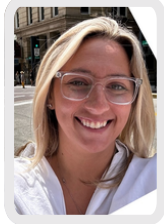
HAYLEY TAYLOR
EMERGING PROFESSIONALS



ALISON SULLIVAN
MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR



MIKE SAMPLE
TREASURER



SAMANTHA MULKERN
PROGRAMS CO-CHAIR



MATT CARBERRY
WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA



DAVE CROWLEY ASSP
ADVISORY GROUP



JIMMY LAYMAN
JOB BOARD CHAIR



CHANDNI SHAHDEV UMASS
STUDENT SECTION PRES.

IF YOU'RE READY TO POSITION YOURSELF AS A SAFETY LEADER IN THE GREATER BOSTON AREA, CONTACT US TODAY!

WE HAVE NUMEROUS VOLUNTEER ROLES TO MATCH YOUR INTERESTS AND SKILLS. WHETHER YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, NETWORKING, COMMUNICATIONS, EVENT PLANNING, OR ADVOCACY, THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU ON OUR TEAM.

CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO CONTACT US



OR GO TO THE CHAPTER CONTACT PAGE HERE TO THE REACH OUT TO THE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TEAM

2025 Upcoming Events Calender



IN-PERSON TECHNICAL MEETING

FEBRUARY

20

**Permit Required Confined Space Entry
Westwood, Massachusetts**



VIRTUAL TECHNICAL MEETING

MARCH

TBD

**Becoming a Best Wellness Employer
Virtual on MS Teams**



EMERGING PROFESSIONALS PICKLEBALL EVENT

MARCH

TBD

**Pickleball Social Networking Event
PKL, South Boston Massachusetts**



IN-PERSON TECHNICAL MEETING & TOUR

APRIL

17

**Tour of Commonwealth Fusion Systems Tokamak
Hall - Devens, Massachusetts**



Emerging Professionals Earth day Social & Hike

APRIL

20

**Social Networking Event to follow
Location TBD, Local Brewery**



100 Year Anniversary Gala & Awards

MAY

1

**Cocktail Reception & Awards
Boston Massachusetts**



IN-PERSON TECHNICAL MEETING

MAY

TBD

**Combustible Dust Science, Standards
& Practical Implications - Canton, MA**



ASP & CSP Exam Prep Workshop

MAY

TBD

**Location TBD
Northwest Boston TBD**



EMERGING PROFESSIONAL GOLF CLINIC

JUNE

TBD

**Granite Links Golf Club
Quincy, Massachusetts**