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*Occupational Health Internship Program a Success*

UCLA-LOSH sponsored 10 graduate and undergraduate students under the national Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP) this summer. They investigated chemicals of concern in nail and hair salons, sleep quality and health among Filipino home health aides, workplace injuries among registered nurses at local hospital facilities, and health and safety training needs for carwash workers. Host organizations included the California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, Black Women for Wellness, SEIU Local 121RN, Pilipino Workers Center, and CLEAN Carwash Campaign.



*2014 National OHIP Videoconference - OHIP Interns and Staff*

The LA students were among 34 OHIP interns nationwide, all of whom participated in a national orientation at UCLA. The orientation included workshops on common workplace hazards, participatory research in the workplace and community, adult

education principles and techniques, and worksite tours.

At the end of the summer program, interns around the country presented their project results via videoconference to OHIP program staff and NIOSH funders. One intern stated, "I have learned so much, and this experience has motivated me to keep fighting for social, environmental and reproductive justice.

*(See OHIP—Page 7)*



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*National OHIP Orientation (June 17-19 at UCLA) 2014 OHIP Interns and Staff*

## *UCLA-LOSH Hosts the NIEHS Worker Training Program Spring Conference*



*Conoco Phillips Refinery in Wilmington*

On April 7 and 8, UCLA-LOSH collaborated with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)-Worker Education Training Program (WETP) and the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training to plan and sponsor the Spring Technical Workshop on “Chemical Facility Safety in an Era of Climate Change: Training for Worker Participation and Community Engagement” held in Los Angeles. The collaborative effort addressed President Barack



*Lisa Bowman, Charles Meeks and Norman Rogers, members of Local 675, United Steelworkers (USW) speak at the fenceline community near Conoco Phillips refinery in Wilmington*

Obama’s 2013 directives: Executive Order 13653, “Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change,” and Executive Order 13650, “Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security.” A Disaster Research Responder Project tabletop activity coordinated by LOSH, WETP, Clearinghouse and the University of Southern California Environmental Health

Sciences Center (EHS) was held in Los Angeles on April 7. Scientists, state and local health organizations, community leaders and federal, state and local government officials engaged in dialogue to respond to a simulated earthquake-induced tsunami which causes a fire at a nearby oil refinery located in close proximity to a community. Prior to the tabletop activity, participants took a tour of the Los Angeles/ Long Beach ports region and the fenceline community located near refineries in Wilmington, California.



*Scientists, state and local health agency representation, community leaders and federal, state and local government officials convened at Emden Street, a fenceline community near Conoco Phillips refinery in Wilmington, CA. The Wilmington/ Carson area has the highest concentration of oil refineries in California, supporting about one-third of the state’s refining capacity.*



*View of the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports complex from Angel’s Gate/Lookout Point Park.*

## *NIEHS Worker Training Program in Los Angeles*

Community members are located near the Conoco Phillips refinery, and are affected by chemical emissions, noise, odors, traffic, parking, and operations of the company. Tour participants were able to view the region that would be most affected by the simulated earthquake and observed the proximity of refineries in the region to the homes in that area. The tour effectively illustrated the damage that a climate related disaster might cause in the Los Angeles/ Long Beach ports region and fenceline community of Wilmington.



*Tour participants in the community of San Pedro had a view of the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports complex from Angel's Gate/Lookout Point Park.*

UCLA-LOSH and USC EHS staff coordinated Labor and community participation, inviting representatives from Communities for a Better Environment, Local 675, United Steelworkers, Coalition for a Safe Environment, San Pedro Homeowners United, and International Longshore and Warehouse Union. Labor and community representatives; state and local officials collectively identified opportunities to better prepare workers and community members to actively respond in the event of a climate change related disaster. LOSH also identified and recruited speakers from UCLA for panels on Chemical Facility Safety and Climate Change, and moderated a panel on the Richmond-Chevron Disaster Case Study (with University of California, Berkeley-Labor Occupational Health Program staff member Dinorah Barton-Antonio as a speaker).



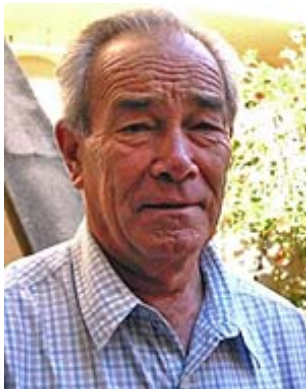
*UCLA-LOSH staff Samantha Quintero with NIEHS program officer Sharon Beard meet with Rick Garcia at LADWP.*

On April 10, LOSH hosted Sharon Beard from NIEHS for a site visit to meet partners and graduates from the Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP)/Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)-Utility Pre-Craft Training (UPCT) program. Graduates from the training program described the pre-apprenticeship green job training program in which trainees work full time weatherizing the homes of low-income utility customers while also learning other skills and preparing for civil service exams and career opportunities in the utility sector.



*Anthony Vega, graduate of the training program, demonstrates his job tasks at his work site.*

## *Environmental Worker Training Project Director Bill Hatch Retires*



William "Bill" Hatch retired from UCLA-LOSH on October 31st after 10 years as Environmental Worker Training Program Director.

He joined LOSH after retiring from the L.A. County Fire Department where he was a member of their Haz Mat Response Team. During his 30 years of fire service he earned

instructor certification with the National Fire Academy in Emmitsberg, MD and the California Specialized Training Institute in San Luis Obispo, CA for Hazardous Materials Subjects.

Bill used his expertise to train workers in the hazardous waste and materials field as the Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Project Director. Throughout his leadership, Bill established key partnerships for the Hazardous Waste Worker Training (HWWT) Program and the Hazard Disaster Preparedness Training (HDPT) Program, to increase worker safety and health for employees who handle or work with hazardous materials/wastes so they and the communities where they work and live will be protected from exposure and from

injuries and illnesses. These key partnerships include but not limited to, Los Angeles Unified School District, USC Medical Facilities, Northridge Hospital, Local 501 Operating Engineers, ILWU Locals 13, 26, and 63 and LA Metro.

Bill's energy and expertise were appreciated at LOSH, and by the team of instructors he developed. Bill's passion for teaching and for worker health and safety was evident in his courses. His experience, energy and humor was appreciated by staff, instructors and those he trained.

An unknown author once said, "A great leader will deflect credit to his people." Bill unmistakably defined a great leader and he will be missed by UCLA-LOSH staff, instructors, employers and employees, who had the pleasure to meet him and work with him.



## *LOSH Welcomes New Staff*



**Stephanie Ngan** develops worker health and safety curriculum for a new project between UCLA-LOSH and the IATSE Entertainment & Exhibition Industries Training Trust Fund (TTF). The TTF was established in 2011 to facilitate and support training for IATSE

members and those working in crafts represented by the IATSE, making training opportunities available to help members advance in their crafts and promoting industry-wide recognized standards for safety and craftsmanship in the entertainment and exhibition industries. She takes the lead role creating customized entertainment health and safety modules in consultation with experts from IATSE locals throughout the industry and with occupational health, safety and adult education experts from LOSH.

Ms. Ngan received her BA at UC Berkeley in biology, and her MPH at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health in 2014.

**Dr. Rania Sabty-Daily** joined UCLA-LOSH in November 2014 as Technical Specialist and Industrial Hygienist. She develops training curricula and provides technical instruction. She will collaborate with worker centers, environmental justice organizations and others on new heat illness and Safe Jobs Safe Communities initiatives.



Dr. Sabty-Daily has her MPH degree in Industrial Hygiene and, a PhD degree in Environmental Health Sciences from the UCLA School of Public Health. She is multi-lingual (including English and Spanish). She is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (California) and has a strong background in recognizing, evaluating and controlling environmental hazards with the skills and experience to train workers and community members. She currently holds a teaching appointment at California State University Northridge where she develops curricula and teaches in graduate and undergraduate courses in the areas of environmental and occupational health.

## *Workers Memorial Day & Week of Action*



*Workers stand on the steps of City Hall to pay tribute to fallen workers during the Week of Action.*

During the week of April 28 through May 1, UCLA LOSH and the Southern California Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (SoCalCOSH) kicked off the annual Workers' Memorial "Week of Action" on behalf of the more than 500 fallen workers, mostly Latino. Efforts to educate the public about health and safety on the job included activities such as a press conference on the steps of Los Angeles City Hall highlighting the stories of fallen workers and the impact it has had on their families. Cesar Valenzuela, who died in February on a service road at Los Angeles International Airport, is one of seven workplace fatalities profiled in "Preventable Deaths 2014," released by the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (National COSH).

UCLA-LOSH partners, CLEAN Carwash, SEIU USWW, NDLO, the L.A. County Federation of Labor, IDEPSCA and many more key advocates for worker safety. This year

marked the first time that there was a clear strategic connection between health and safety and immigration policy as staff joined Workers' Memorial Day commemorations and actions with participation in the annual May Day march through Downtown L.A.

The majority of workers most at risk for getting hurt, sick or killed on the job are those low-wage workers who find themselves living



*Musical entertainment at the May Day march*

in poverty. Just as in past years, Workers' Memorial "Week of Action" hopes to invoke Martin Luther King's words from 1964, for us to 'achieve a world perspective,' understand that 'we are caught in an escapable network of mutuality,' and that we have a 'responsibility of working with determination to wipe poverty from the face of the earth.' We build on these words, determined to ensure workers go home safe every day.



*Workers Memorial Day participants march in tribute to fallen workers.*

## *Safe Jobs Save Lives! Health & Safety Conference*

Close to 150 worker advocates and organizations from throughout southern California convened for the second year at the “Safe Jobs Save Lives!” Worker Health and Safety Conference in July. Hosted by the Los Angeles Trade Technical College, the conference was co-sponsored by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor (L.A. Fed), UCLA-LOSH and the Southern California Coalition on Occupational Safety and Health.

The highlights of the day included opening remarks by Secretary Treasurer of the L.A. Fed, Maria Elena Durazo, who spoke about the connection of health and safety issues with immigration, wage theft and declining worker protections both locally and globally. Building off of last year’s workshop topics, representatives of Unions, Worker Centers and Community-based Organizations actively participated in



*Participants gather for opening ceremony at Safe Jobs Save Lives! Health & Safety Conference prior to attending individual workshops*

learning more about: the illnesses related to heat, young workers and workplace violence, how to work effectively with Cal/OSHA, effective a labor management health and safety programs and, as an overarching theme, protecting workers from acts of retaliation.

During the breakout-reflection groups participants had a chance to dive deeper into serious issues that were initially touched upon during their morning workshops. Of special note and in line with the theme of the conference, young worker leaders were instrumental in presenting material, describing the benefits of health and safety training and discussing issues unique to them in small groups.

The conference has strengthened the network of Southern California health and safety activists to support strong health and safety programs.



*Veronica Alvarez of the Warehouse Workers Resource Center conducts workshop on Preventing Heat Illness*

## *UCLA-LOSH at the American Public Health Association Conference*



UCLA-LOSH was well represented at this year’s annual conference of the American Public Health Association (APHA) in New Orleans as the Occupational Health and Safety Section celebrated its 100th Anniversary. Linda Delp was this year’s recipient of the Alice Hamilton Award. The award recognizes the life-long contributions of individuals who have distinguished themselves through a career of hard work and dedication to improving the lives of workers. Linda received the award in acknowledgement of her nearly 30 years experience in the field, including roles with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), SoCalCOSH, and UCLA-LOSH.

Presentations by UCLA-LOSH staff included one by Linda Delp on developing a network of government, academic and community researchers trained to respond in the case of disasters and another by Kevin Riley on the injury experience of workers in the low-wage labor market, based on analysis of the UCLA Labor Center’s wage theft research. And Sarah Jacobs moderated this year’s session of students participating in the summer Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP).

Finally, Linda Delp spearheaded the development of an APHA policy resolution to address the increase of workers hired through staffing agencies and the ambiguity of dual employer responsibilities for health and safety. The policy, which was approved by the APHA Governing Council, calls on Congress to reform laws to provide temporary workers with labor rights, such as the right to organize and bargain. The statement urges more research on the health impacts of temporary work and injury rates among workers hired through staffing agencies. It also pushes for stronger state rules that make clear health and safety requirements for workers hired through staffing agencies. The policy is part of nationwide initiatives to ensure temporary workers health and safety protection.

## *Vision y Compromiso: Health Promotores at LOSH Workshop*

UCLA-LOSH staff participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide “Visión y Compromiso Conference” December 5-6, 2014, where more than nine hundred Community Health Workers, or Promotoras de Salud, from different organizations around the State convene to expand their knowledge of health and community affairs. As every year, UCLA-LOSH provided a two-hour awareness session on Worker Safety and Health Promotion. This year’s focus was on Preventing Workplace Violence, a health and safety threat particularly significant for



*Health promoter plays the roulette wheel at the LOSH exhibition table*



*Flor Vasquez of UCLA-LOSH provides education materials on hazards and workers safety and health rights at the LOSH resource table*

those working to provide health related services in institutions and the community.

Participants engage in activities such as the Workers Safety and Health Roulette. By providing education on occupational health for these key community members and by learning from them, we strengthen relationships to advance community health in our Southern California region.

## *OHIP Summer Success (continued from page 1)*



*OHIP Interns Esmerelda Ponce and Teni Adewumi as part of the Black Women for Wellness project*

It taught me about worker health and safety, work retaliation, unions, and so much more, something that I can take back and share with my family, friends and community.”

Since 2004, a total of 214 students have participated in the program, learning valuable lessons about the occupational safety and health field and contributing to groundbreaking campaigns around the country.

To learn more about OHIP, visit, <http://aoec.org/ohip>, or contact LOSH Program Coordinator/National OHIP Coordinator, Sarah Jacobs at [sjacobs@irle.ucla.edu](mailto:sjacobs@irle.ucla.edu).

**View the 2013 report**  
**“Dying at Work in California: The Hidden**  
**Stories Behind the Numbers”**  
**online!**

## Newsletter

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(LOSH) Program*

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The **UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health (LOSH) Program** is a nationally recognized center with a special emphasis on serving the Southern California workforce. LOSH provides bi-lingual (English-Spanish) occupational health and safety education programs in the community; teaches UCLA courses; researches the conditions of immigrant, low-wage and young workers who are disproportionately impacted by job hazards; and provides input into public policies to improve worker health and safety.

**LOSH** is part of UCLA's Institute for Research on Labor and Employment (IRLE) within the College of Letters and Science and the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH) within the School of Public Health. Founded in 1978 and now celebrating 35 years of service, LOSH has established a strong presence in Southern California, with ties to local and international labor unions, community groups, schools, local and state governmental agencies, and community health providers.

**LOSH** is supported by funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); the California Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC), the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR); the COEH; the IRLE; the California Wellness Foundation (TCWF); the California Department of Public Health (CDPH); and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

## *2014 LOSH Staff*

Linda Delp: Director

Ana Alvarez: Minority Worker Training Program  
Coordinator

Deogracia Cornelio: Associate Director of Education

Sarah Jacobs: LOSH Special Projects Coordinator

Katy McNamara: LOSH Industrial Hygienist

Karen Murray: Office Manager; Events Coordinator

Stephanie Ngan: Worker Health and Safety Curriculum  
Developer

Samantha Quintero: Green Worker Project Manager

Dianna Rego: Fund Manager

Kevin Riley: Director of Research/Evaluation; WRUC  
Coordinator

Rania Sabty-Daily: Technical Specialist/Industrial  
Hygienist



Fernando Tapia: WOSHTEP Coordinator

Flor Vasquez: Administrative Specialist

Rigoberto Lua: EWTP Student Assistant

Sandra Parra: WRUC Student Assistant

Christine Truong: LOSH Student Assistant