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Remembering Julia Quint who dedicated her life to worker health and safety



Linda Delp with Ruth Heifetz, Julia Quint and Marianne Brown, UCLA-LOSH 30th anniversary honorees, October 2008



Learn more about LOSH at:
losh.ucla.edu
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LOSH Hosts Student Interns in Occupational Health

This summer, LOSH hosted eight student interns as part of the Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP). Now in its twelfth year, OHIP is a national program for undergraduate and graduate students interested in learning more about worker health and safety issues.

Pairs of OHIP interns were assigned to four separate projects in Southern California:

- ◆ Investigating sleep patterns and quality of sleep among live-in caregivers with the Pilipino Worker Center.
- ◆ Developing educational materials and resources to support Cal/OSHA’s forthcoming workplace violence prevention standard for healthcare workers with SEIU 121RN.
- ◆ Working with St. John’s Well Child and Family Centers to support an initiative to provide medical treatment and resources to low-wage workers who are injured on the job.



2015 OHIP site visit to a bottling plant in Vernon

- ◆ Comparing injury experiences of hotel housekeepers at union versus nonunion hotels, working with UNITE HERE Local 11.

A total of 30 students participated in OHIP at sites around the country this summer. Interns presented their projects on a national videoconference for OHIP funders and staff on August 7, and a few students presented their work at the national conference of the American Public Health Association in Chicago in November.



*National OHIP Orientation (June 16-18 at UCLA)
 2015 OHIP Interns and Staff*

Workers' Memorial Day Activities in Southern California

Workers' Memorial Day has been designated on April 28th in many countries to remember workers who died on the job or, in many cases, years later from work-related exposures. LOSH was involved in a number of events and activities throughout Southern California to commemorate the day.

ORANGE COUNTY

On April 28, UCLA-LOSH participated in a special event hosted by the UC Irvine Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH) and UCI Program in Public Health in recognition of Workers' Memorial Day.

During the presentation, *Social Determinants of Worker Health in Orange County Workers*, participants learned about key policy initiatives and how workers, researchers, and others are working to address the impact of contingent work.



Stephanie Ngan, UCLA-LOSH (second from left) participates in UC Irvine's Workers' Memorial Day event on April 28th.

LOS ANGELES

From April 27 through May 1, LOSH commemorated the 450 lives lost in California workplaces and highlighted the efforts of Southern California worker organizations that are active in promoting worker health and wellbeing. Reports show that the groups most likely to die on the job are Latino immigrant workers.

This year our series of trainings included a 'Know Your Rights' workshop and vigil. This was followed with a press conference on the steps of City Hall showing the faces of fallen workers and hearing from injured workers from the garment and airport service industries. LOSH staff tabled at the annual

Labor, Social and Environmental Fair reaching hundreds of high school and college students with a variety of topics like heat, chemicals and teen rights. As a culmination of the week, LOSH staff walked alongside community partners focused on addressing the many issues faced by immigrant workers, such as deportations, wage theft, health and safety violations, discrimination, limited access to education, etc. These worker tragedies emphasize the need for more public awareness efforts, better worker protections and trainings on hazard identification, assessment and effective controls along with the need to continue developing Specialists and Trainers throughout the region.

SOUTH BAY

Cal State University, Dominguez Hills hosted its 7th Annual Labor, Social, and Environmental Justice Fair on April 30. LOSH was among more than 60 organizations participating in the fair.



Karen Murray, Dianna Rego, and Flor Vasquez challenge visitors with health and safety-related questions and distribute prizes at the LOSH table during the 7th Annual Labor, Social, and Environmental Justice Fair at CSUDH

More than 2,000 mostly college and high school students attended the event, which included music, keynote speakers, and workshops.

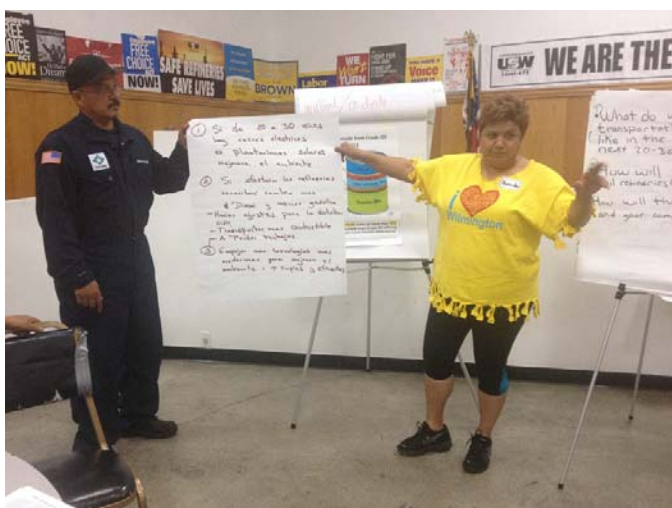


Guests took turns spinning the LOSH prize wheel, answered health and safety questions and earned prizes. An exhibit board highlighting LOSH programs was on display at the CSUDH Labor Fair.

Building Bridges: Worker-Community Refinery Safety Training

This fall, LOSH hosted a pilot of its two-part worker-community refinery safety training curriculum. The two evening sessions brought together 18 participants — representatives of both USW Local 675 and Communities for a Better Environment — to learn about refinery operations, discuss safety concerns for workers and community members, identify needs related to information exchange and emergency preparedness, and explore areas of mutual concern.

LOSH staff member Rania Sabty-Daily and graduate student researcher Carlos Barragan, in collaboration with USW Local 675 and Communities for a Better Environment, conducted the successful pilot workshop sessions.



Representatives of USW Local 675 and Communities for a Better Environment attend refinery safety training pilot.



Representatives of USW Local 675 and Communities for a Better Environment attend refinery safety training pilot.

This was a unique opportunity for USW and CBE to bring their Southern California members together in education and exchange. Evaluations of the sessions revealed that workers and community members were enthusiastic about the overall experience.

The results of the sessions will be used to modify a four-hour refinery safety curriculum, which will be offered again next year. This training mirrors the community-refinery collaborative efforts conducted over the last several years by Dinorah Barton-Antonio of UC Berkeley's Labor Occupational Health Program. It is just one aspect of the Western Region Universities Consortium's broader work around refinery safety and updates to the PSM standard across California—and hopefully beyond.

LOSH Testimony at California Assembly Hearing in Los Angeles

On November 19, LOSH Director of Research and Evaluation Kevin Riley testified at a hearing in Los Angeles on “Latino Worker Health and Safety Issues” organized by California Assembly member Roger Hernandez. The goal of the hearings was to examine the challenges Latino workers face on the job and explore potential policy solutions.

The testimony highlighted findings from recent LOSH research on the injury experiences of workers in the low-wage labor market in Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago. (A report of the research is available at <http://www.losh.ucla.edu/losh/research-policy/InjuryExperiencesofWorkersintheLow-WageLaborMarket.html>.) The research found that only about 8% of low-wage workers who were injured on the job filed workers' compensation claims, with over half saying their employer reacted negatively to the news of their injuries. Latino workers had higher rates of injury than other workers, were less likely to seek medical care, were more likely to experience negative employer reactions, and were less likely to file for workers' compensation.

LOSH was pleased to be part of these discussions to address disparities in health and safety outcomes for Latino workers and support policy interventions to improve the work experiences of this vulnerable group.

View the current report

[“Dying at Work in California: The Hidden Stories Behind the Numbers”](#)
online!

Newsletter

UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health (LOSH) Program

*Peter V. Ueberroth Building, Suite 2107
10945 Le Conte Avenue, Box 951478
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1478*

Phone: 310-794-5964

Fax: 310-794-6403

Email: loshinfo@ucla.edu

www.losh.ucla.edu

www/facebook.com/UCLALOSH



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 37 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).

2015 LOSH Staff

Linda Delp: Director

Deogracia Cornelio: Associate Director of Education

Hector Flores: WOSHTEP Trainer/Educator

Sarah Jacobs: LOSH Special Projects Coordinator

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: OSHA Grant Manager



Flor Vasquez: WOSHTEP Administrative Specialist

Nuha Alomar: LOSH Student Assistant

Carlos Barragan: Graduate Student Researcher

Daniel Ha: WRUC Student Assistant

Rigoberto Lua: EWTP Student Assistant

Karla Murillo: WRUC/LOSH Student Assistant

Abigail Thornton: Graduate Student Researcher

Elaine West: Graduate Student Researcher