



Occupational Safety, Health, and Environment (OSH&E) Program
Department of Industrial and Engineering Technology
Southeastern Louisiana University
SLU 10847
Hammond, LA 70402

May 25, 2018

Dear OSH&E Advisory Committee Member,

On behalf of Southeastern Occupational Safety, Health, and Environment (OSH&E) Program, we would like to give our sincere appreciation to you for your involvement in the OSH&E Advisory Committee as well as your participation in the meetings and discussion.

Enclosed please find the report of the OSH&E Advisory Committee meeting that was held on April 20, 2018. Please feel free to let us know should you have any questions and comments!

Our first meeting for the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year will be held as part of the 2018 Computer Science and Industrial and Engineering Technology Joint Advisory Committee Meeting. The meeting is scheduled on Friday, October 26, 2018 on the Hammond campus. A formal invitation will be sent to you.

Thank you very much for your continued contribution to the program!

Sincerely,

Dr. Lu Yuan, CSP
Interim Department Head &
Associate Professor

Ms. Dorinda Folse
OSH&E AC Chairperson

Mr. Lance Roux, CSP
OSH&E AC Co-Chairperson

OSH&E Advisory Committee

April 20, 2018 Meeting Report by Mr. Chris Kuiper and Dr. Lu Yuan

The last Occupational Safety, Health, and Environment (OSH&E) Advisory Committee meeting was held from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM on April 20, 2018 in the new Computer Science and Technology Building conference room 3042 on the Hammond campus. (Please see the attached examples of photos!) The attendees include eleven of the twenty-one OSH&E Advisory Committee members (**Appendix A** with update-to-date contact information). Four OSH&E full-time faculty members were present, including: Dr. Lu Yuan, Dr. Ephraim Massawe, Mr. Chris Kuiper, and Dr. Priya Dasgupta. Mr. Lawrence Mauerman, temporary full-time Instructor, attended the meeting too. One current OSH&E student, Ms. Candace Amos, was also present. Absent were Richard Matherne, Don Jones, Dorinda Folse, Beth Inbau, Alan Rovira, Chris Newton, Charles Leonard, Jody Hammett, Julie Roussel, and Ellis Vliet.

Appendix B contains the agenda of the meeting, which started with the welcoming from Mr. Lance Roux. Lance thanked the members for their contributions to the OSH&E program. He told the members that unfortunately Ms. Folse was not able to attend the meeting; but, she asked the members to remember Workers' Memorial Day which is on April 28, 2018. Self introductions were followed.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Yuan provided a review of the weaknesses identified in the ABET final statement. He shared with the members that the OSH&E program is required to submit an Interim Report to ABET by Jun.30, 2018, reporting on the progress made to address the identified issues.

The first element concerned the weakness regarding the timeline for internship, which is identified as the class that demonstrates the culminating experience. There are fourteen required OSHE courses in the program. Six of those are 300/400 level classes. ABET stated that students should have completed a "majority" of those classes before they engage in an internship. They further stated the "majority" refers to the last six classes, but their definition of "majority" is not specific (e.g., a simple majority would be four of the last six classes). ABET's intention is students should complete their internship in the last semester of their university career.

Dr. Yuan further explained that sophomore and junior students can take IT 291 Internship as a Professional Elective for their degree. This would give them an opportunity to gain credit for an internship early in their degree, but it does not replace the formal internship (OSHE 391) requirement.

Industry representatives at the meeting recommended that the OSH&E program evaluate the differences between students who complete IT 291 and IT or OSHE 391 versus those that did not take IT 291. Dr. Yuan explained that the OSH&E faculty are trying to carefully advise students to ensure that the University can demonstrate compliance with the ABET requirements on the weakness that is identified in the final statement. The goal is to demonstrate that students complete their internship in the last semester as recommended. He also affirmed ABET

requirements are for a “culminating experience” which is not necessarily an internship but may be a senior design or capstone type project.

Dr. Yuan informed the meeting attendees that students have been awarded internships earlier in their college career. The hiring entities are recruiting at an earlier stage to allow them to groom the student for a long-term relationship. If the student performs well in the sophomore-level internship, they are in a better position to be hired as full-time employees.

Next, Dr. Yuan shared the results of the OSH&E Advisory Committee Questionnaire with the members. Seven members completed the questionnaire. The response rate is 33.3%. The responses are positive overall. The top three knowledge and skills that the members feel that the OSH&E students need to strengthen include: Communication skills; Practice-oriented knowledge and skills; and, Mathematical and statistical knowledge.

Dr. Yuan asked the group whether providing a survey to the committee members is an efficient means to collect information to help address the issues that are identified in the ABET final statement. He stated that previous participation has been low and he discussed possible opportunities for improvement. Some attendees stated that they do not typically respond well to surveys and perhaps face-to-face or phone interviews may be more productive.

During the meeting, a suggestion was made that the OSH&E program partner with Petex or others on pilot plants. Monthly “pulse surveys” could be done to check with students to assess how students feel their courses are doing. The key would be objectivity and that students would not feel threatened by speaking their truths. One committee member recommended that we send notes to them detailing what specific areas/topics we need their help on.

Dr. Yuan shared with the attendees that the OSH&E program has hired an additional tenure-track faculty member, Dr. Priya Dasgupta, who joined Southeastern in Spring 2018. Dr. Yuan also informed the attendees that the OSH&E program is actively interviewing candidates for the full-time Instructor position.

NEW BUSINESS

A change in the OSH&E curriculum is Zoology 250 and Zoology Lab 252 has been added as an alternate to Zoology 241 (Saturday only class). This will allow students greater scheduling flexibility during the week.

Dr. Yuan invited the committee members to review the current listings of Professional Electives for the OSH&E curriculum and identify new or other courses for the OSH&E program to consider. One industry representative stated that Human Reliability is a growing area of interest and recommended that topic be further developed. Conversation affirmed that this is an important issue and that OSHE 322 and/or OSHE 424 could be good courses to include the topic. After much conversation on the topic, Dr. Yuan affirmed that the topic needs to be further developed and considered.

Dr. Yuan discussed Environment as a topic that needs to be better promoted in the OSH&E curriculum. Presently, HS 131 Emergency Health Care, HS 360 Introduction to Epidemiology, and HS 362 Promoting Health in the Worksite are approved as Professional Electives. He asked the attendees whether HS 133 Healthy Lifestyles for the 21st Century, HS 361 Introduction to Environmental Health, and HS 453 Health Assessment and Promotion should be considered as potential electives too. Consensus was this is an important and growing area that merits further evaluation for possible inclusion in the curriculum.

Dr. Yuan adjourned the meeting with an announcement about the upcoming OSH&E Spring 2018 Graduation Ceremony, when the Spring and Summer 2018 graduate candidates are presented with the GSP designations. Lunch was served and a tour of the new Computer Science and Technology Building was provided to those who were interested.





Appendix A

OSH&E Advisory Committee

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* - Mr. Mauerman retired after Spring 2012.

Appendix B
OSH&E Advisory Committee

Semi-Annual Meeting Agenda

April 20, 2018

<u>Time</u>	<u>Issues</u>	<u>Actions</u>
8:30 - 8:45 am	Welcome & Introduction (By Ms. Dorinda Folsie and Mr. Lance Roux)	
8:45 - 10:15 am	Old Business	
	1. ABET Reaccreditation Interim Report (By Dr. Lu Yuan)	
	2. OSH&E Advisory Committee Questionnaire Results (By Dr. Lu Yuan)	
	3. OSH&E Instructor Search (By Dr. Lu Yuan)	
10:15 - 10:30 am	Break	
10:30 - 11:15 am	New Business	
	1. OSH&E Curriculum Request for Change (By all)	
	2. Others	
11:15 - 11:30 am	Portrait & Group Photos	
11:30 - 12:30 pm	Lunch	