



## Malama O Pa! Take care, lest you be hurt!

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### GOVERNORS' PACIFIC RIM SAFETY AND HEALTH CONFERENCE FOR 2008 UPDATE

The Governor's Pacific Rim Safety and Health Conference will be held May 19 -21, 2008 at the Hawaii Convention Center. The Hawaii Prince Hotel has been designated as the convention hotel and is located at 100 Holomoana Street across from the Ala Wai Boat Harbor.

The Conference Committee is pleased to announce that there are 45 Corporate Sponsors for this year's conference. This compares to 24 Corporate Sponsors for the 2006 conference. This increase is greatly appreciated by the Conference Committee.

### REGION I OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Neil Yamamoto, President & Danielle Plimpton, President Elect represented the Hawaii Chapter at the Regional Operating Committee (ROC) in Oxnard, CA on April 14 & 15. In addition, Mary Silva, Region I Assistant Regional Vice President of Finance attended the meeting and represented the Region. The ROC meeting is held semi-annually to handle Region I's business matters.

The ROC was attended by 18 chapters. The Midnight Sun and our newest chapter, Western Australia were not represented.



### ASSE PRESS RELEASES

ASSE Hawaii Donates to the ASSE Foundation  
Protecting People, Property, and the Environment since 1911



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As in past years, the ASSE Hawaii Chapter is again making a donation to the ASSE Foundation, which generates funding and provides resources for scholarship, applied research, academic accreditation, and related academic initiatives in order to advance the safety, health, and environmental profession.

This year, we decided sponsor four tees at the ASSE Foundation Golf Tournament to be held on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas. This outing will be held on the first day of the annual professional development conference. Our donation this year is \$1,850.

### **ASSE Region I Networking Suite at the PDC**

The 20 ASSE chapters of Region I (Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Western Australia) voted to host a Networking Suite during ASSE's Professional Development Conference in Las Vegas. The function is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup> at the Las Vegas Hilton from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The function is free to all Region I members and their spouse. A fee of \$25 will be charged for all others. More details will follow as they become available.

### **Congratulations Hawaii Chapter**

Congratulations to all of our members for supporting the chapter and making it one of the best in the country. The Hawaii Chapter was recently submitted to ASSE Society to represent Region I for the Small Chapter of the Year award.

### **CHAPTER ELECTIONS**

The Nominations and Elections committee is very pleased to announce the candidate slate for the 2008– 2009 Executive Board. They are as follows:

President:	Neil Yamamoto, CSP, CPCU (Direct ascension per our by-laws)
President-Elect:	Danielle Plimpton
Secretary:	Craig Shoji, CHST
Treasurer:	Barbara Goto, CSP
Assembly Delegate:	Mary Silva, CSP

A short bio of each nominee follows:

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

**Danielle Plimpton**

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She currently holds a position in the Risk Control Dept with First Insurance Company. Prior to her current position, Danielle worked in Risk Management at the University of Alaska Anchorage and held the position of Claims Technician. She has 5 years of experience in the Health and Safety Industry and is originally from Anchorage, AK.

Ms. Plimpton graduated from University of Alaska Anchorage with a degree in Occupational Safety & Health. She completed her internship with the State of Alaska Department of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration.

She is the current chapter president-elect and served on the Program Committee for the 2006 and 2008 Governor's Pacific Rim Safety & Health Conference.

### **SECRETARY**

**Craig Shoji, CHST**

Craig is the Safety Manager for Goodfellow Bros., Inc. He is actively working towards his CSP. A current member of the ASSE Hawaii Chapter since 2002 and has served as Moderator Chair for Governor's Pac Rim in 2006 and 2008. He is a certified NSC Flagger Instructor and American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor.

### **TREASURER**

**Barbara Goto, CSP**

Barbara is a Safety & Health Manager with the U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA where she has been for the past 13 years. Prior to that, she worked in the Safety Office at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for about 15 years. She has been a member of the Chapter since 1988, and is the current Treasurer.

### **DELEGATE TO THE SOCIETY HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**Mary Silva, CSP**

Mary Silva is the Safety and Loss Prevention Manager for Castle & Cooke Hawaii. She is responsible for the development and implementation of their company-wide occupational health and safety programs. Mary has her BS in chemical engineering from the University of Oklahoma and is a certified safety professional.

Prior to joining Castle & Cooke, she worked as Verizon Hawaii's safety manager and as a senior loss control representative with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. In 2007, Mary was awarded the Safety Professional of the Year for the National Association of Home Builders. She is also a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers where she serves as the Asst. Regional Vice President of Finance. Mary has been a member of ASSE – Hawaii Chapter since 1991.

### **DUES INCREASE – White Paper**

#### **Overview**



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The Society's financial health is essential to its ability to provide service to members, support the profession and achieve the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. To achieve our vision as a champion of the SH&E professional, a global leader of the profession and a premier resource to all, we need additional resources to expand and improve existing services as well as to develop new ideas and deliver innovative solutions to our members and the profession. Our focus is to strengthen the Society by enhancing members' professionalism and by improving their effectiveness and importance to their organizations.

Financial resources for the Society are derived from dues and non-dues revenue as well as investment performance. The Board of Directors approves the Society budget annually. In recent years, we have experienced growth in non-dues revenue with dues revenue staying relatively flat. Upon examination of the current year and the future, the Finance Committee believes that a dues increase is necessary to achieve the goals noted above. The following rationale and recommendation are provided on behalf of the Finance Committee.

### **Expanded Services and New Services**

The most important reason for a dues increase is to maintain our current offerings of service and to expand and improve the services provided to the members. Existing financial resources do not permit this and our efforts require incremental infusions of funds. Specific areas where we must provide additional resources include:

- Support for the profession. We are currently conducting a study to help us better understand the relationship between SH&E professionals and their employers as well as the value of the profession. Once this study is completed, we will need resources to use this information and to convey the message to members.
- Student programs continue to need additional resources for events such as the Future Safety Leaders Conference as well as activities at the PDC and at other events year-round. These events have become increasingly important to students and represent an investment in future members and the profession.
- Support for chapters and regions are needed for leadership/management training for chapter officers and increased networking tools and services to chapter websites and the ASSE website.
- Expanded efforts in governmental affairs are needed to continue and expand our influence in the regulatory agenda throughout all levels of government.
- Technical and research areas need additional resources to develop a research agenda as well as best practices for various industries and practice areas. We need strategic insight into the needs and challenges facing the profession, SH&E professionals and the Society.
- Voluntary technical standards are poised for growth and recently achieved a major milestone with the approval of the ANSI/ASSE Z359 Fall Protection Code, the first code developed by ASSE. We must expand these efforts.
- We must continue to grow the electronic delivery of our educational programs not only by increasing current offerings, but also by developing new methods of delivery. This will enable us to bring skills and knowledge to a wider range of members and the profession, enabling those engaged in the practice of safety to do their jobs more effectively.



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- Educational programs are needed to provide services to the variety of specialty niches and industries represented by our Practice Specialties as well as to create and deliver programs for every level of those involved in the practice of safety, from executives to line supervisors.
- New communication and networking tools are needed to reach a wider audience. This is increasingly important with younger generations who regularly use social networking programs. Improving our effectiveness offers benefits to students and to all members in the delivery of our education programs.
- The profession's Body of Knowledge has significantly expanded with the recent publication of *Construction Safety Management and Engineering* and our upcoming *Handbook for the Safety Professional*, our most important publication ever. These publications need wide distribution to the profession, and we need sufficient resources to achieve awareness about them within the SH&E profession.
- Our vision identifies the global aspect of our organization and we have continued to add new members and chapters worldwide. We must expand the services provided to global members and expand their representation within the Society.
- Dovetailing with efforts in the global area is North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week. This program is gathering global attention and continues to expand its influence and scope. It is a key element in our global collaborative efforts. We must continue to expand this key event.
- The understanding that safety is good business and a positive contributor to the bottom line of any organization has attracted the attention of government, business and the public. Resources are needed to expand this effort with timely and effective public relations efforts.

### **Background on Dues**

To assess the need for a dues increase, the Finance Committee has considered and discussed the following key points with regard to the Society's finances.

- Historically, very successful annual PDC's have driven successful financial performance and have significantly contributed non-dues revenue.
- ASSE is vulnerable financially if we depend on revenue sources that fluctuate with events beyond our control. Dependence on the annual PDC remains a fact but puts much into one event. We cannot afford to depend on hitting a homerun every time with the PDC. For example, the 2007 PDC had fewer registrants than in 2006, making this year a particularly challenging year financially.
- The House of Delegates approved the last dues increase in 1999. Dues were increased from \$105 to \$120. Previously, a \$20 increase was approved in 1995.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 20% since the last dues increase.

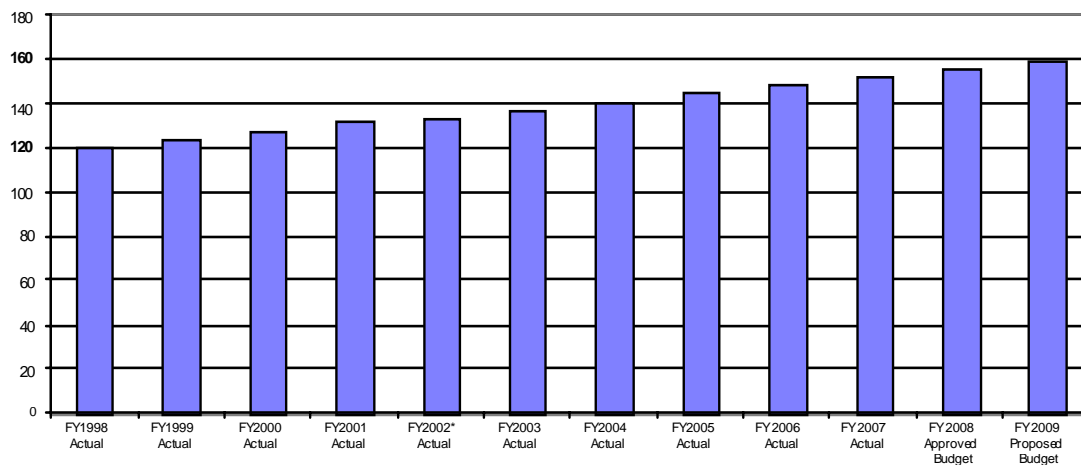
## Consumer Price Index - CPI



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- If Society dues had kept pace with CPI/inflation, dues would have increased from \$120 to \$160.

**Dues Rate to Keep Pace with Inflation**



### Recommendation



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The Finance Committee analyzed several factors in determining the need for a dues increase, including:

- Overall financial performance for the Society
- History of the Society's dues increases
- Growth in non-dues revenue
- Expected investment performance
- In addition, as a comparison, the dues of other professional associations in the SH&E field were considered. As a reference, other association dues are as follows:

### **US**

AIHA (American Industrial Hygiene Association) – \$178

NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) - \$150

NAEM (National Association of Environmental Management)-\$195

AAOHN (American Association of Occupational Health Nurses) -\$185

HFES (Human Factors and Ergonomics Society) - \$190

### **Outside US**

CSSE (Canadian Society of Safety Engineers) - \$185 Canadian (\$184.5 US)

IOSH (Institution of Occupational Safety and Health) - 120 GBP (\$235 US)

SAI (Safety Institute of Australia) - \$165 Australian (\$148 US)

After careful deliberation, the Finance Committee recommends that the Society implement a \$29 dues increase effective July 1, 2008 resulting in Society dues of \$149.00. The Board of Directors has unanimously approved this proposal and recommends the Delegates approve this increase.

### **Dues Increase – Most Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Why is a dues increase necessary since we have had strong financial performance over the past few years? FY2007 was a successful year financially mainly due to realized gains achieved from favorable market conditions. Without these gains, we would have achieved only budgeted performance even though we had a record PDC. Historically, very successful PDC's have driven successful financial performance and is the major contributing factor to non-dues revenue growth. The Society is vulnerable financially if we depend upon revenue sources that fluctuate with events beyond our control. As we project our future financial performance we see potential budget shortfalls that we need to address in a manner that will not hinder servicing our member.

2. Why a dues increase now?

Our last dues increase was in 1999 and the Society anticipates some difficult times ahead based on the economy. Even though it would be nice to postpone a dues increase, it is in the best interest of the Society to ensure the continued financial well being of the Society. Even with the dues increase in place, ASSE has the lowest membership dues of any other comparable Society.

3. Can you clarify where the increase of \$29 came from?



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The Finance Committee conducted much analysis to determine the optimal increase to be \$29. The committee identified the need for new and expanded services, the need to maintain current services provided to members, the fact that we had not had a dues increase since 1999 and the need to keep our dues lower than other associations. Based on this, the committee felt that raising the dues to \$149 was in order.

4. Why is the dues increase being voted on in advance of the House of Delegates meeting in June?

Our goal is to achieve a greater level of House of Delegates participation relative to this important initiative. By mailing ballots, we will have more participation than at the annual House of Delegates meeting because many chapters either have a proxy or do not participate in the meeting.

5. If the dues increase goes through, how do we then compare to other SH&E organizations like AIHA?

Once the dues increase is approved, our membership dues will be \$149. Below is a summary of dues from other associations:

AIHA (American Industrial Hygiene Association) – \$178

NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) - \$150

NAEM (National Association of Environmental Management)-\$195

AAOHN (American Association of Occupational Health Nurses) -\$185

HFES (Human Factors and Ergonomics Society) - \$190

6. Will the chapters and regions gain any additional services or benefits from this increase?

We will increase support for chapters and regions through additional leadership/management training for chapter officers, increased networking tools and services to chapter websites and further development of the ASSE website.

7. How does this increase compare with increases from other SH&E organizations?

Every Society has a somewhat different approach to a dues increase. Since our last increase was in 1999 and we are raising dues by \$29 over that time period it would be safe to say we are in line if not lower than other organizations when you take into account the amount related to time period.

8. Why hasn't this been brought up in ROC meetings?

Once the Board of Directors voted to approve the dues increase, it was put on the agenda as a discussion item for the ROC meeting. A presentation was developed with the respective background information for the ROC meetings. In addition, Delegates normally are not members of, or participate in, ROC meetings.

9. Specifically, what will member's gain from the increased fees?

We must strengthen the Society by enhancing member's professionalism and by improving their effectiveness and importance to their organizations. We will conduct additional research, expand the Future Leaders conference, increase support to the chapters and regions, expand efforts in government affairs and regulatory, expand technical and research areas, expand voluntary technical standards initiatives, grow electronic delivery of educational programs, develop specialty educational programs, develop new communication and networking tools, implement programs to increase awareness of the SH&E profession, expand services to international members, support the growth of NAOSH week and expand "safety as good business."



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10. My Chapter just raised its dues and now the Society is raising its dues.

According to our Bylaws, Society membership dues should be determined by the Board of Directors and approved the House of Delegates. Chapter dues will be set by each chapter in accordance with their Bylaws. If you would like to propose that chapter's dues increases go before the House of Delegates also, you can make that motion.

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

As of April 16, the Chapter has a total of 179 Members. We've had 12 new Members since January of this year. Thanks to members **Craig Shoji, Chulee Grove, Joanna Clark, Erin Hoffer (2), Joaquin Diaz, Neil Yamamoto & John Ramos** for their recruiting efforts. The ASSE's member-get-a-member campaign is still going on but ends in June 2008. Each new member sponsor will be entered into a drawing and the 3 members with the most recruits can win \$250, \$500, or \$1,000. Also, drawings will be held for a chance to win \$100. If you have a prospect, you can forward a membership application through ASSE's Website, and make sure you are designated by the individual as the sponsor in order to get credit. Although one doesn't need a sponsor to join, the program encourages present members to take the extra step and "recruit". Also, make sure you tell the individual to fill in the block for the sponsor's name in the membership application.

Last Month's new Members include **Travis Gomez, Zoe Williams, Steven Winner, Daniel Kauai, Dominic Affinito, Mark Mendiola, and Lauren Sparkman**. We only have one to date for April, **John Swearinger**. All welcome aboard!! Lauren attended our March meeting, and Travis, & Zoe attended the April 17 meeting. They were introduced, and also had their lunches paid up by the Chapter as is customary with a new member's first meeting attendance.

### 25th YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

As part of ASSE's recognition program for long-time members, three of our Chapter Members recently received their 25 Years of Service Certificates. **Norm Black** received his during our March meeting. The two other recipients, **Phil Ogata** and **Ken Hirai** received theirs through "special delivery". Phil had been too busy in his new capacity as an Ass't VP at AIG, and Ken was likewise too busy enjoying his retirement from HIOSH (he did attend our April meeting - thanks, Ken). Congratulations to all!

### SCIENCE FAIR AWARDEES

The Chapter continues to be involved in the Annual Science Fair held at the Neal Blaisdell Center in April. This year, we awarded each of the following individuals with \$100.00 for their efforts in safety/health-related projects:

Senior Research - Christen M. Wilson, a Freshman at Kapaa High School for her project entitled: "Concrete Bridges: The Strength is in the Pudding". She was also our awardee last year for Junior Research Project as an 8th Grader: "Dams: Are We Safe?"



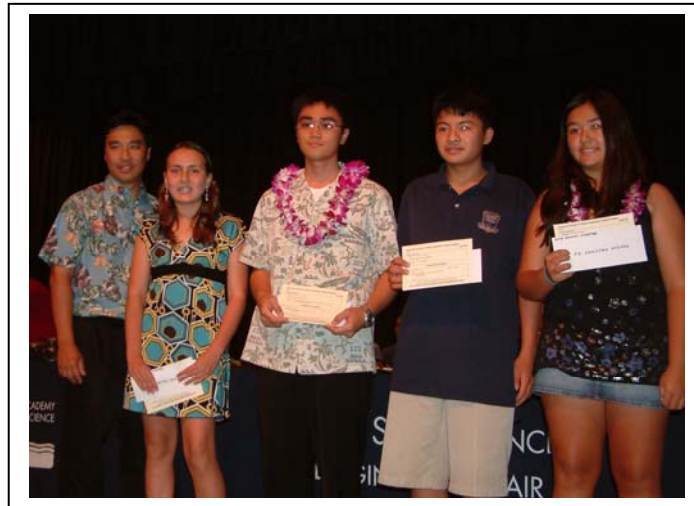
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Junior Research - Monica T. Goob, Voyager Public Charter School for her project: "Speeding".

Open Division - Jose E. G. Legaspi, Waipahu High School for his project: "Determining the Strength of Different Soil Types on Oahu Against Earthquake Liquefaction".

Junior Display - Russel R. Manalo, Island Pacific Academy for his project entitled: "Earthquake".

Chapter President Neil Yamamoto presented our Awards during the Awards Presentations on April 2nd. The photo below shows him on the left of the photo with our Awardees.



### **SHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

This year, the recipients of our Chapter's \$500.00 scholarship awards went to the following individuals who are enrolled in the Honolulu Community College's (HCC) Occupational and Environmental Safety Management (OESM) Program:

**Casey S. Alop**, a Freshman in OESM. She works at ALTRES/Blazemasters Fire Protection, LLC.

**Todd Burnett**, a Sophomore in OESM. He works at HAFB's Woodcraft Shop.

**Rommel C. Delfino**, a Sophomore in OESM, currently the Vice President of the ASSE's HCC Student Section, and works at DOL/HIOSH as a Clerk-Typist. He has also been a recipient of last year's Scholarship Award.

**Erwin Soria**, a Sophomore in OESM, and a committee chairman in the HCC Student Section. He works at Pizza Hut.

**Darrell Suzuki**, a Freshman in OESM. He works at City Mill.



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**Chulee Grove**, Department Head of HCC's OESM, is a Member of ASSE, and the Adviser of the HCC Student Section. She is also a member of the Scholarship Committee.

### FUTURE LUCHEON SPEAKERS

Date	Speaker	Company	Subject
<b>May 19-21, 2008</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Pacific Rim Safety and Health Conference	At the Hawaii Convention Center	Numerous Topics
<b>June 26, 2008</b>	TBD		TBD
<b>July 24, 2008</b>	Jennifer Shishido	HIOSH	Pathway to success

Unless otherwise noted, the meetings will be held at Hale Ikena in Fort Shafter from 11:00am to 1:00pm. The cost of attending including lunch is \$15.00.

**If you have any suggestions for speakers, please call Danielle Plimpton, our President-Elect & Program Chair @ 527.7497**