

There were 18 attendees at this meeting.

Silton presented Andry with a plaque of appreciation  
He asked members to submit topics of interest for future meetings  
Silton introduced our student attendee, Harold Sias- Tulane University\  
Announced that Richard has volunteered to sit on board for selecting student candidates for awards  
Alan asked if any attendees were planning to attend AIHce, and suggested that DSS members meet in Chicago

Presentations:

1) Joe Tudor presented “Implementation of a Fitness to Work Program.” Joe highlighted minimum fitness for duty standards, achievement criteria, and elements of the health risk assessment. He finished by discussing training issues and barriers to program implementation.

Joe handed out a “General Fitness to Work Policy” and a “Fitness to Work Health Risk Assessment.”

Q & A:

- Don Hart: What would happen if local (city/ state) standards do not meet the Shell Group standards?  
Joe’s answer—Local areas may have to step up to those standards of the Shell Group or have an adequate justification for not doing so
- Ron: Are there any acclimatization processes in place for heat stress monitoring?  
Joe: No
- Andry: Are there any fitness to work procedures specific to contractors?  
Joe: Contracting companies are only selected if certain guidelines are adopted and if appropriate training of employees is provided
- Andry: Has the Shell Group considered population risk factors—such as diabetes and obesity—when writing fitness to work procedures? Do Shell Group physicians give physical tests to determine a worker’s “fitness?”  
Joe: No, but the Group may come to take a look into those risk factors. There are no physical tests given.

2) Don presented “An AIHA Team: National & Local Section.” There are 75 local sections of AIHA—the majority being in the U.S. He stated that our section consider Jennifer (Boyer) Steffan as a great resource for any help. The distribution of newsletters, job opening info, and reminders of info updates is vital to communication within the

membership. The AIHA/ National Applications Committee awards local sections that have the best local websites. Don offered ways to increase member attendance at meetings and to increase the membership. Tips included varying the cost of meals (having a pizza night, for example), providing a forum for networking/ discussion, and varying meeting times, formats, and locations. National will soon have available a database for technical speakers. He suggests that we use this database to get speakers to present at our meetings.

Future leadership conferences are free to attend—excluding transportation costs—and will remain so for another year. Take advantage of this opportunity to meet other section members/ officers and to share ideas.

#### Q & A:

- Andry: Will national members automatically become local section members (wherever they reside) in the future?  
Don: There has been interest in local section membership connecting to national membership. There has been some controversy, and thus far, there has been no consensus.
- Andry: DSS members have asked for/ requested access for credit card payment of dues, etc. Does national have any process that can help us?  
Don: The issue will be brought to the AIHA board.
- Eric: DSS asked national to comment on how to help post- disaster without hurting local consultants. He wanted to know where or how to draw the line between helping others and hurting our consultants' businesses.  
Don: Apologized for the lack of response from national. We could contact the AIHA/ Emergency Response Task Force for help or contact Jennifer Steffan.

#### Round table Discussion

Don commended our 2006 Strategic Plan.

Roy Rando stated that there were 6 IH students who attended Tulane (on- campus) and another 30 who take online IH courses. He also announced that Tulane has an IH certification program accessible on campus and online. It meets the 12- hour qualification for the CIH exam!

The membership discussed working around students' class schedules to boost student attendance

Eric stated that he is still interested in Tulane help us by hosting the website for DSS access to the online TLV, Patty's or other references. DSS members, IH professors and students would have access.

Andry: We could also use this Tulane- hosted site to advertise for student awards, local section meetings, etc. He told Don that the hosting Telewebs have greatly enriched our membership.

Don: Suggested that we present future/ available topics to DSS for voting. He stated that he will ask staff to provide a list of Telewebs to local sections.

Someone suggested that we find out how many other local section members are in LA and invite them to our events

Silton commented on inviting nearby local section members to present at our meetings. Andry suggested that we ask nearby local sections for a list of three past presenters for DSS to pool for our section meetings. Don supported these ideas, and stated that we could also look for potential presenters from AIHA committees.

Eric suggested that we consider sampling for beryllium in and around our company plants, refineries, etc. He's found that beryllium is present in larger quantities than we think due to abrasive blasting jobs.

Don gave Yaisa a CD that he said is helpful in student recruitment in local sections.

Andry expressed his appreciation for Caron Mason and her help with our local website in 2005!

#### Future Activities

Silton announced our next two lunch meetings

Eric announced that he had purchased access to the next Teleweb (Ergonomics, 4/4/2006) and asked if he should also purchase the seminar on CD for later viewing.

It was agreed that if the Teleweb proved interesting enough and if there was a desire for later viewing by the membership, that he should purchase the CD

#### Action Items:

Yaisa- ask Eric about upcoming Telewebs and post future listing to membership

Yaisa- review CD from Don to get helpful student recruitment tips

\*\* Please direct any questions about meeting minutes to [yaisahenderson@yahoo.com](mailto:yaisahenderson@yahoo.com)