



ISHM Board Meeting Highlights

Highlights of the quarterly ISHM Board meeting conducted on February 1, 2003.

Budget. The Board discussed the 2002 financial report noting an increase in income as a result of a very successful rate of membership renewals in September, 2002.

Contract. To ensure an "arm's length" professional relationship between NSMS and ISHM, Phil Mueller will prepare a separate contract for ISHM. A proposed budget will also be prepared by Phil and forwarded to Cynthia Duffield for review by March 1.

Bylaws. Phil Mueller has received and is reviewing sample copies of bylaws from similar organizations in an effort to help ISHM produce a new set of bylaws to better meet the needs of the organization. Eric Van Fleet, Kathy Bruss, and Nancy Moorhouse will form a committee to draft the bylaws. The draft is targeted for completion by March 1 and when a final draft is completed it will undergo legal review.

Liability Insurance. The Board is working on obtaining liability insurance for its members. The completion of the project tied to the completion of the new bylaws. Nancy Moorhouse and Phil Mueller will work together to complete the application.

Newsletter. Phillip Mueller, Executive Director, discussed the new ISHM UPDATE that will be published quarterly (March, June, September, and December) as an electronic newsletter to all ISHM members. Steve Geigle, current editor and publisher of the NSMS DIGEST, will also be involved with the production of the UPDATE. The newsletter will be available as an online newsletter and as an Acrobat download file.

CSHM maintenance program. The Board expects to have new guidelines for the CSHM program prepared for publication by April 1st. Eligibility requirements, including revised educational requirements for those applying for the exam was discussed. There was a discussion concerning the possibility of a third designation, which might impact on the ASHM designation.

Accreditation. Andy Sorine brought copies of the application for NOCA recognition to the meeting, and asked for volunteers to complete missing data. Due date for completion of this project is March 31.

Evaluation of CSHM Candidates. Tom Slavin provided a briefing about what he looks for on certification applications. He discussed the consideration to references and work experience. He has found that in a few instances applicants have double counted the same work experience. Margie Kolbe-Mims suggested we might e-mail the Certification Application Transmittal and Review form to the reviewers.

CSHM Exam. Andy Sorine was provided a mailing list and labels for 100 grandfathered CSHMs. He will contact them about taking the exam to gather more validity data. Preparation materials and exam resources are now on our [website](#). The exam will be offered on September 12 in Chicago, IL. That information as well as the extension date for grandfathering is being placed on our website.

National Safety Congress. Andy Sorine gave a progress report on the NSMS conference scheduled for September 10-11 in Chicago. A banquet is planned for Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Palmer House with an awards ceremony following that event. Jim Stanley, Vice President of AK Steel Corporation and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the banquet. Activities for Friday, September 12th, will include the scheduled CSHM exam.

Phil Mueller, Executive Director
Institute for Safety and Health Management



Chairman's Message

About Me

I have been involved with safety for over thirty-four years. Most of those thirty-four years I have been in the academic arena, teaching and directing both undergraduate and graduate programs in Safety Management. I have played a significant role in bringing several degrees to accreditation, the last one (early 90's) at Central Missouri State University (the Bachelor of Science in Safety Management). I currently am Director of the Occupational Safety and Health program at Grand Valley State University (GVSU). GVSU offers a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health Management degree. I have been associated with numerous professional organizations, to include: Systems Safety Society, American Society of Safety Engineers, and the National Safety Management Society. As one who has actively encouraged and supported his graduates in seeking professional involvement and certification, I am very excited with the developments taking place with the Institute for Safety and Health Management.



A Very Brief History

The National Safety Management Society (NSMS), an organization dating back to 1966, has been a strong proponent of the role of safety and the safety manager in the work environment, since its inception. It recognized that most safety professionals would not come from the engineering world and that there was a significant need for managers to be competent regarding safety systems and management systems. As a continuing effort to set measurable standards by which safety managers could be measured, NSMS initiated activities designed to develop a meaningful certification that would reflect more management principles and less engineering principles when dealing with safety and health issues in the work environment. Last August, that effort culminated in the first meeting of the Institute for Safety and Health Management (ISHM) Board, and marked the end of a direct association between NSMS and ISHM. The separation of the two groups became necessary if accreditation of ISHM was to be achieved.

The Board

Since the first meeting of the Board, in August of 2002, a lot has happened. The Board elected its two primary officers, Jan Rosenberg, Vice Chair and myself as Chair. It initiated activities to bring ISHM to accreditation. It initiated activities to assure the financial viability of the Institute. Finally, it initiated activities so that the first formal examination for the Certified Safety and Health Manager (CSHM) could be offered this Fall.

These activities have resulted in several meetings, the next of which will be held in March in Chicago. The principle purpose of the next meeting is to finalize by-laws and other associated materials so that the Institute can be accredited by August of 2003.

The Board is strongly committed to providing a certification process and distinction that all recipients can be proud of. To this end, we will be making a number of important adjustments that will strengthen the integrity of the Institute, its certifications, and its members. To the extent, we can serve our constituents, I strongly encourage you to support your Board and keep in touch. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at, vanfleee@gvsu.edu. ♦

Dr. Eric Van Fleet
Chair, Board of Directors