



Inside this issue:

LOSH Reflects on 2016 1

Work and Health Equity Curriculum 1

Safety Modules for Entertainment Industry Workers 2

In Recognition of LOSH 2

Occupational Health Internship Program 3

New Training Site for HAZWOPER Classes 4

Exide Cleanup 4

Vision y Compromiso 5

Staff at Occupational Safety & Health Conferences 5

Labor Enforcement Task Force Training 6

Refinery Workers Discuss Cal-OSHA's PSM Standard 6

Training Airport Service Workers 6

Los Angeles Premier of "A Day's Work" Documentary 7

*Greetings to our Friends and Colleagues*

As 2016 comes to a close, we at UCLA-LOSH have been reflecting on the current and future state of our work to advance safe jobs, healthy lives, dignity and a voice for all — at work and in our communities.

Despite the uncertainty the future holds, we renew our commitment to our fundamental principles — that all workers have:

- ◆ A right to a **safe job** and to work in an **environment free of harassment and discrimination**
- ◆ A **right to know** about the hazards of their jobs and a **right to protection** from injuries and illness
- ◆ A **right to a voice at work** — to speak up for safety and health and against wage theft and exploitation

- ◆ A right to live with their families in **communities free of environmental hazards**

We strive to promote respect and dignity at work, environmental justice, partnerships and collaboration to advance living wages, education and health care for all workers and their families. We urge strong government standards, based on a respect for science and precautionary principles that protect workers and communities when the hazards are not yet known.

Many thanks to all of you who have supported UCLA-LOSH in the past and who have been partners in our work. We look forward to continued collaboration with renewed energy in the New Year.

*Linda Delp, Director, on behalf of us at UCLA-LOSH*

*New Work and Health Equity Curriculum Available*

A new curriculum to teach students about work and health starts with their families' experience. Using principles of popular education, students interview family members, analyzing results to understand the role of societal inequality, government regulations and disparate protections. The 4-6 hour module focuses on the impact of institutionalized discrimination that exposes workers disproportionately to work hazards, injuries and illness. It also highlights key campaigns to advance worker health — among poultry, nail salon and farm workers. The module can be integrated into public health classes and other courses that address social and environmental justice. It is divided into three sections: 1) Introduction to OHS, 2) Social Determinants of Worker Health and Equity, and 3) Ways to Better Working Conditions. It was developed by UCLA-LOSH with colleagues active in the NIOSH NORA Occupational Health Disparities Working Group with the support of NIOSH and the NIEHS Worker Training Program and is available at: [www.losh.ucla.edu](http://www.losh.ucla.edu), Resources, Work and Health Equity Curriculum.



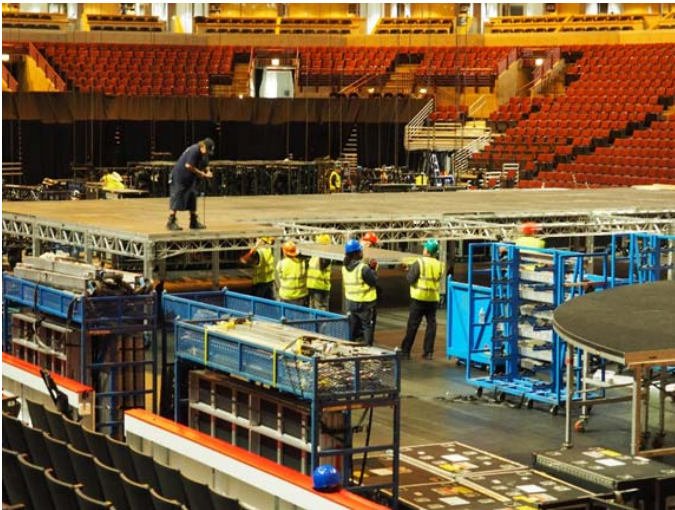
*UCLA-LOSH Director Linda Delp discusses Work & Health Equity module at national public health conference.*



Learn more about LOSH at:  
[losh.ucla.edu](http://losh.ucla.edu)  
[facebook.com/uclalosh](https://facebook.com/uclalosh)

## *Safety Modules Developed for Entertainment Industry Workers*

Workers in the entertainment and exhibitions industry work behind the scenes to create action movies and theater productions and to support conferences and concerts. In collaboration with the Training Trust fund of IATSE, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, UCLA-LOSH developed a 16-module Safety First curriculum for locals in the U.S. and Canada. Worksite visits, worker interviews and the expertise of members and consultants informed real-life case studies and activities developed for interactive modules based on principles of adult education. The curriculum highlights



best practices and useful resources for a range of diverse topics — rigging and scaffolding, chemical exposures facing scenic and makeup artists, ergonomics and the safe use of firearm props. For more information, contact the Training Trust Fund: <http://www.iatsetrainingtrust.org/>.



## *UCLA-LOSH Educator Recognized for Community Outreach*

LOSH's long serving Community Outreach and Education (COE) Representative Patricia Rizo, a Health and Safety Specialist and Trainer, was recognized for her invaluable work with the Los Angeles Mexican Consulate and the Garment Worker Center. Since 2006, LOSH COE Representatives have facilitated awareness training and distributed educational materials for workers at consulates. Out of this partnership, LOSH participates in community events organized by the Los Angeles Mexican Consulate, such as Labor Rights Week and the Ventanillas de Salud program, a series of activities to raise awareness of workers' rights and promote best practices to improve workplace health and safety conditions.

Patricia was also awarded the Garment Worker Center's (GWC) Solidarity Award. Collaboration between LOSH and the GWC, along with other community partners, support capacity building efforts to promote worker safety and health as part of community campaigns that address workers' rights and public health issues.



*Patricia Rizo was awarded the Solidarity Award at the GWC Anniversary Event.*

UCLA-LOSH recently collaborated on a report with the UCLA Labor Center and the Garment Worker Center that investigates health, safety and environmental conditions facing workers in Los Angeles's garment industry. The report is based on interviews with over 300 garment workers conducted in 2015. The research found widespread hazards in the workplace and frequent violations of state health and safety regulations.

The report and related materials are available online at <http://www.labor.ucla.edu/publication/dirty-threads-dangerous-factories-health-and-safety-in-los-angeles-fashion-industry/>.

## *Occupational Health Interns Hosted in Los Angeles*



*National OHIP Orientation (June 14-16 at UCLA) – 2016 OHIP Interns and Staff*

This summer, UCLA-LOSH hosted the national Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP) orientation for 24 interns placed with labor and community groups at ten sites across the country. From California, New York and Boston to New Orleans and Nebraska, the interns supported campaigns to improve conditions for poultry processing, seafood, transportation and forest workers. Interns in Los Angeles worked with the Black Women for Wellness Healthy Hair Initiative to assess chemical exposures and health concerns among stylists, salon owners and cosmetology students; others documented the injury experiences of day laborers in collaboration with the National Day Laborers Organizing Network.

Students kicked off the summer with worksite tours at an industrial laundry facility, a construction site, and a cosmetics factory; they learned from a panel of carwash worker, day laborer and household workers and were inspired by former OHIP interns who discussed how research and education strategies supported key campaigns and policy initiatives.

One intern summed up her internship experience by saying, “*My OHIP experience was amazing. I met people working in different areas of occupational health and learned about possibilities in the future. I want to serve the community I come from—people of color, undocumented, underserved, low-income populations, and workers in general and I believe this internship has expanded my horizons. I feel encouraged and assured people in the world believe in social justice and in the wellbeing of underserved communities.*”

Since 2004, a total of 268 students have worked on 136 OHS projects in 19 different cities. The students have learned valuable lessons about the OHS field and have contributed to groundbreaking campaigns around the country.



*LA OHIP Interns and Staff after the National OHIP Videoconference.*

The Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP) is a project of the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics (AOEC) and is funded by NIOSH and supported by other organizations and individuals. OHIP is at a very critical point, the survival of this very successful program for summer 2017 and beyond will depend on additional financial support. In hopes of dodging this financial crisis, ***please help support the long-term sustainability of this critical program. Tax-deductible donations are accepted at: <http://www.aoec.org/content/payment.htm> or mail to: AOEC/OHIP, 1010 Vermont Ave, NW, Ste. 513, Washington, DC 20005.*** More information about OHIP can be found at [www.aoec.org/ohip](http://www.aoec.org/ohip) or call 888-347-2632.

## *New HAZWOPER Training Site*

UCLA-LOSH has partnered with Service Employees International Union – United Healthcare Workers (SEIU-UHW) to conduct Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) classes at their training center in the City of Commerce. HazMat Coordinator Simon Sage is coordinating classes at the site which has state-of-the-art classrooms, plenty of parking, and space to accommodate the hands-on activities including a lab to demonstrate monitoring devices and an outdoor spill preparedness and response scenario. To register for HazMat classes, see <http://losh.ucla.edu/training-and-education/hazmat-and-environmental-training/training-registration/>



*Above: SEIU-UHW is the new HAZWOPER training site for UCLA-LOSH. Below: workers are trained in decontamination procedures during the outdoor spill preparedness and response scenario.*



*Equipment and lighting are improved in the temperature-controlled classrooms at the new training site.*



## *Training Residents for Lead Cleanup Jobs in Southeast Los Angeles*

Since July, UCLA-LOSH has provided hands-on health and safety training to residents of Southeast Los Angeles who are preparing for jobs to sample and test lead-contaminated soil in their communities. The lead contamination resulted from the former Exide lead battery recycling facility in Vernon, which operated for over three decades with outdated pollution controls and repeated air-quality and hazardous waste violations.

The training is conducted as part of the Workforce for Environmental Restoration in Communities program, a workforce development initiative spearheaded by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and designed to provide employment opportunities to residents in communities most impacted by Exide.

UCLA-LOSH's 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response course trains participants to work safely in hazardous environments during cleanup operations. The weeklong course includes modules on recognizing workplace health and safety hazards, controlling hazards, identifying, use

of personal protective gear, and site safety plans. A laboratory unknown chemicals, proper air monitoring and sampling procedures session provides a hands-on learning opportunity to use monitoring equipment and the week culminates with a mock hazmat response and cleanup field activity.

LOSH's Industrial Hygienist and Environmental Health Specialist, Rania Sabty-Daily, was recently appointed to DTSC's Exide Advisory Group. The group offers guidance to protect the health and safety of workers and community members in the planning phases of community cleanup activities and during Exide-plant dismantling operations. Training collaborators include Los Angeles Trade Technical College, NATEC International, Inc., and Thermo Fisher Scientific. UCLA-LOSH has also advised DTSC on certification requirements for workers who handle lead.

Support for UCLA-LOSH hazmat training is provided by the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program ([https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/about\\_wetp/](https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/about_wetp/)).

## *UCLA-LOSH Staff Presents at National Conference for Health Promoters*

For the sixth consecutive year, UCLA-LOSH participated in planning and presenting at 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Visión and Compromiso Conference for Health Promoters, Leaders and Community Workers. More than nine hundred promotoras from different organizations around the country attended the event, *The Power*



*Deogracia Cornelio facilitates the "For my Own Sake, ME, My Advocate" awareness session/workshop to a packed crowd at Visión y Compromiso.*

of My Voice and My Actions, held in the Ontario Convention Center on October 28-19, 2016. UCLA-LOSH Associate Director of Education Deogracia Cornelio and Community Outreach Representative Patricia Rizo taught a two-hour workshop, "For my Own Sake, ME, My Advocate", where Promotoras learned how to strengthen and develop the emotional, cognitive and social skills necessary to manage difficult situations in their workplace.

A UCLA-LOSH resource table featured a Worker Safety and Health Roulette wheel with prizes for responding to questions on how to prevent workplace violence.



*Flor Vasquez guides conference participants through questions and answers on roulette wheel at Visión y Compromiso.*



*Promotoras visit resource table at Visión y Compromiso.*

## *UCLA-LOSH Staff at Occupational Health & Safety Conferences*

*Worker Engagement in Industrial Hygiene and its Impact on Improving Health and Safety in the Workplace:* at national American Industrial Hygiene Association Conference and at Southern California Joint Technical Symposium with American Society of Engineers. Rania Sabty-Daily

*Rapid Response Readiness: NIEHS Disaster Research Response Initiative:* at UCLA Center for Occupational & Environmental Health Symposium on "Unnatural Disasters and Environmental Health: Causes, Consequences and Prevention in the Case of Porter Ranch" and at NIEHS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. Linda Delp

*Addressing Work and Health in a Community Health Center in South Los Angeles:* at annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. Kevin Riley

*Workers' Compensation in the Informal Work Sector: A Case Study of Day Laborers in California:* at annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. Kevin Riley

*Managers' Perceptions of the Value and Impact of Worker Health and Safety Training:* at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research. Kevin Riley

## *Workshops to Provide Fair Treatment of Workers*

It is not uncommon to find wage and hour violations, health & safety violations, failure to provide workers' compensation and retaliation against workers — all in the same workplace.

Since Fall 2015, UCLA-LOSH has educated workers about their rights in support of the California Labor Enforcement Task Force (LETF), a collaboration of government agencies working under the direction of the Department of Industrial Relations to ensure employers comply with labor laws. Workshops conducted in Los Angeles, San Diego and Inland Empire metropolitan areas have reached representatives from more than 30 community-based organizations with the goal of working together to support workers most vulnerable to exploitation. Activities convey information about workers rights to their full wages, safe work places, compensation when injured on the job, and protection from retaliation for exercising their rights.

If you are interested in partnering with UCLA-LOSH to offer an LETF workers' rights workshop for your members, staff, constituents, or community volunteers, contact Héctor Flores at [hflores@irle.ucla.edu](mailto:hflores@irle.ucla.edu) or 310-794-5992.



*Participants from over 10 Inland Empire and San Gabriel Valley community-based organizations and worker centers display their certificates after a successful LETF training in Pomona.*

## *Promoting Safety for Refinery Workers in California*



Refinery workers represented by United Steelworkers Local 675 gathered in August to discuss proposed changes to the Cal/OSHA Process Safety Management (PSM) standard. The changes were proposed to prevent refinery fires and explosions - like that at the 2012 Chevron Richmond refinery which sent 15,000 residents to seek medical care. Representatives from five refineries in the Los Angeles region identified problems and best practices where they work. With support from UCLA-LOSH, USW 675 and the International, worker trainers will kick off a program to train other workers to improve process safety — to protect workers and the community. They aim to create a model program that can be replicated beyond the region.



## *Training for Airport Service Workers*

Many of us travel by plane and undoubtedly worry about long waits for our baggage and cargo when we arrive at our destination. For the workers whose job it is to make sure our baggage arrives on time, dealing with serious unsafe working conditions is a constant struggle.

In support of a new partnership between SEIU-USWW and an Airport Services contractor to promote safe working conditions at LAX, UCLA-LOSH provided a 24-hour Health and Safety Specialist Training this summer to a group of 15 worker-leaders employed as ramp agents and cargo handlers. These workers in turn are participating in a new labor-management health and safety committee and helping to make improvements to their workplaces.



## Temp Worker Documentary Premieres in Los Angeles

As part of this year's Workers Memorial Day event, more than 80 UCLA faculty, students, union, community and government representatives attended the Los Angeles premiere of *A Day's Work*, a documentary focused on the dangers posed by temporary work. The film reveals how the \$100 billion temporary staff industry puts millions of workers at risk, including 21-year old Lawrence Daquan "Day" Davis who was killed on his first day



*UCLA Law Professor Noel Zatz discusses the industry's most pressing legal issues with regards to the rights of temporary workers.*

of work. Interviews with family members, workers, health and safety activists and legal experts highlight the importance of legislation to ensure employers do not contract with third parties to avoid their responsibilities.



*Posters of workers who died on the job were on display.*

Following the screening, panelists discussed experiences of temp workers in Southern California and described legal and governmental agency approaches to hold dual employers responsible for workplace hazards.



*Below: Rita Kern pays tribute to Sheharbano Sanji, the UCLA Research Assistant who died from a laboratory fire in 2008.*



Thanks to our speakers Teni Adewumi, Students of Color in Public Health; Rita Kern, UPTE-CWA 9119; Sergio Hidalgo, Temp staffing agency worker; Noah Zatz, UCLA Law School Professor; Mike Muñoz, Warehouse Workers' Resource Center; Debra Lee, Cal-OSHA; and Fernando Hernandez of the Teamsters.

Co-sponsors include: The Southern California Education and Research Center, UCLA Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, Students of Color for Public Health, Teamsters Local 2010, UCLA Critical Race Studies Program, Epstein Program in Public Interest Law & Policy and Southern California Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health.

Los Angeles Trade Technical College co-sponsored an additional screening on their campus.

## Newsletter

*UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health (LOSH) Program*

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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).

## 2016 LOSH Staff

Linda Delp: Director

Deogracia Cornelio: Associate Director of Education

Hector Flores: WOSHTEP Trainer/Educator

Scott Goodell, Project Manager

Sarah Jacobs: LOSH Special Projects Coordinator

Beverley Keefe: Assistant to the Director

Karen Murray: Office Manager; Events Coordinator

Kevin Riley: Director of Research/Evaluation; WRUC Coordinator

Rania Sabty-Daily: Industrial Hygienist & Environmental Health Specialist

Simon Sage, HazMat Coordinator

Flor Vasquez: WOSHTEP Administrative Specialist



Asari Prado: WOSHTEP Student Assistant

Nahir Andrade: WRUC Database Student

Nan Jiao: Graduate Student Researcher

Paulina Morales: Graduate Student Researcher

Samanntha Chung: LOSH Student Assistant