

# IU Safety Watch Newsletter

A publication of the American Society of Safety Professionals  
Indiana University Student Section

## Dr. Smith Receives Promotion & MSHA Brookwood-Sago Grant

By: Dr. Todd Smith

Todd D. Smith, PhD, CSP, ARM, AIM, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Health Science, Indiana University School of Public Health – Bloomington received notification from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), that he has successfully obtained a FY21 Brookwood-Sago grant in the amount of \$50,000. MSHA’s Brookwood-Sago grant program enables grant recipients to develop training materials, provide mine safety training or educational programs, recruit mine operators and miners for training, and conduct and evaluate training. Dr. Smith’s project will focus on the safety of miners working in mining operations regulated by MSHA’s Part 46 regulations. The training content will focus on respiratory hazards and respiratory protection. ***Also, please join me in congratulating Dr. Smith for his recent promotion to Associate Professor with tenure! Well done Dr. Smith!***



### Inside the Issue:

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# Dr. Slates Completes the IU Mosaic Faculty Fellowship Program



Dr. Kevin Slates, professor of applied health science at Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington, this fall, recently completed the IU Mosaic Faculty Fellowship Program. The Mosaic Initiative supports innovative classroom design, research, and comprehensive support for all Indiana University classrooms. This prestigious, campus-wide program promotes evidence-based teaching by

encouraging instructors to study the impacts of new spaces and instructional approaches on student learning.

According to Dr. Slates, the Mosaic Faculty Fellow Program has provided many teaching strategies to improve student learning outcomes by adjusting and redesigning Industrial Hygiene & Safety Laboratory learning spaces to improve student outcomes. The mission of the laboratory is to contribute to a safer and healthier workplace, and community through applied research, teaching and service-related activities and



establish beneficial partnerships with industry to further the transfer of safety education and research. Mosaic Fellows come from diverse academic backgrounds and represent many different schools and departments at

IU. Through the program, fellows have an opportunity, over the course of a full academic year, to engage in active learning practices in their own teaching and with other Mosaic Fellows, as well as contribute towards the development of learning spaces across Indiana University. To learn more about the Mosaic Faculty Fellow Program visit the program's website [link to visit website](#).

## IU Southeast ASSP Student Section Hosts Former ASSP President Dr. Darryl Hill



Indiana University Southeast American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) Student Section hosted Dr. Darryl Hill at the October student section meeting in New Albany Indiana. The agenda included a technical speaker, an update on student membership, and introduction of student section officers. Prior to the end of the meeting, students, staff, and faculty

recognized the contributions of student section faculty advisor Tiffany Barnett, and Sandra Gordan, beloved



undergraduate advisor. Our technical speaker, Dr. Hill is the Senior Vice President of Safety and Security FirstGroup America, the largest passenger transportation company in North America with 1,200 locations across the United States and Canada. He has over 35 years' experience in the field of environmental health and safety. In 2011, Dr. Hill served as president of the American Society of Safety Professionals, one of largest safety associations

world. During his talk, he motivated the audience with his tips for success and shared his inspiring personal story. The journey included serving in the United States Navy, completing his undergraduate and graduate education at the University of Iowa State, and Oakland University. Lastly, he also spoke about his lengthy career in the private sector at Jonson Controls, Abbott, and with his current position at FirstGroup America. Get to know Dr. Hill by connecting via [LinkedIn](#).

## Summer 2021 Safety Internships Completed



Congratulations to students on both the Bloomington and New Albany, Indiana students for successfully completing their 2021 internship requirements. As many of you know, an internship enables you to gain first-hand exposure of working in the real world. The experience encouraged student to apply previously identified course competencies in a professional setting.



The purpose of an internship is to provide real-world experience that enables students to put everything they have learned into action. An internship can help you gain skills that can be applied to future jobs. Student internship requirements include at least 420 onsite hours working under the supervision of an experienced occupational safety and health professional. 21 students completed onsite internships throughout the country. Our majors are placed throughout the country. Locations include Texas, California, Indiana, Kentucky, Connecticut, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. Please join me in thanking our local regional employers who provided paid internship opportunities for all students who completed internships.

*Maddison Covey  
Jennifer Dearman  
Hanna Dearman  
Remington Wilkerson  
Samuel Lohrum  
Jake Lemon  
Connor Moritz  
Alec Shuman  
Janellle Wilder  
Logan Allen*

*Alec Saulman  
Kinzer Flowers  
Eli Helton  
Alicia Smith  
Justin Ray  
Peyton Ross  
Hayden Viers  
Aaron Cook*



## Meet Your 2021-22 IU ASSP Student Officers



**2021-2022 Officers** Maddie Covey, Jennifer Dearman, Hanna Dearman, Emma Hoffman, Patty Blair. Also pictured, Greg Anderson, Dr. Applegate.

# Why Safety?

By: Patty Blair



What began as a simple google search became a safety internship with a manufacturing firm for the summer of 2021. During my first week, the Safety Director took me on a tour of the facility. What struck me was not the massive scale of the buildings or even the awards presented by NASA, but rather a question I was asked by nearly every new person I was introduced to: *'why safety?'*

I found this question odd at first; I wanted to fire back with: *'why welding?'* or *'why machining?'*. But the more people asked why I'd chosen safety, the more I realized these employees were generally curious as to why anyone would choose a career in safety, and what exactly led to that path.

My answer was initially a bumbling response that revolved around my dad, who has been in the world of safety since well before my birth. The more I thought, however, the more I realized that I needed to own the answer for myself. Why *did* I choose safety, and why am I passionate about the subject?

Since beginning my safety studies in January of 2021, I've discovered that safety is truly the cornerstone of all disciplines; forward-thinking safety saves time, money, and ultimately saves lives. As I continue to learn and grow on my path towards becoming a Safety Professional, I uncover new answers to why I chose safety daily. Disaster is avoided because of safe work procedures, and I think: this is why. Dr. Slates references a case where multiple workers perished in a heartbreaking and avoidable disaster, and I think: this is why. One of my co-workers tells me a story about his 5 children waiting for him to return safely home, and I think: this is why.

Perhaps I was caught off-guard by my co-worker's inquiries at the start of my internship because I didn't have an answer yet; I needed more time to understand why exactly I'm so passionate about safety. The answer I give when asked, *'why safety?'*, today is far different than it was 5 months ago. When asked today, I respond: "because I want to show people that Safety Professionals are advocates for the people. We don't exist to get people in trouble, we exist for the opposite: we exist *for you*."

I owe an immense debt of gratitude to everyone who asked me *'why safety?'* at the start of my internship because it made me determined to find the answer for myself. I believe my quest to find my answer has ultimately made me a better safety practitioner. I also believe we can all benefit from owning safety for ourselves and being able to answer why we chose a career in this field. The answer is likely different for us all, and it might change from day to day, but that's what makes safety such an innovative field.

So, tell me: why safety for you?

## Trivia Night



The IU ASSP Student Section hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual safety trivia night! Trivia night was held on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 pm EST. The event was a lot of fun and we plan on hosting a couple more trivia nights before the end of the academic year 2020. So be on the look-out for future announcements! IU

ASSP is still encouraging members to make online donations to the Bloomington Red Cross, if you do, please be sure to let an officers know of your donation!

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## Looking for a Summer Internship?

Are you looking for a company to complete your internship at next summer? If so, I encourage you to research the many opportunities available in the field of occupational safety and health. Search LinkedIn, make an appointment with career services, become a student member with ASSP, network with local safety professionals, and contact your peer to locate, and find available opportunities. IU faculty, staff and career services has worked very hard to established maintain relationships and develop new partners to provide students employment and internship opportunities.

***Program Partners below!***





# IU Safety and Safety Management Programs

## Receives Prestigious BCSP

### Graduate Safety Professional Designation

The graduate Safety Management Program and undergraduate Safety degree programs on both the Indiana University Bloomington and Indiana Southeast campuses are now a Qualified Academic Program by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. As a result, upon graduation, students can apply and receive the Graduate Safety Professional Designation (GSP). The GSP designation will substitute for the required Associate Safety Professional (ASP) credential. The GSP designation is a very prestigious and valuable credential and highlights the rigor and quality of the IU Safety Program. Again, congratulations to the IU Safety Program.

#### How to Apply

If you have graduated from a QAP during its accreditation period, you must submit a GSP Application and a copy of your transcript using 'My Profile' at [www.bccsp.org](http://www.bccsp.org). For information on QAP's, visit [www.bccsp.org/GSP](http://www.bccsp.org/GSP).

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## Are you taking advantage of your ASSP Student Membership?



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Your ASSP membership is more than just a requirement to be a part of your student section and attending meetings at IU. As a student member you have access to the Central Indiana Chapter (CI ASSP) and are welcome to attend the meetings. You get access to the website which includes job postings and access to literature.

By joining ASSP as a student, you'll be able to start connecting now with our expansive professional network and receive deep discounts on education. These experiences set you on a path to personal growth, professional excellence, and career success. Student dues are \$15 per

year and include one free practice specialty and common interest group. Learn more about the specific qualifications and benefits, or [apply now!](#)



# ASSP Central Indiana Chapter Scholarship Opportunity

By: Patty Blair



Student Members of the Central Indiana ASSP have an incredible opportunity to receive scholarship funding for the fast-approaching Spring 2022 semester. The ASSP has raised over \$30,000 in scholarship funding and is eager to distribute those funds to students studying safety. The scholarship applications are due by December 1, 2021. Visit [centralindiana.assp.org](http://centralindiana.assp.org) and click on the link on the homepage titled "Click here for the application" under the "Central Indiana Scholarship Applications section of the homepage. If you are not a Student Member of the Central Indiana ASSP, join today! It is quick, easy, and only costs \$15 for a year of membership – a truly unbeatable deal and a wonderful way to network with fellow safety professionals.

## Safety Salary Survey: The Numbers are in!

By: Patty Blair

Salary Survey 2021 has been published, and the results are ... interesting. Results are good for future Safety Professionals. As future professionals in the field of safety, let's look at some of these average salaries.

**B.S. degree \$89,9500**

**M.S. degree \$106,000**

See the snapshot to the right for a few interesting numbers, and check out the full survey in depth at:

<https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/21831-salary-survey-2021>

### Compensation

As of Jan. 1, what was your annual base salary?



Base salary by job title		Average
Executive		\$161,000
Director		\$111,000
Manager		\$99,800
Specialist		\$77,000
Supervisor		\$75,000
Coordinator		\$68,980

Base salary by education		Average
Doctoral degree		\$156,000
Master's degree		\$106,000
Bachelor's degree		\$89,950
Associate degree		\$79,930
Diploma program or vocational/ trade school		\$84,879

Base salary by tenure		Average
More than 40 years		\$145,000
30-39 years		\$129,071
25-29 years		\$107,000
20-24 years		\$101,800
15-19 years		\$95,432
10-14 years		\$98,300
5-9 years		\$75,000
Less than 5 years		\$68,000

Base salary by gender		Average
Male		\$96,808
Female		\$77,500

# Student Profile

**Student name:** Stephanie J. Butler, CIH, CSP

**Hometown:** Rockville, Indiana

**Year in School:** I received my undergrad from Indiana State University, and am now in my first year at IU in the Master's Degree program for Safety Management.

**What do you do for fun?**

I love to listen to music (including live) and spend as much time outdoors as possible. I like to trail hike. I have a goal to visit as many national parks as I can. I've not visited any parks in the western portion of the country, so that is the next pick.

**Why Safety?**

My first interest (and major) was biology. When I learned of the environmental health major, I transferred to that, and enjoyed the community health aspect. This branched over into health and safety, and the combination of all of that brought me to Industrial Hygiene.

**What are your future career goals?**

I am considering obtaining my L.L.C. and starting my own business writing health and safety programs, developing training, and assisting businesses with developing safety management systems.

**Any recommendations for career success?**

Always be open to learning more. Always have a goal to work toward, even if you have to take very small steps to get there. Sometimes you find other opportunities along the way that you would have otherwise missed. Seek out leadership and management training and opportunities. This can help you in your career and in life, even if you decide to try a different career path later on. Focus on what traits you appreciate, or would want, from your supervisor, and emulate those things. Find a trustworthy mentor. Take opportunities to lead groups and projects. Make sure documents you create look professional. Always have an updated list of references handy. And keep a record of everything you do (including dates). It can be very easy to forget things you've accomplished when life gets busy.



# Alumni Profile

**Name:** Sammy Davis

**Hometown:** Louisville, KY

**Educational background & certifications:**

- PhD- Organizational Leadership (Indiana Wesleyan)—in progress
- Master of Science- Safety Management (IU)
- Bachelor of Science- Safety Science (IU)
- Certified Safety Professional (CSP)
- Graduate Member of Institute of Occupational Safety & Health

**Past, current employer(s) and job responsibilities:**

- Papa John's International- Vice President, Global Safety & Security (Current)
  - Merged Safety, DOT Compliance, Security, and Facility departments into a single global Safety & Security team consisting of EHS, DOT, Facility and Law Enforcement professionals for multi-state, multi-national publicly traded company.

**Future goals:**

- Defend dissertation in 2022
- Retire in next 10-15 years
  - Continue to instruct as an adjunct at the college level
  - Consult with companies looking to improve safety management through improved leadership
  - Write a book on Safety Leadership
  - PLAY A LOT OF GOLF!!

**Advice to safety students:**

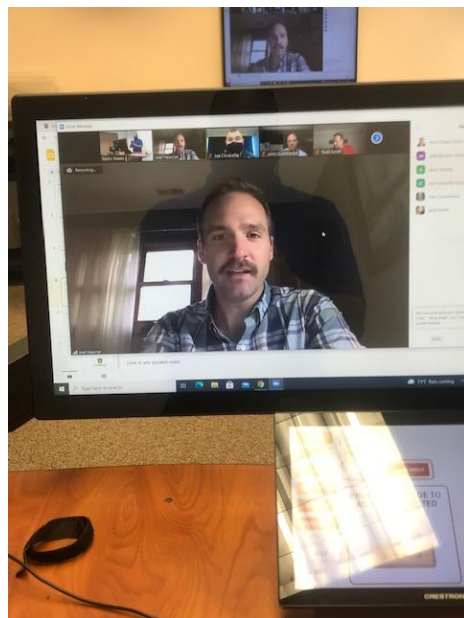
- Enjoy the profession. It will repay you ten-fold if you let it!
- Remember you do not and will never know everything related to safety but those successful will know how and where to find the answer. Don't be afraid to say, "I don't know, but I will find out."
- Safety is more than compliance. Build those relationships and learn how to use them to your advantage.
- Exercise your brain. You are not capable of filling it up!!
- Last, HAVE FUN! Safety professionals that have learned to have fun, build strong relationships, and can lead both up and down the chain, enjoy a career that doesn't feel like work!



# September ASSP Student Section Meeting Technical Speaker

By: Jennifer Dearman

During our September meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming our guest speaker, Joel Heavner. Mr. Heavner is a graduate student who has had a large impact on the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. He took the time to speak with us about the project he took part in that helped the community respond to the overwhelming effects of the pandemic. This included assisting willing individuals to find testing and vaccination locations to prevent overcrowding at single locations. Heavner also had a large part in organizing the set-up of some of these COVID-19 testing and vaccination locations. He was tasked with finding locations that would be both easily accessible to everyone and be an efficient location for testing and vaccinations. We would like to thank Joel for his service to the community during these difficult times and for his willingness to share these experiences with us!



Joel Heavner speaks via Zoom during the September meeting of the IU ASSP Student Chapter



Dr. Todd Smith speaks via Zoom during the September meeting of the IU ASSP Student Chapter

# August ASSP Student Section Meeting Wrap up

By: Emma Hoffman

To kick off our semester this year, our first ASSP technical meeting was held during the first week of classes on Wednesday, August 25th. At the meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming Greg Anderson, the new president of our parent chapter-Central Indiana American Society of Safety Professionals- as our technical speaker. As it was our first meeting, we began with introductions of all our new student officers as well as the attendees. We then went through some brief announcements and handed the floor to Greg. Greg spoke about a variety of things including his school background, career path, and CIASSP. To close the meeting, we had our student secretary, Hanna Dearman, give a presentation on the internship she completed over the summer at Stellantis / Kokomo Casting Plant. The meeting was a great success, and we look forward to keeping in touch and planning more events with our parent chapter in the future.



Mr. Greg Anderson, President of the Southern Indiana Chapter of the ASSP, speaks to viewers both in-person and via Zoom on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



## Good News!

- Jon Pitts, Safety Specialist at BMW located in South Carolina recently submitted a book report review to the American Society of Safety Professionals Professional Safety Publication. His critical review and analysis of the book, Lean Safety: Transforming Your Safety Culture with Lean Management was published in the fall edition of the publication.
  - Current student, Jenna Jungels accepted a position with Zenith Insurance. Jenna is currently completing her M.S. degree Safety Management at Indiana University.
  - Current student, Beverly Bewick accepted a position with Wabash as a Safety Specialist. Beverly is completing her M.S. degree in Safety Management.
  - Congratulations to Isaac Nieves for completing his internship at Tesla located in Fremont California. Isaac is completing his M.S. degree in Safety Management.
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## Winter Canned Food Drive



I hope this message finds you and your family in good health. As we return from the Thanksgiving break, please remember to abide by the CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid-19. As a result of Covid-19 many people are experiencing economic challenges. According to a recent

NBC report, up to 40% of people in the U.S. are living with food insecurity. The IU American Society of Safety Professionals Student Section is sponsoring a winter can food drive. Last year we collected over 85 pounds of canned items. All collected goods and nonperishable food items will be donated to Hoosiers Hills Foodbank located in Bloomington. Since many of you are not in Bloomington, I encourage you to consider making a donation to your local charity, pantry, or food bank.



## Did you Know...

*... that noise isn't the only culprit of hearing loss?*

**By: Patty Blair**



Safety professionals who focus on decibels alone in their efforts to prevent hearing loss might be doing themselves a great disservice. Known as ototoxic hearing loss, several common medications and chemicals can cause hearing loss or dysfunction of the inner ear. These substances are called 'ototoxic' because they are poisonous to the ear.

I first came across this information while entering a Safety Data Sheet for a commonly used chemical substance into the SDS system at my internship. The SDS mentioned that the chemical was classified as an ototoxic substance, meaning it could exacerbate the potential for hearing loss. According to the SDS, hearing loss could be experienced even if workers were not exposed to a time-weighted average of 85 decibels or higher during an 8-hour work shift; the level of decibels and time of exposure might be significantly less when working in conjunction with this chemical substance. I asked my mentor whether he was aware of this, as I was concerned that employees might not be fully protected from potential hearing loss when working with this chemical, and to my surprise my mentor had never heard of ototoxic hearing loss either.

My concern grew when I conducted some simple research via Google and found that the list of ototoxic substances also includes several common medications, which would render the accepted OSHA PEL for noise exposure inaccurate were an employee to be taking one of these medications while exposed to noise.

A scientific understanding of this phenomenon is far above my paygrade as an EHS Intern, but information can be found through the following link from the American Academy of Audiology, discovered during my initial Google search:

<https://www.audiology.org/consumers-and-patients/hearing-and-balance/ototoxicity/>

And Dr. Smith need not be disappointed – I did search for scientific, peer-reviewed articles on this topic. Although there are some, this certainly seems to be a topic that is highly relevant to the field of Safety and yet not highly researched within the field. For any Safety Professionals, both current and future, who are interested in investigating the causes of hearing loss, ototoxic hearing loss is certainly a topic that could use further research. Even for those not interested in conducting their own research, this is a relevant topic that should be considered during efforts to protect employees from hearing loss.

# Safety Word Search

X	S	Z	P	G	J	X	A	V	X	B	I	K	S	C
G	R	Q	N	R	U	Q	Z	F	D	N	X	C	T	O
A	C	C	I	D	E	N	T	R	S	Q	I	A	X	N
A	T	E	H	Z	Q	V	S	P	X	M	M	D	N	T
W	T	S	N	E	P	X	E	T	O	Z	D	N	O	R
C	G	Y	I	S	P	C	F	N	A	X	M	O	I	O
O	N	E	C	S	T	P	O	H	T	N	C	I	T	L
M	I	W	I	I	Y	G	Y	L	X	I	D	T	A	S
P	N	L	O	S	R	L	S	A	S	J	O	A	V	F
L	I	N	V	E	N	B	A	L	F	Q	A	N	R	I
I	A	H	G	O	B	A	R	N	V	Z	A	I	E	D
A	R	P	H	A	Z	A	R	D	A	A	H	M	S	Y
N	T	B	E	N	C	H	M	A	R	K	S	I	N	M
C	R	I	S	K	H	O	B	H	S	I	O	L	O	M
E	D	E	I	F	I	T	R	E	C	I	G	E	C	I

**Find the word in the puzzle.**

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

## Word Bank

Accident  
BBS  
Compliance  
CSP  
Hazard  
JSA  
Prevention  
Training

Analysis  
Benchmark  
Conservation  
Elimination  
Hazmat  
OSHA  
Risk

ANSI  
Certified  
Controls  
Ergonomics  
Inspection  
PPE  
Standard

# Social Media

Future student section meetings will be scheduled on the Zoom Meeting platform. Stay tuned for specific meeting dates and events. Join us on the following social media platforms.

**Like us on Facebook**

[Indiana University ASSP Facebook](#)

Follow us on Instagram @indianauniversityassp



[Indiana University ASSP](#)

[Central Indiana ASSP](#)

***Editor- Dr. Kevin Slates***

***Associate Editor- Patty Blair***