

Important Dates and Deadlines

Webinar: That Stinks! Investigating Odor Complaints	January 31
Call for Content Portfolio Advisory Group Volunteers Deadline	February 19
Webinar: Resume Building (1:00 p.m. EST)	February 21
Webinar: Graphene and Safe Nanomaterial Handling Practices	February 22
Call for Student Poster Abstract Proposals (AIHce EXP 2018) Deadline	February 28
Road Course: Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene	March 19-22
CEC Accepting Membership Applications Deadline	March 28
IOHA Registration Opens	March 30
AIHce EXP 2018	May 21-23
Leadership Workshop	July 20-22
Road Course: Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene	September 17-20
IOHA 2018	September 24-26
Future Leaders Institute	September 21-23
Road Course: Exposure and Chemical Monitoring—Beyond IH Fundamentals	October 15-17

OPPORTUNITIES

Call for Content Portfolio Advisory Group Volunteers **Deadline February 19**

Are you interested in helping to guide AIHA’s future content development initiatives? AIHA is looking for individuals to serve on the [Content Portfolio Advisory Group \(CPAG\)](#). This group advises the AIHA Board and staff regarding the association’s body of content on industrial hygiene and occupational and environmental health and safety.

Call for AIHce EXP 2018 Student Poster Abstract Proposals **Deadline February 28.**

This is your moment to shine—submit a [student poster abstract](#) for AIHce EXP 2018. Showcase your area of interest, demonstrate your expertise, the scope of work and research undertaken. Make your mark, expand your network, and increase the visibility of you, your mentor, and your institution. For more information or questions, please contact [Kathryn Christoe](#).

Call for AIHce EXP 2018 PDC Monitors

AIHce EXP’s pre-conference Professional Development Courses (PDCs) are in-depth, formal learning experiences designed to broaden knowledge, enhance technical competence, and provide practical tools and skills for the workplace. Monitors assist with administering the AIHce Professional Development Courses. As a monitor, you will be responsible for attendee sign-in, course announcements and assisting the instructor as needed. In return for your assistance, AIHce EXP will waive your PDC registration fee. [Assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis.](#)

CEC Accepting Membership Applications Deadline March 28

The AIHA Continuing Education Committee (CEC) is now [accepting self-nominations](#) for membership. The committee comprises 12 members who serve four one-year terms. The CEC's mission is to ensure quality educational opportunities that broaden knowledge, enhance technical competencies, and provide IHs with practical tools and skills. CEC members receive a variety of benefits, including free PDC registration(s) for auditing courses at AIHce EXP.

Now Accepting Future Leadership Institute Applications Deadline March 16

Ready to focus on strengthening your leadership skills? [Apply to participate in the Future Leaders Institute \(FLI\)!](#) The FLI program, being held at the [Marriott Marquis Washington, DC](#) from September 21-23, 2018, is designed to help you leverage your strengths and learn the best practices that make for effective managers and leaders. From strategic decision making to building networking skills, completing the FLI program will bring you closer to meeting your personal and professional goals.

Stephen C. Davis Future Leaders Institute Memorial Grant

The [Memorial Grant](#) provides up to \$1,000.00 USD in travel assistance to a maximum of four participants per cohort attending the AIHA Future Leaders Institute (FLI). To be eligible, attendees must live or work outside of the United States.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Each year, the volunteer community develops documents such as Fact Sheets, Guidance, and Position Statements. In 2017, the following documents were developed and approved by the AIHA Board of Directors:

- [Nanomaterial Stewardship](#) sponsored by the [Nanotechnology Working Group](#).
- [Health and Safety Issues in Natural Disasters](#) sponsored by the [Indoor Environmental Quality Committee](#), [Biosafety and Environmental Microbiology Committee](#), [Construction Committee](#), [Environmental Issues Committee](#), [Ionizing Radiation Committee](#), [Safety Committee](#), [Incident Preparedness and Response Working Group](#), and the Wildfire Project Team.
- [How to Improve the Safety Climate on Your Construction Site](#) sponsored by the [Construction Committee](#) and the [Leadership and Management Committee](#).
- [Community Lead Exposure of Children in Developing and Emerging Economies: Problems, Policies, and Solutions Based on Case Studies in Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia](#) sponsored by the [International Affairs Committee](#).

Criteria for Serving on an AIHA Volunteer Committee

Just a friendly reminder... only AIHA members in good standing can join/participate on a volunteer committee. If you are a committee member who has yet to pay your 2018 membership dues, [you will need to renew as soon as possible so as not to be terminated as an AIHA member and volunteer](#). If you are interested in a committee, but do not want to serve in an active role, you can join as a Corresponding Member, however you will not earn any CM points. Only active committee participation can earn CM points.

STUDENTS

Student Local Sections Council Newsletter

The 2017 Winter edition of the [Student Local Sections Council Newsletter](#) is now available. This quarterly newsletter is written by students for students just like you! This newsletter, as well as additional resources, can be found on the Student Local Sections [home page](#).

Call for AIHce EXP 2018 Student Poster Abstract Proposals **Deadline February 28.**

This is your moment to shine—submit a [student poster abstract for AIHce EXP 2018](#). Showcase your area of interest, demonstrate your expertise, the scope of work and research undertaken. Make your mark, expand your network, and increase the visibility of you, your mentor, and your institution. For more information or questions, please contact [Kathryn Christoe](#).

Save the Date Webinar: Resume Building

Join the [Student Local Section Council](#) and the [Career and Employment Services \(CES\) Committee](#) on **Wednesday, February 21 at 1:00 p.m. (ET)** to get insight and tips for building a well-developed, professional resume. Presenters are (or have been) hiring managers, and will use real-world experience by providing the do's and don'ts of resume building. Web links will be sent closer to the date. Keep an eye out for more details!

Catalyst—The New Online Community

Have you logged in and updated your profile in the new online community, [Catalyst](#)? Join the conversation, build community, and connect with your peers right now! Enter a place for knowledge exchange, content curation, idea incubation and professional networking with leaders and partners in your field.

AIHA LOCAL SECTIONS

AIHA Matching Funds for State Legislative and Regulatory Services

AIHA will provide matching funds to Local Sections who are interested in hiring a lobbyist/government relations firm to provide enhanced State legislative and regulatory services. Local Sections will be in charge, with the network of State government relations firms/lobbyists to be coordinated by Mark Ames, AIHA's Director of Government Relations, to help improve messaging and coordination between States and throughout the nation. Interested? Please contact [Mark Ames](#).

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Building a Dream: AIHA's Government Relations Initiatives

We have a grand vision at AIHA—the elimination of workplace illness. To turn this vision into reality, we'll need to influence public policy, for example, to provide the protections needed to minimize exposure to workplace hazards. Developing relationships with policy makers and establishing public policy priorities may not yield immediate results, but it's the only way to... [read the full article here](#).

New Public Policy Priorities for 2017–2018

Months of discussions, research, and debate have resulted in [AIHA's new Public Policy Priorities for 2017–2018](#). Many of these will look familiar to you, as we've been working on several of them for years, while others are more recent. It's also worth noting that the priorities are in no way meant to be an exhaustive list.

NATIONAL

Meet Alla Orlova, AIHA's New Director of Education

At AIHA, we're continually striving to bring you education opportunities designed with OEHS professionals in mind. Providing training solutions for every IH and OEHS professional requires someone dedicated to continuing education. We're lucky to have found a passionate educator to join the AIHA team as our new Director of Education. Alla Orlova has been a pioneer in... [read the interview here](#).

Catalyst—The New Online Community

Have you logged in and updated your profile in the new online community, [Catalyst](#)? Join the conversation, build community, and connect with your peers right now! Enter a place for knowledge exchange, content curation, idea incubation and professional networking with leaders and partners in your field.

Three Megatrends and Four Best Practices That Will Shape Your Business Future

[AIHce EXP 2018](#) will open with entrepreneur-turned-Forbes magazine editor-at-large, columnist, author, television commentator, private investor, and board director, [Rich Karlgaard](#), a respected forecaster who will offer a unique vantage point on the trends driving the business and economic climates.

Leadership Workshop

Leadership Workshop is slated to take place on July 20–22 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tysons Corner, Virginia. This workshop is for volunteer group secretaries, Student Local Sections President-elect and Local Sections President-elect who are new to their officer role. This is an invitational only event, so more details will be coming soon, including a registration link for the program. This year's event will be built around the popular *Strength Finders 2.0 Strengths-Based Leadership*.

AIHA and the Occupational Hygiene Training Association® (OHTA)

AIHA and the Occupational Hygiene Training Association® (OHTA), organizations that represent the world's foremost professionals in occupational and environmental health and safety, [recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding](#) that details several areas of future collaboration. AIHA and OHTA plan to build on current collaborative efforts to promote better standards of occupational hygiene practice throughout the world.

JOEH Selects New Editor in Chief

T. Renee Anthony, PhD, CIH, CSP, FAIHA, an associate professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, was selected by the Board of Directors of the JOEH, LLC to serve as the [new editor in chief](#), effective January 1.

IOHA 2018

The [11th Annual International Occupational Hygiene Association \(IOHA\) International Scientific Conference](#) is the must-attend conference for occupational hygiene professionals worldwide. The conference will be held at the [Marriott Marquis Washington, DC](#). The theme of IOHA Washington 2018 is "Bringing Better Health to Workers Worldwide." Registration for IOHA opens March 30.

I AM IH Web Series

Have you checked out the I AM IH web series, featuring IH professionals on the job? Meet [Robert Kirby, Michigan State Police](#) who tells us what being an IH means in light of his job; [Tim Paz, Architect of the Capitol in Washington, DC](#) walks us through his day as an IH ; and [Jessica Hauge, 3M](#) who fulfills 3M's continuous mission of "Bringing Science to Life" through her work as an IH professional.

A Special Message from Mary Ellen Brennan, AIHA Managing Director, Talent and Strategy

AIHA staff enjoys working with volunteer groups and the local sections toward advancing the mission of the profession. Staff and volunteers spend much time working together and forming relationships necessary to achieve common goals. A new Code of Conduct has been developed and will be communicated to the membership in the coming weeks and I want to provide some information on similar policies that govern AIHA staff.

There is commonality in the guiding principles for working with staff and volunteers. Generally, we seek to create a welcoming environment that fosters participation by all in their respective roles. As you have read in recent media coverage, situations can arise that create uncomfortable and unwelcoming environments, the most serious of which involve behaviors that offend others based on their gender, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation.

Sometimes these behaviors rise to the level of what is termed sexual harassment. Sexual harassment can take the form of either a direct overture such as a proposition or sexual advance or the creation of a hostile environment through comments or graphics of a sexual nature in a shared environment. We expect that AIHA volunteers will not make sexual advances toward AIHA staff. Further, we ask that AIHA volunteers do not use language that a reasonable person would find offensive. This type of language is unnecessary and unrelated to the subject matter.

Our policies require staff to report any incidents to AIHA management and that AIHA management will conduct a prompt and thorough investigation, taking immediate disciplinary action, if necessary. It is important to understand that AIHA's responsibility to create a work environment that is free of harassment extends to anyone with whom the employee is working, including not only other staff, but also members and volunteers, as well as vendors.

We have a policy for AIHA staff that states that staff is not required to and is discouraged from accepting purely social invitations from members and volunteers. Staff may attend AIHA-sponsored receptions and other events that include a social component, but they are discouraged from attending events such as meeting up for drinks or dinner or after-hours parties at conferences that are not sponsored by AIHA. We ask that individual boundaries that staff members may have for social contact with volunteers be respected. We also ask that staff be prudent in their consumption of alcohol at AIHA-sponsored events.

Larry Sloan, CEO and I bear the responsibility to ensure that staff is not placed in uncomfortable situations when they are acting as representatives of AIHA. The line between professional and personal relationships is often unclear, and thus we are very clear that no expectation of personal social interaction is expected.

I appreciate your support in creating an environment that is welcoming to all as we work together toward the awesome goal of protecting worker health.

OSHA

Hazard Alert Stresses Proper Use of Multi-Gas Monitors in Oil and Gas Operations

A [new hazard alert](#) developed through OSHA's alliance with NIOSH and the National Service, Transmission, Exploration and Production Network is intended to help workers in the oil and gas industry understand the proper use and capabilities of multi-gas monitors. The National STEPS Network is an all-volunteer organization comprising safety and health professionals in the oil and gas industry.

OSHA Adjusts Penalty Amounts for 2018

On January 2, civil [penalty amounts](#) for violations of workplace safety and health standards increased by two percent from last year. In accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, the Department of Labor is required to adjust penalties for inflation each year.

Employers Must Post Injury/Illness Summary

OSHA reminds employers of their obligation to post a copy of [OSHA's Form 300A](#), which summarizes job-related injuries and illnesses logged during 2017. Each year, between February 1 and April 30, the summary must be displayed in a common area where notices to employees are usually posted.

NIOSH

Police Officers at Risk for Exposures to Bloodborne Pathogens

An Ohio police department should adopt a comprehensive bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan to help protect officers from needlestick injuries and other potential exposures to bloodborne pathogens, NIOSH urges [in a new report](#) published by the agency's Health Hazard Evaluation Program.

National Occupational Research Agenda for Services

NIOSH announces the availability of a [draft NORA Agenda entitled National Occupational Research Agenda for Services](#) for [public comment](#). The first National Occupational Research Agenda for Services was published in 2009 for the second decade of NORA (2006-2016) and updated in 2013 and 2015. This draft is an updated agenda for the third decade of NORA (2016-2026).

California Occupational Safety and Health Standards

California Adopts New Rules to Prevent MSDs Among Housekeepers

The California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted on January 18 to [adopt new rules](#) intended to prevent musculoskeletal injuries among housekeepers in hotels and other lodging establishments such as resorts and bed and breakfasts. The rules are contained in a general industry safety order in a new section in Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations.