Safety Liaisons Bag Safety Recognition Awards

These 11 employees could be your co workers, your supervisor, or maybe even your neighbor! This pleasant, but persistent group continues to call you, e mail you, or visit you until you finally do what they want—acknowledge reading the latest edition of the renowned LSUS Safety Newsletter. These incredible men and women, known as Safety Liaisons, are responsible for distributing the Safety Newsletter as well as making sure that all staff, faculty, adjuncts, student workers, and Graduate Assistants in their area read and acknowledge it. If they fail at any aspect of this task, including submitting the proper number of acknowledgements by a predictably unrealistic deadline, they incur the wrath of the Safety Guy. For dutifully performing this most thankless of duties, they were recently awarded the coveted Safety Recognition Award. Next time you see a Safety Liaison, thank them for helping make our campus a safer place and then promise to promptly acknowledge all future Safety Newsletters!

Dr. Sisson recently presented the LSUS Safety Recognition Award to 11 Safety Liaisons.

Front Row, L to R: Sarah Seltz, Tisha Samhan, Aaron Suckle, Julie Atkinson
Back Row, L to R: Dr. Tim Winter, Dr. Jim Ingold, Dr. Sisson, Deloris Wright
Not Pictured: Dolly Salter, Dr. Bill Bigler, Dr. Jesse Demello, Darlene Player, Rene Pallay, Rebecca Chiles, Laura Upshaw,

Note that several Safety Liaisons are not smiling. This is probably because they are thinking about how to twist arms for the next round of Safety Newsletter acknowledgements. Hopefully they are not thinking about you!
The LSUS Safety Office recently conducted an extensive survey to find out where employees believed they were most likely to get injured. Among the responses were the Administration Building Parking Lot (at 4:29PM), Bronson Hall (bitten by a bat), and the UC during a Jungle Pong Tournament (see Note 1 below).

As the charts below illustrate, however, stairwells, hallways, and pot holes pose by far the greatest risk on our campus. Since 1/1/2012 there have been 24 reported accidents on LSUS which represents an increase from the previous year. Injuries requiring medical attention were down. (Read the Safety Guy’s take on this on page 3.)

(Note1: Per the "Urban Dictionary", the main difference from standard Ping-Pong is that players run around the table and instead of hitting the ball before it hits the ground, let it bounce on the ground once before hitting it back onto the table. Object is to be the last person standing. To the dismay of LSUS students, Jungle Pong is no longer permitted on campus. S.G.)

Tips for Preventing Slips and Falls

1. Pay attention—don’t use electronics while walking or using stairs
2. Wear appropriate footwear
3. Be aware of wet surfaces such as campus covered walkways
4. Take your time
5. When walking on the grounds, be alert of holes and other hazards
6. Report slip/fall hazards immediately—do not assume someone else will
I’d like to highlight a couple of articles from this Newsletter. First, a heartfelt thanks to all of our Safety Liaisons who four times a year must bear the burden of twisting arms to acknowledge the Safety Newsletter. Their efforts enable us to pass the annual attendance requirements from the Office of Risk Management. Should we be unable to achieve satisfactory acknowledgement rates of these Newsletters, we would be required to conduct quarterly live meetings and none of us wants to do that! There are however, two extra special recipients who are not pictured on the cover. First is Dolly Salter who has the distinction of being our first employee to receive the Safety Award more than once - guess she has earned the title of “Safest Employee on Campus”! Next is Janice Laird from Business Affairs who has the arduous task of entering all acknowledgements into a data base in order to properly calculate our attendance percentage. In addition to being very detailed and organized in this task, Janice must often be a code breaker to decipher signatures and PIDs. Hats off to both these ladies!

As the article on page 2 illustrates, the number of reported accidents/incidents is up from last year yet the number of injuries is down. As an expert safety analyst, the Safety Guy attributes this to improved reporting of accidents/incidents regardless of severity. Such reporting not only protects us from a liability perspective, but also provides data that allows the Safety Office to identify and correct high risk areas on campus. Please continue to report all accidents and incidents to the Campus Police regardless of severity. Remember to report automobile accidents also even if there is no apparent damage or injury.

Here is a good link for some Holiday safety tips: http://www.ksla.com/story/11701967/holiday-safety-tips

Lastly, have a very Merry Christmas and a safe Holiday Season—be careful on the road and be sure to use a designated driver when appropriate.

From the Safety Guy.....
LSUS offers two different types of supplemental retirement plans: 403(b) and 457(b) plans. Contributing to one of the Supplemental retirement plans is a great way to save additional money for retirement and lower your taxable income. The IRS contributions have increased for the 2013 year.

- 403(b) employee salary deferral limit: $17,500
- 457(b) employee salary deferral limit: $17,500
- 403(b) and 457(b) age 50+ catch-up limit: $5,500

A salary reduction form will need to be submitted to Human Resources to change 403(b) and/or 457(b) contributions. Employees may enroll at any time during the year or change contribution amounts at any time during the year. Please call Human Resources with any questions at 797-5279.

Best Wishes for the holidays from HR...we look forward to serving you in 2013!!

THEFT is prevalent during the holiday season. We have heard from many employees that they “wished they would have had a record of all of the contents of their wallet.”

Keep this inventory of items you carry in your wallet or purse in a safe place and take action immediately if your wallet or purse is stolen.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Banks or Credit Union</th>
<th>ATM/Checking Account Number</th>
<th>Phone numbers</th>
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<td>Credit Card Companies</td>
<td>Account Number</td>
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<td>Health Insurance Co.</td>
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<td>Auto Insurance Company</td>
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Don’t carry your social security card with you!