



# LSUS Faculty & Staff Complete CERT

18 LSUS Staff and Faculty members completed Campus CERT Training on December 18th at Louisiana Technical College in Shreveport.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training is a national program designed to train people in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Campus CERT training is focused on preparation for disasters such as a tornado, hazardous material spill, or armed intruder that may occur on or near campus.

CERT members are trained to assist following a disaster or event when professional responders may not be available to help. They are also encouraged to take an active role in emergency preparedness projects on campus and in the community.

Led by Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Mike Ferrell, the latest LSUS CERT graduates are Carl Anderson, Cindy Armstrong, Evelyn Brazzell, David Hays, Eli Henry, Pam Howard, Roy Harper, Jennifer LaPierre, Paula Lewis, Sharon Manson, Tracy McCray, Tulin Melancon, Alex Mitchell, Joe Pitz, Eddie Samhan, Tisha Taylor, and Bill Wolfe.



*LSUS Staff & Faculty pose with local first responders during Campus CERT training in December*

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### Safety Committee Members

- DeAnn Arnold, Risk Mgmt. Officer
- Don Bloxom, Director Facilities Services
- Rebecca Chiles, Director, Campus Police
- Dr. Cindy Sisson, Chair, Chemistry
- Dr. Tim Winter, Chair, Kinesiology and Health Sciences
- Bill Wolfe, Loss Prevention Coordinator
- Aaron Suckle, Director University Center

# Campus Vehicle Accidents Prove Light Poles Are Costly

Several campus drivers found out the hard way that vehicle accidents on campus can be costly

In the most serious accident, a student pulled out of the Bronson Hall parking lot directly in front of another vehicle which was traveling east on Ring Road. The resulting collision spun the student's vehicle around and caused it to knock down a large street light in the median. While the student was fortunate to only suffer minor injuries, the light pole was destroyed and both vehicles significantly damaged (see lower picture).

In another accident only weeks later, a student lost control of his vehicle and ran into another median light pole (see top picture). Although the student suffered minor injuries, damage to his vehicle was significant. In this accident, the light pole was not heavily damaged.



In yet another accident, a light pole was destroyed when a driver backed into it while unloading equipment in the vicinity of the HPE Building. Fortunately, no one was injured, but the light pole was destroyed.

According to LSUS Police Chief Rebecca Chiles, parking lots and roads are perhaps the most dangerous areas of campus. Chief Chiles added, "With the increased use of cell phones by drivers in and around campus, we have seen an increase in traffic incidents. Talking on a cell phone while driving is an extremely unsafe distraction".

Roadside light poles (valued at more than \$5000 each) were heavily damaged or destroyed by vehicles in 3 separate campus incidents in the past several months

**Avoid automobile accidents on campus by slowing down and staying alert on all campus roads and parking lots. Avoid using your cell phone and always be on the lookout for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other vehicles**

## Did You Know.....?

- \* In 2008, cost of employee injuries on LSUS was over **\$11,377.00**
- \* In 2008, damage caused by LSUS campus accidents totaled over **\$6,847.00**
- \* In 2008, slips and falls were the main cause of injuries on the LSUS campus
- \* In 2008, 7 people in Shreveport died in house fires
- \* In 2008, 1 in 3 drivers involved in fatal automobile accidents had consumed alcohol

# Safety Committee Notes

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The Campus Safety Committee consists of seven LSUS Staff and Faculty members from areas of campus most involved in meeting requirements of the State Risk Management Program. The Committee met on December 11 and discussed the following topics:

**Blood Borne Pathogen Training:** The Office of Risk Management has mandated that all LSUS employees receive some type of training on Blood Borne Pathogens at least every 5 years. For most employees, this is accomplished by taking an on line course found on the LSUS web site. As of January 10th, approximately 85% of all staff and faculty had completed the training.

**Campus HAZMAT Plan:** LSUS has been directed by ORM to implement a campus Hazard Communication Plan to address the safe manage-

ment of hazardous material across campus. The initial first step in development of the plan is to identify what hazardous materials are maintained on campus. The LSUS Loss Prevention Coordinator is currently working with all departments to develop an accurate HAZMAT inventory.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The committee expressed concern over the lack of a fully coordinated campus Emergency Preparedness Plan and recommended establishment of a committee to develop such a plan.

**Accident Reporting:** Two injury accidents were not properly reported to the LSUS Police, resulting in delay of Workman's Compensation benefits. All accidents should immediately be reported to Campus Police, regardless of severity.

## Report Incidents Promptly

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LSUS Policy requires all campus accidents or incidents, regardless of severity be reported to the Campus Police immediately. If the accident involves injury to a LSUS employee, Campus Police will provide guidance on obtaining medical treatment.

If you are injured, immediately contact your supervisor, even if you consider your injury insignificant.

Phone # for Campus Police: 455-5497 or #999

*All accidents or incidents should immediately be reported to the LSUS Campus Police, even if there are no injuries or damage*

## Slip and Falls Among Most Common Campus Injuries

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Even though slips, trips, and falls are very preventable, they account for almost 20% of all workman's compensation costs. 60% of falls happen on the same level while the remaining 40% are falls from height such as stairs or ladders.

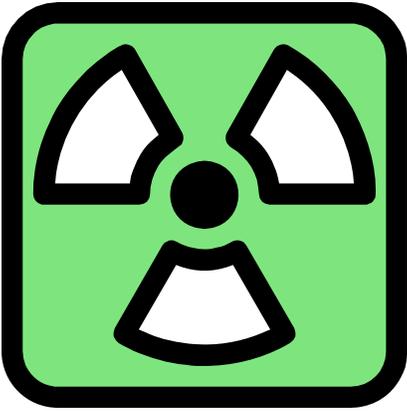
To avoid slips, wear proper footwear

and be mindful of slippery or uneven surfaces, loose cords, rugs, and clutter. Common causes of trips are poor lighting, clutter, and obstructed views.

Use caution on stairs, taking one at a time while using the hand rail for additional support if needed.



# LSUS Hazard Control Program



The Louisiana Office of Risk Management recently directed all state organizations maintaining hazardous materials to develop and implement a Hazard Control Program. At LSUS, this program will be coordinated by the Loss Prevention Coordinator. While the policy is still in draft form, it will require departments on campus who use or store hazardous material to maintain an inventory, maintain MSDS (Material Data Safety Sheets), conduct training for employees who handle hazardous materials, label and properly store HAZMAT inventories, and develop procedures for spills or other HAZMAT emergencies.

ORM defines a substance as “hazardous” if it is classified as either a “physical” hazard (flammables, explosives etc) or a “health” hazard (carcinogens, mutagens, etc) Physical hazards such as oxygen tanks, fuel, and paint thinner are easier to readily identify than health hazards which include substances such as lab chemicals and cleaning supplies . On LSUS, hazardous materials are located in, but not limited to custodial closets, maintenance shops, and laboratories.



In addition to providing the chemical composition of a substance, product labels provide detailed information concerning proper use, storage, and hazards of a hazardous material. Always read the label prior to use and never go “off label” by mixing or using something in a manner inconsistent with label instructions. The label will also dictate what Personal Protective equipment (PPE) must be worn when using the substance.

## Safety is Both an Individual and Shared Responsibility

Most organizations have a “safety guy” who is responsible for administration of the safety program. A common misconception is that only the safety guy is responsible for safety in the organization. In reality, safety is everyone’s responsibility and without sincere commitment from all members of the LSUS family, our safety program will not be first class.

Here are some tips on how you can help make LSUS safer:

- \* Do not ignore unsafe conditions or assume someone else will correct or report them.
- \* Read and understand our General Safety Rules
- \* Make suggestions and provide feedback on safety issues to the Loss Prevention Coordinator (bill.wolfe@lsus.edu)
- \* Look out for the safety of fellow employees and students
- \* Slow down, be careful, and stay alert



Quote of the Quarter:

**“You get the level of safety that you walk past”**

Unknown Safety Guy