



Safety Newsletter

LSU Shreveport

John Stevenson Earns Safety Award



Dr. Marsala presents John Stevenson, Facilities Services, the LSUS Safety Recognition Award.

Jon Stevenson from Facilities Services is the latest member of the LSUS community to receive the coveted Safety Recognition Award. While performing his duties, John noticed a red bio hazard bag that had been improperly discarded with regular trash. He immediately segregated the bag and reported it to his supervisor for proper disposal, preventing a possible fine for the university.

The Safety Recognition Award is given to any member of the LSUS family who helps make our campus safer. Nominations may be made to any member of the Safety Committee or directly to the Safety Guy in HR.

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN!

2012 Safety Committee

- Rebecca Chiles *Campus Police*
- Dr. Jesse DeMello *Kinesiology/Health Sciences*
- Aaron Suckle *University Center*
- Tulin Melancon *Continuing Education*
- Dr. Laura McLemore *Noel Library*
- Don Bloxom *Facilities Services*
- Dr. Kui Chen *Chemistry*
- Bill Wolfe *HR/Safety Guy*

NEWS UPDATE: Three years after a chemistry lab fire killed a 23 year old researcher at UCLA, felony charges have been filed accusing the university and a professor of willfully violating safety standards.

(source Chronicle of Higher Ed)

From the Safety Guy.....

I am frequently asked what I feel are the biggest safety risks to our campus. In responding, I consider the following three factors:

1. What is the likelihood of it happening?
2. How severe will the damage be if it does happen ?
3. How preventable is it?



Here is my “LSUS Top 3 Risks List”

1. Tornado:

Likelihood: We live in Louisiana....”nuff said”

Damage: Likely very severe property damage and potential loss of life.

Preventability: Not preventable. Proper preparation, however, can severely reduce injuries. Follow Tornado Procedures and require students to do also. Participate in drills

2. Laboratory Accident:

Likelihood: Somewhat unlikely. LSUS has recorded 3 lab accidents in the past 42 months, one of which was serious

Damage: Possibly very severe. Explosion may cause fatalities and serious property damage. Lawsuit is possible if negligence is involved.

Preventability: 100% preventable with training, supervision and adherence to university and departmental lab procedures. LSUS Policy Statement 3.08 addresses responsibilities for lab safety training and hazard communication

3. Slips and Falls:

Likelihood: Extremely likely—biggest cause of injuries to LSUS faculty, staff, students, and guests

Damage: Negligible property damage. Injury usually light to moderate with the possibility of serious injury. Strong possibility of a lawsuit.

Preventability: Not totally preventable, but risk can be reduced by reporting hazardous areas immediately and by being alert.

Here are two general tips for helping LSUS reduce risk and be a safer place:

- * Report all accidents and incidents IMMEDIATELY to the Campus Police even if there are no injuries
- * Report all safety hazards—don’t assume someone else will (you “might” win the coveted LSUS Safety Award!)

Tornado Season is Here!

While large hurricanes may get more publicity, tornados in the United States are far more lethal. For the last 30 years, US deaths from hurricanes have averaged about 30, while fatalities from tornados in the US averaged around 70 annually.

Should LSUS be endangered by a tornado, a warning will be broadcast via the campus wide intercom system. General procedures during a tornado are:



- MOVE TO A GROUND FLOOR CENTER HALLWAY
- DO NOT GET INTO A VEHICLE
- STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS
- WAIT FOR THE ALL CLEAR



Tornados Kill !

Which is Safer...DUI or Driving On Phone?

How much cash do you suppose you would have if you received one dollar for every automobile crash in a single year that involved a driver using a cell phone or texting? According to the National Safety Council you would receive \$1,600,000.00!

Researchers at the University of Utah found:

- Motorists who talked on cell phones drove slightly slower, were 9% slower to hit the brakes, displayed 24% more variation in following distances when their attention switched between driving and talking, were 19% slower to resume normal speed after braking, and were more likely to crash. *Three study participants hit the pace car!* All were talking on cell phones. None were drunk.

- Drivers drunk at the .08% level drove a bit more slower than both undistracted drivers and drivers using cell phones. However, drunk drivers were more aggressive. They followed the pace car more closely, were twice as likely to brake only 4 seconds before a collision would have occurred, and hit their brakes with 23% more force. "Neither accident rates, nor reaction times to vehicles braking in front of the participant, nor recovery of lost speed following braking differed significantly" from undistracted drivers according to the researchers.

Section B: Human Resources

Retirement Changes Proposed



Multiple bills are being considered this session in the Legislature that propose changes to state retirement systems. These bills affect LSUS employees in both the Louisiana State Retirement System (LASERS) and Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). More information on these proposals may be found at the following links:

TRSL: <http://www.trsl.org/main/>

LASERS: <http://www.lasersonline.org/site.php?pageID=264>

As a state employee, you are free to express your personal opinion on these proposals as well as contact your elected officials, but must be off duty or on authorized leave when you do so.

HR Partners with Staff Senate for Brown Bag Luncheon



The Staff Senate and Human Resources will sponsor a "brown bag" lunch presentations during Common Hour on April 25th. The topic will be "Things to Consider When Planning Your Retirement" presented by Amanda Hayes and Peter Hays from Campus Federal Credit Union. Grab your lunch and come join us on Wednesday April 25th in BE 107 to get tips on preparing for your retirement.



Remember to complete the mandatory on line State Ethics Training and sent a copy of the Completion Certificate to HR by March 30th. The training is found at the following link:

<http://eap.ethics.la.gov/EthicsTraining/login.aspx>

Student Workers...

- should maintain full time status
- may not begin work until I-9 Form is completed at HR
- may not work more than 20 hours per week in spring and fall

