

Chapter Chat

Niagara Frontier Chapter, ASSE • March 2018

www.nfasse.org

NFASSE Members-Only Meeting

Thursday, March 1, 2018 • 12 PM to 1 PM

Danforth Training Center, 200 Colvin Woods Parkway, Tonawanda, NY 14150



All members are strongly encouraged to attend this important meeting. Lunch will be provided at no charge.

This June the American Society of Safety Engineers will be changing its name to the American Society of Safety Professionals. As a chartered chapter of the ASSE, we need to revise our Chapter By-Laws to reflect this name change. Anytime the By-Laws are modified, the membership must vote on the change.

This name change also gives us the opportunity to make an additional modification in the By-Laws. Chapter leadership has proposed reducing the term length of elected positions from two years to one year. *(In December 2017, an email was sent providing the reasoning for this change; it is re-printed on the next page in the blue box.)* **At this March 1st meeting, Chapter members will be asked to vote on both of the proposed changes to the By-Laws.**

After the vote, Brett Carruthers will speak about the benefits of being an ASSE member. We've learned that some members may not be aware of all that the benefits ASSE has to offer to safety professionals. Also, Nick Getty will speak about the Construction Section and how members can benefit from attending their meetings. Finally, Karen Peissinger will speak briefly about volunteer opportunities within the Chapter.

Please make plans to attend this important meeting and support your Chapter.

President's Message

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*From Ryan Knoph,
NFASSE President*

I would like to encourage all of you make plans now to attend the Western New York Safety Conference to be held April 25 & 26 at the Seneca Events Center in Niagara Falls. This is a great opportunity to hear from dynamic leaders, see innovative safety products and network with your peers. For more information, go to: www.wnysc.com.

You may know that my presidency will be coming to a close in July, and Karen Peissinger will take up the reins as the new President. Although several months away, we are planning now for the transition. If you want to be involved in your Chapter or have any new ideas, please contact me at president@nfasse.org. Thank you!

Call for presentations and speakers for the 3rd Annual Genesee Valley & Finger Lakes Region EH&S Conference, Dec. 5th, 2018

(This conference is presented by our neighboring ASSE Chapters.)

Presenting at the GV & FL Region EH&S Conference is a terrific way to share new and exciting information and network on topics of mutual concern in the EH&S field. You will be part of an established learning experience and share best practices and the latest information on EH&S trends and technologies.

We need your help to develop and present the quality educational content that our past attendees have come to expect, and to deliver practical and technical information everyone can use.

Proposals for presentations will be accepted through April 1, 2018. For more information, please email gvscpsc@gmail.com.

*A message from
Cassandra Kern, Masters Student, Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, University at Buffalo*

“Hello, I am a NIOSH Fellow working on my Masters of Industrial Engineering at UB. I am conducting a study for my thesis to understand how current work policies are implemented and what guiding principles are used to create these practices related to universal design, health, safety, ergonomics or another related field. If you qualify, a 30-60 minute interview may be conducted with questions such as: What activities do you do that are related to health and safety? Who have you interacted with when planning or implementing policies? If you may be interested, please email me at: udframeworkstudy@gmail.com.”

Call for newsletter content!

Please email articles and announcements for the newsletter to Karen Peissinger (karenpei@buffalo.edu).

Explanation of proposed Chapter By-Laws changes
(reprinted from 12/04/18 email)

As many of you are aware, the membership of ASSE voted to change the name of our organization to the American Society of Safety Professionals, ASSP. The name change is scheduled to go into effect with the opening of the annual conference in June 2018 in San Antonio, Texas.

There are many logistics that need to be addressed before the name change can become a reality. One of them is updating our NFASSSE chapter by-laws to reflect this name change. That our by-laws will be updated gives us the additional opportunity to consider other changes to them that are unrelated to the name change.

One of the changes the NFASSSE leadership would like the membership to consider is the terms of service of the President, President-elect and Secretary/Treasurer. Currently, a leadership volunteer serves two years for a position and is encouraged to advance on a track from Secretary/Treasurer to President-elect to President. **We propose making the term of service one year for each of the three positions**, for a total commitment of three years if the volunteer continues on the leadership track.

The reason we are proposing this change is we believe reducing the time commitment may be more appealing to potential leadership volunteers. Over the past several years, the number of individuals that have nominated themselves for Secretary/Treasurer (and the six-year commitment) have been few to none. It is important for the viability and health of our chapter to have a pool of volunteers who are able to commit to leading our chapter now and in the future.