AIHA: Leading the Charge to Protect Worker Health & Safety

March 2, 2020

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AIHA Organization Structure
2019-21 AIHA Strategic Plan

Our Mission - Empowering those who apply scientific knowledge to protect all workers from occupational hazards

Our Vision – A world where all workers are healthy and safe
2019-21 AIHA Strategic Plan

1. Community
2. Awareness
3. Advancement / Dissemination of Knowledge
4. Integrity of IH Practice
5. Advocacy
Content Portfolio Advisory Group (CPAG)

**New Project Ideas: Evaluation Process**
- Recommend Content Priorities to the Board & facilitate their implementation.
- Ensure projects align with content priorities or fill gaps.

**Existing Materials: Portfolio Analysis**
- Review existing content & make product lifecycle recommendations.
- Solicit proposals for new products to fill identified portfolio gaps.

**Environmental Scanning: New Content**
- Shepherd content development in existing priority areas.
- Scan IH profession & develop new content based on future trends & challenges.
Future Trends Impacting I.H. (2019 Environmental Scan)

- **Rejection of Expertise**
  - Growing skepticism of expertise (including scientific)

- **Anticipatory Intelligence**
  - Predictive analytics will be used to anticipate needs, opportunities and threats in the environment

- **Dark Data**
  - Rapidly accumulated data that is rarely used (IBM estimates that 90% of sensor data accumulated is never used)

- **Fast Data**
  - Emphasis on real time decision; processing and acting on the data with speed creates value

- **Personalized AI**
  - Increasing proliferation of sensor technology, wearables and human-machine hybrid work

- **More Human Humans**
  - Accelerating speed of change and continual needs for retraining, adapting to new technologies, relating to people
CPAG
Current Content Priorities (2020–2025)

1. Exposure Banding
2. Big Data and Sensor Technology
3. Total Exposure Health
4. Serving the Changing Workforce
5. Communicating IH Concepts
1. Exposure Banding

Why?

The continued addition of chemicals & other exposure hazards impacting the community & workplace far exceeds the capacity of the environmental health community to develop exposure level guidelines.
Exposure Banding

How does it impact the IH profession?
IH’s are often left with few resources to help evaluate exposures & make appropriate risk management decisions using current/traditional methods.

Focus of Content Priority
This priority focuses on educating IH’s on how to apply banding concepts in evaluating exposures & controls across environments, & on exploring how they relate to technological advancements involving integrated decision-making.
Vision Statements

• AIHA in partnership with NIOSH is educating, training, & creating tools for OHS professionals to excel & understand the importance of utilizing Exposure Banding (EB) in their exposure risk assessments.

• IH & allied professionals (e.g., Product Stewards, Occupational Health Nurses & Doctors) develop & actively use practical guidance for application of EB in their professional practice.
2. Big Data and Sensor Technology

Why?

New applications of sensor technologies are allowing for the faster collection & communication of data across a broader set of agents. In addition, advancements in data analysis & Artificial Intelligence (AI) are combining formerly disparate data sets and automating decision-making.
Big Data & Sensor Technology

How does it impact the IH profession?
Technological advancements & developments will fundamentally alter the role of health & safety professionals

Focus of Content Priority.
This priority focuses on helping IH professionals leverage cutting-edge technologies for collecting & integrating data to inform risk assessment & management decisions, & to stay relevant in the face of transformative change.
Vision Statements:

- AIHA members are leveraging cutting edge sensor technologies & data management functions to inform risk assessment & management decisions.

- AIHA members understand & possess competencies in the application of sensor technologies & "big data" analytics to provide an integrated profile for hazards and exposures.
Vision Statements (cont’d):

• AIHA members have software platforms that use standardized data criteria & tools that facilitate the transfer of data & use of data repositories.

• AIHA members have a collaborative Data Dictionary & Database with NIOSH to collaboratively upload & share data.
3. Total Exposure Health

Why?

Human health outcomes are being recognized as the result of complex interaction of factors including exposure to environmental agents, socioeconomic stressors, personal behaviors, & individual genomics.
Total Exposure Health

How does it impact the IH profession?
Advancements in science & technology are allowing for more robust collection & integration of exposure to environmental agents, socioeconomic stressors, personal behaviors, & individual genomics to inform interventions & decision-making.

Focus of Content Priority.
This priority focuses on ensuring IH professionals are positioned to be valued participants in this discourse (e.g., Total Worker Health, Exposomics, Total Exposure Health). We are recognized as pre-eminent experts in the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, & control of exposures to environmental agents in the workplace, home & community.
Vision Statements:

- IH Professionals understand how occupational & non-occupational exposures combine to affect health outcomes & are engaging IH skill-sets in assessing all exposures & their integration for overall exposure.

- IH Professionals are recognized as exposure science experts that anticipate, recognize, evaluate, & control all exposures that combine to impact human health.

- IH Professionals are valued partners collaborating with other scientific communicates on initiatives involving integration of exposure data with other determinants of human health (e.g. Total Worker Health, Exposome, Total Exposure Health).
4. Serving the Changing Workforce

Why?

People are increasingly engaging in non-traditional work arrangements such as gig work, contract work, telecommuting & working for multiple employers. In addition, the workforce is aging, raising issues around health, chronic disease, & information processing; coupled with global economic shifts & migration.
Serving the Changing Workforce

How does it impact the IH profession?
Changes in the engagement in non-traditional work arrangements shows that these changes will significantly impact the evolution of occupational & environmental health concerns & how they are managed.

Focus of Content Priority.
This priority focuses on educating IH’s on the circumstances driving these changes, the implications they will have, & how the IH community can respond to protect human health in the workplace & community.
Serving the Changing Workforce

Vision Statements:

• IH Professionals are aware of the importance of non-traditional exposure profiles (i.e., multiple employers, gig work, telecommuting).

• IH Professionals are aware of the changing workforce (i.e., aging, chronic disease).

• IH Professionals are aware of the causes that are shaping changes in the workforce (global economic shifts, migration) to better understand implications of the changes.
5. Communicating IH Concepts

Why?

There is an increasing growth & diversification in information sources & communication channels is continuing to dilute the influence of science-based expertise.

At the same time, public skepticism toward traditional experts is growing in the face of unresolved concerns & perceived biases as various advocacy groups leverage scientific systems for their benefit.
Communicating IH Concepts

How does it impact the IH profession?
Trends coupled with technological advances around data analysis & Artificial Intelligence in the IH profession where the challenge is to further diminish the reliance on scientific expertise.

Focus of Content Priority.
This priority focuses on developing the “soft skills” of IHs to listen, relate, communicate & collaborate effectively with a broad spectrum of stakeholders in order to promote the influence & value of the IH profession in the modern social-technological landscape.
Communicating IH Concepts

Vision Statements:

• AIHA develops education and content to support the value of IH professionals in communication with Management, the C-suite, & the community.

• AIHA products strive to reflect consideration of the content priorities.

• AIHA identifies how IH Skills in Enterprise Risk Management demonstrate value of the profession.
AIHA is in process of surveying its members to identify technology-based tools, as well as explore new education on technology-based topics:

- New mobile device apps for IH/OH professionals
- Embedding IH/OH information into digital assistants (e.g. Siri, Alexa)
- Awareness, acceptance, and use of technological tools related to Big Data, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence
- New, more efficient/effective ways to deliver AIHA created content to IH/OH professionals
Attn: All CIHA Attendees
AIHA’s Virtual Section

• It offers you an opportunity to network and boost your professional growth no matter where you are located
  – Trustworthy advice and feedback
  – Diversity, inclusion, and innovation
  – Latest trends and industry-related news

• You are eligible to join the virtual section without AIHA national membership for only $10 per year.
Benefits of Virtual Section

• Digital *Synergist* magazine, the *Synergist Weekly* and *Synergist Newswire* e-newsletters, and *SynergistNOW*

• Three (3) professional development educational offerings per year with access to archived offerings

• A dedicated community section on *Catalyst*, AIHA’s online community

• Coffee talks and opportunities to network with other occupational health and safety professionals

• Mentoring and personal one-on-one interaction with industry thought leaders
Thank You for Listening!