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Otterbein Environmental Health & Safety Update

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EH&S UPDATE

Otterbein's Environmental Health & Safety Recent News

Fall 2016

Collaboration, Dedication and Incredible Passion Creates Opportunity to Train and Learn From Each Other!

Otterbein held its first live active shooter drill with both Police and EMS responding. This drill was coordinated by Otterbein's Environmental Health & Safety Officer, Tara Chinn, with support from Westerville Police officers John Jefferies, and Westerville Paramedic Ben Emery. The drill was designed for the first shift responders to hone in and sharpen their skills for responding to such a tragic event, if one should ever occur. The scenario was a violent shooter attack in Towers; causing several injuries and several fatalities. Thanks to all the volunteers (pictured below) that played various roles in the scenario; the drill was made realistic. Westerville Police Department also provided the assailant (Dan Pignatelli), a safety officer (Dave King) and an evaluator (Brian Schwartz). The wounds and injuries were created by Otterbein's Malouge Specialist, Stephanie Justice, who also is Otterbein's Nursing Lab Coordinator. Stephanie played a large role in making the magic happen, by transforming the volunteers into victims of a violent crime. There will be two more drills coming soon to support the training of both the 2nd shift and 3rd shift responders as well, with drills of similar magnitude. All of the officers also received training in tactical trauma response, to help ensure safety to the officers during their response (so that they can go home safe at the end of the day) if they ever have to respond to such a tragic event.

The police have taken the lead in preparing for yet another emergency event, just like we do for fires, chemical spills, tornados and others. Everyone needs to know what to do in the event of an Active Shooter, so if you haven't already done so, everyone should participate in active shooter training. There are many sessions offered, simply check with OPD and they will let you know when there is one that you can attend.

If you would like to participate in any of the live drills, Tara is always looking for volunteers, simply send her an email (tchinn@otterbein.edu) and she will help you get involved! The next drill is scheduled for January 5, 2017.



Pictured left to right: Officer Jason Abramski, Officer Andy Ratliff, EH&S Officer Tara Chinn, Chief Larry Banaszak, and Deputy Chief Rick Tiburzio.



Highlighted Safety Team Member And safety updates to the Fritsche Theater!

Our highlighted member for the Fall newsletter is **Patrick Stone**. As you can see in the photo below, Patrick teaches with GUSTO, the only way that he knows how. Patrick has been the Faculty Technical Director for Otterbein's Theatre and Dance Department since 2014. Starting on day one, he made it his mission to ensure that the Otterbein scene shop and venues are efficient, modern and above all safe. Stone joined the University Safety Team immediately upon arriving at Otterbein. Since then, he has been leading the charge on safety improvements in the department's spaces and taking the necessary steps to help ensure that they are brought to current industry safety standards. Stone has 34 years of carpentry experience, 22 years of scenic construction experience, and 14 years working with overhead rigging systems, so upon his arrival to campus, he was quick to identify a number of priority projects for the Theatre Department. In the past 2 years, Stone has been busy. In addition to teaching, overseeing the creation of scenic elements for 16 productions, and serving as one of the department's admission recruiters, Stone proactively made great progress in the realm of safety.



- * With the knowledge and guidance of the Campus EH&S Officer, Tara Chinn, a safety grant request for a scissor lift was submitted to the the State of Ohio and approved. The new lift will allow for theatre work processes that are compliant with regulations set by OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration), all while making the process of hanging and focusing lights faster and safer for the lighting crew.
- * In the summer of 2015, the metal shop saw extensive improvements including the creation of a gas bottle storage system, installation of machinery guards, and layout updates for improved worker flow. With the recent updates, the metal shop is now compliant with OSHA standards.
- * In December of 2015, under Stones' direction, the department authorized and requested the first outside professional rigging inspection on record since the construction of Cowan Hall in 1951. The resulting report outlined steps that should be taken to ensure safe operation of The Fritsche Theatre's overhead rigging system moving forward: training needs, material storage updates, and structural updates. Since the report, Stone has been working with Light and Sound Supervisor, "Doc" Davis to delineate and oversee the implementation of a new training protocol. Stone has also addressed material storage issues and submitted a formal capital request for updates that would bring the rigging system to modern industry standards.
- * Stone also has developed a multi-year plan for overall shop maintenance and improvements to increase efficiency; reduce clutter and tripping hazards; and ensure that the shop is a fun, safe, and relatively clean place to work. Recent improvements include the construction of a "piano garage" (piano storage), updated metal storage, and freshly painted walls.
- * Stone also has applied for funding and is working toward becoming an Entertainment Technician Certification Program (ETCP) Certified Rigger.

Some fun facts about Patrick are that his favorite drywall screw is 1 5/8 inch, and he believes that all band saws are angry! As you can see Patrick serves the campus safety team well, and we love having his participation on the Campus Safety Team!

Safety Team Members: Tara Chinn, Scott Fitzgerald, Larry Banaszak, Rick Tiburzio, Jason Abramski, Jay Cronin, Erin Ulrich, Carrie Hayes, Jim Shrewsbury, Skip Ford, Emma Heald, Kari Briggs, Elizabeth Saltsgiver and Patrick Stone

Otterbein Receives two Safety Grants

Thanks to the dedicated hard work of the Otterbein Safety Team members, Otterbein was able to secure two safety grants through the State Bureau of Workers Compensation Office Safety Intervention Program. The first grant was awarded in August of 2016, supporting the purchase of a powered industrial truck (PIT) for the Service Department, which was officially implemented for use on campus on November 4, 2016. After receiving official training on the PIT, Eric Gibson, pictured to the right assisted with the implementation of use by changing light ballasts in the Memorial Stadium parking area. The new PIT will increase safety practices, help reduce the possibility of injuries, as well as save the Facilities Department money on the rental of such equipment each year. The lift will be used to reach work areas located at or in elevated spaces both inside and outside of Otterbein buildings. The lift also helps to make completion of the work tasks more time efficient.

A second grant was awarded on November 2nd, also from the State Intervention Program to purchase a scissors lift that will allow for the theater department to accomplish lighting procedures and changes in a more efficient and safer manner than they currently can do. This equipment will be purchased soon to support the theater lighting crew!



American Heart Association Celebration of the Rescue Project!

The Risk Management Office celebrated the “Heart Rescue Project” this year in the Business Office. This is a project established by the American Heart Association to promote the knowledge that CPR saves lives! The project encourages bystander CPR chest compressions. With chest compressions, there is a greater likelihood for both survival and survival with positive neurological outcomes for people who receive CPR from a bystander.

The Environmental Health & Safety Officer offered bystander CPR sessions to all of the Business Office Employees to support this great program. Anyone can be faced with a situation where they might be able to save someone, this training gives you the skills and confidence to do so!

If any other offices on campus are interested in having bystander CPR training, email tchinn@otterbein.edu.



November and December: Fall Fire Safety

Cooking and Heating Safety Awareness

Information from: Campus Firewatch.com

Although Otterbein and most campuses celebrate Campus Fire Safety Awareness in September, it is important that Fire Safety is remembered all year long! So, to keep fire safety always in our fore thought we have two Fall Fire Safety Themes for November and December: The first theme is [Cooking Fire Safety](#). Cooking is by far Otterbein's largest contributor to fire alarms set on campus. Unattended cooking leads to 67% of home fires. During the cooking fires, clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of the fires, but these incidents accounted for 16% of cooking fire deaths. It is important to note that 3 out of 5 reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves. Always notify the fire department if you have a fire and be aware that fire extinguishers are to help you escape as needed or to extinguish small fires, but if a fire is not extinguishing quickly, you are not a fire fighter, so get out of the house safely.

Always keep an eye on what you fry!

Always be alert when cooking!

Keep things that can catch fire away from the cooking area!



[Heating](#) is the second Fall Fire Safety Theme. It is getting cold outside, and the portable heaters will be a hot item in the office and residential areas of campus. On average there are 100 home heating fires in the US each year, resulting in approximately 150 deaths, 575 injuries and \$326 million in property loss. Heating was the second leading cause of home fires following cooking! Be sure to always turn your portable heaters off when you go to bed or leave your office area. When using the heaters keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from the heater in all directions. **Always plug your portable heater directly into a wall outlet. Never use extension cords!**

Otterbein's EH&S webpage on the ozone offers a [Fire Safety Training Module](#) (co-created with the Otterbein's EH&S Officer and the Westerville Fire Department).

