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President's Message:

On behalf of the NM ASSP Executive Committee, Thank You for your participation and flexibility over the last several months. We are all working diligently to redefine the new "normal" for our Chapter moving

forward. We are proud to stand together and support each other through our community of ES&H professionals. We have been exploring how to continue to support you through access to free CEUs, web-based technical meetings,

and how to responsibly phase back into in-person functions. Thank you to the wonderful group of volunteers on our Executive Committee, Sections Leaders, and Advocates. You as members are our greatest resource.



Personal Return-to-Work Considerations

The COVID-19 shutdown started while colleges were releasing students on the annual Spring Break for a well-earned retreat from rigorous college life. Personally, I learned about the oncoming tidal wave of the national shutdown in the Atlanta airport on the way to meet my two PhD student daughters in Asheville, North Carolina. As the shutdown rolled through state-to-state, many of us were sent home to continue our jobs as telecommuters...as Safety/ES&H Professionals, many of us were identified as critical staff for supporting continued operation of essential business.

At some point, the current COVID isolation will be normalized, and employees will be returning to work—in some form or fashion. Business critical decisions for returning to work will necessitate input from Safety/ESH Professionals to help understand and implement the CDC's Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), May 2020 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>).

We may be asked to assist in a range of activities, ranging from the preparation of a Return-To-Work Plan to physically setting up an employee health monitoring process to help prevent the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus.

As we help, the human side of returning to work is an important consideration. As our coworkers return, consideration for everyone's experience during the past months should be on the forefront of our efforts. Some workers may be motivated to return to a "normal" work environment and move beyond the COVID-19 experience. Other workers may be hesitant to return to work for many reasons. Consideration for what our coworkers have dealt with over these months—from COVID-19 recovery or loss of a loved-one to loneliness from self-isolation or concern for their own health

upon returning to work. Even those workers motivated to return to work, anxiety over changes to the work environment necessitated in response to COVID-19 may occur. Many workers may have anxiety over health monitoring whereas others may have anxiety over social distancing in the work environment. And likely workers will continue to have anxiety over contracting COVID-19 upon return.

Consider developing your own philosophy as a leader in the workplace that involves management, supervisors, and workers—always treat workers with dignity and respect. You will need to have positive interactions with workers to help assure them of a safe work environment as they return to work. Our leadership will help redefine normalcy in the workplace and help workers return to work and businesses to reopen as smoothly as possible.

Tim Stirrup, REM, CHMM, ASP

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<https://nm.assp.org/>

for job postings and more!

Executive Committee Updates

Thank you to everyone who attended the May ASSP Technical Meeting held via Zoom. We appreciate your flexibility and willingness to participate as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

In addition to our Technical Presentation, we also held elections for the 2020-2021 ASSP Term. Our unopposed officer slate was passed unanimously by the membership present on the Zoom meeting. Please help us welcome the 2020-2021 NM ASSP Executive Committee!

- President: Marc Evans CSP (incumbent)
- President-Elect: Bill White RSP SHEP CSHO (incumbent)
- Vice President: Tim Riley CEP CSP PMP (newly elected)
- Treasurer: Mario Hidalgo CSP (newly elected)

- Secretary: Gary Wright CSP (incumbent)
- Membership: Jessica Bolduc CIH CSP CHMM (newly appointed)
- Newsletter Editor: Andrea Heacock-Reyes (appointed incumbent)
- Delegate: Mario Hidalgo CSP (incumbent)
- Delegate: Kelsey Forde CIH CSP CHMM (incumbent)

Additionally, we would like to recognize those individuals who have served on the 2019-2020 NM ASSP Executive Committee and will be closing out their tenure this year.

- Mike Starr CSP CIH CHMM OHST (Outgoing Treasurer)
- Chuck Atwood CSP (Outgoing Delegate)

Look for our June Newsletter (and website updates), where we will provide a more in-depth introduction to the incoming 2020-2021 NM ASSP Executive Committee.

Connect with NM ASSP Chapter Members via LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter along with the NM ASSP Website & Newsletters to stay up to date on all the latest NM ASSP news!

Join us for the June Technical Meeting & Happy Hour via Zoom on Thursday, June 11th @ 5:30pm. Join us for *Housekeeping at Your Place of Work*, led by Delegate Chuck Atwood CSP and facilitated by President Kelsey Forde CIH CSP CHMM.

Visit the NM ASSP Website for registration and meeting details.

<https://nm.assp.org/events/june-virtual-technical-meeting/>

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