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From The Director

The ISHM organization has a small staff of dedicated professionals determined to provide the best possible service. The members can help by automating the update contact information and payment process.

By going to ishm.org, far right menu item 'log in'. click on this and complete the registration
process. You can then update your information, check invoices and make payments. It is secure easy and painless. Please read the article later in this newsletter by Felicia which outlines some issues and workarounds.

Time is running out to apply for this year's ISHM Safety Professional Manager of the Year award. Get them coming!!!!

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**Safety Management Professional of the Year**

Applications for the 2014 Professional of the year are due in the ISHM offices NLT August 15, 2014. Time is running out!

The award will take place in San Diego on September 14th.

Follow this link to get started


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**Thinking about getting a master's degree? Here are some things to consider.**

The undergraduate journey is filled with hills and valleys. It may begin with an associate's degree or a full run into a four-year bachelor's program. No matter the start, the end is a much celebrated bachelor's degree that opens up industry knowledge and promotional opportunities.

After the celebration with family or a promotion, there is another question many students are asking. Should I now do a master's degree?

The answer more students today are saying is, "Yes!"

Exploration of a master's program can be viewed as an adventure, with the following points of review for consideration:

- timeline of readiness for graduate studies
- selection of the subject to be studied (is it outside the bachelor's experience)
- research and selection of a graduate school
- identifying the best format (online, hybrid, traditional)
- identification of goals to be achieved upon graduation

The National Center for Educational Statistics, during reporting years 2011-2012, noted more than 750,000 master's degrees were conferred for students in a multitude of fields.
These findings, outlined in the Digest of Educational Statistics, showcase the sharp increase in master's degree earners. They have more than doubled from the reporting years 1990-1991.

For many students, entrance into graduate school is just the next pre-planned step. However, for some, this is an opportunity that may have not been considered before. Students have more opportunities to be successful in graduate school today than ever before. Advances in online education for example, have opened up the possibility of attending graduate school, while maintaining full-time employment. The ability to identify personal readiness is important in consideration of a graduate degree, no matter the enrollment style. The degree requirements may be fewer, but the writing and scholarly demands will be greater. Confirmation of readiness can be made with a plan including family, friends, the workplace and outside activities like volunteering. Being mentally prepared for the rigor and time of a graduate program is a giant step towards success.

After consultation and review, if graduate school is now is the plan, the selection of a subject is paramount. Factors for consideration are:

- career goals (long and short)
- areas of interest
- alignment with bachelor's degree subject, or a move to a new area at the graduate level to enhance the prior knowledge earned and professional experience

This review will require research on location of subject programs, competitive nature of programs, and prerequisite needs for subject area. Another recommendation is to research if the subject area is a growing field. The United States Department of Labor, through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, issues the Occupational Outlook Handbook, which is a good resource for this career field information.

The graduate degree subject selection ties directly into the graduate institution of interest. Research is recommended on practical items like cost, reputation, and convenience. Higher education institutions have increased the amount of information available through websites. There are many opportunities to email, call or live chat with graduate admission's representatives. The U.S. Department of Education offers a tool to assist in the review of institutions through its Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs. When researching specific subject areas, review of accreditation (both institution and program) is important as well. In addition, students seeking to teach at an academic institution in the future need to verify the graduate degree would provide a pathway to this option. Having a complete picture of an institution provides a more level playing field when applying.

Selecting the style of enrollment does not necessarily mean including or omitting graduate program options. Some institutions offer traditional, online or hybrid options at the graduate level. Students seeking a fully online option will see there has been tremendous growth in opportunities. In selection of subject area there will likely be specific enrollment options. A student seeking a Master of Business Administration degree may find more online options than those interested in a career area such as Psychology. Higher Education institutions are answering the need for more flexible
learning formats for master's programs. Keep in mind there still are many traditional full-time student graduate program options.

Identification of a goal at the beginning of studies in a master's degree program can provide another internal drive that will help you, the student, push through the many obstacles that can come at the graduate level. Take this opportunity to share the goal with others. By making the goal public knowledge, you will be more likely to adhere to it and be successful. Sharing the goal will also provide an avenue for outside support and investment. This may also feed into commitments to connections and networking in the graduate program. Master's programs provide students' access to professionals in a career field of interest, as well as connect them with peers. Having the end goal cemented will assist in staying the course.

Obtaining a master's degree is not a requirement for many students but it can be a dream, now made more accessible through innovation programs, formats and support. Research for a graduate program does not need to necessarily start at the completion of the bachelor's degree. For many research starts at the entrance to a bachelor's program. No matter what the timeframe, research will help provide a smoother pathway for a future graduate experience.

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**ISHM Fees & Dues**

Annual renewal fees are due once again. Here are some tips to help you with our process and the ISHM fees and dues schedule. Initial fees paid when applying for your certifications are the application fees. These fees do not cover the cost of your first annual renewal fee. ISHM has two billing cycles for annual renewal fees. How to determine when your annual renewal fee will be due?

- If you earn your certification during October 1st - March 30th your fees will be due September 30th of every year.
- If you earn your certification during April 1st and September 30th your annual renewal fees will be due March 30th of every year.

Have you recently received an invoice notification and cannot access the link or the PDF? We have found that many firewalls will deny access to the link. If you are trying to access the link from a work computer please try to forward the notification to your personal email to access it from a personal computer. You may have difficulties trying to open the PDF file of your invoice if trying to access it from your work computer.
This could be a firewall issue or it could be from not having the most recent version of Adobe.

As always, you can call the office at (877) 201-4053 and make payment over the phone, Monday - Thursday 7:00 am - 3:00 pm MST Friday 7:00 am - 12:00 pm MST Major Holidays - Closed

**ISO 45001**

We have been providing progress updates on the development of a new international occupational health and safety management systems standard, designated as ISO 45001. A committee draft is now available for review. Comments are due to the US technical advisory committee by August 22, 2014 so they can be used to develop the US position in time for the next ISO meeting in Rwanda in October. Although distribution of the committee draft is limited, ISHM is a member of the US TAG and can circulate the document for member review. If you would like to review the draft and possibly provide comments please contact Tom Slavin at slavinosh@gmail.com.

**ASK THE LAWYER - August, 2014**

Question: Why did OSHA delay the crane rule?

Response: OSHA issued a final standard on requirements for cranes and derricks in construction work on August 9, 2010. (29 CFR § 1926, Subpart CC). The standard is comprehensive in scope and substance. Among other things, the standard requires crane operators on construction sites to meet one of four qualification/certification options by November 10, 2014.

After issuing the standard, OSHA conducted several stakeholder meetings focusing on the qualification/certification requirements. For example, industry raised the question whether certification is the only component an employer must meet to achieve qualification, or whether an employer must make additional determinations to achieve qualification. In light of issues raised by industry at these meetings, OSHA decided to extend the compliance date by three years, to November 10, 2017.

This three-year extension will allow OSHA to re-open the rulemaking to address
certain of the concerns raised at the stakeholder meetings. By extending the compliance date to November 10, 2017, employers will not be put in the position of complying with a standard that may be amended, and OSHA will not be put in the position of enforcing a standard that may be amended. OSHA will likely publish a rulemaking later in 2014 or early in 2015.

Darren Hunter is a partner and an experienced OSHA practitioner in the Chicago law firm of Rooney Rippie & Ratnaswamy LLP. This column does not constitute legal advice or the formation or proposal of an attorney-client relationship to or with any person or entity. In addition, this column should not be understood to represent the views of ISHM, the law firm, the individual attorneys at the firm, or of any of the firm’s clients or former clients.