



PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Well, June is here!

There is a great song and melody that although it references something different, it certainly on face can be reflective of the month bearing the first day of summer. You know you know it! The great Glen Frey of the Eagles wrote in the first stanza of that famous song:

*The Heat is on, on the street
Inside your head, on every beat
And the beat's so loud, deep inside
The pressure's high, just to stay alive
'Cause the heat is on.*

Now while you are humming that great melody, I would like you to be aware that your legislative committee has been ever fighting the good fight to support the efforts of the Occupational Medical community in our Western states. They are addressing State legislatures on the subject of heat stress, presenting information to develop additional measures that would further protect our working population from the deadly effects of overwhelming heat stress. They are helping keep workers alive. It doesn't stop there. The committee is ever valiant in their efforts, continuing to address the recent effects of the NIOSH cuts. You will read more about this in the committee article in this newsletter. Bravo Legislative Committee!!!! You are INCREDIBLE!

Not to be outdone, the WOHC Planning Committee we know is getting inside your head. Have you reserved your room at the Grand America Hotel where their fabulous WOHC conference is being held? Don't wait too long as these discounted rooms will sell out. The venue is gorgeous! Salt Lake City is gorgeous nestled against the mountainous backdrop where your family will enjoy the great outdoors as it displays stunning Autumn colors. The course content has first ever subjects to experience. Look for more information from the Chair Dr. Eric Wood. Don't wait to secure registration. It's open and awaiting your signature. Just visit the WOEMA website.

A great big THANK YOU to all our committees and their dedicated members that selflessly work on behalf of the WOEMA organization. Without them WOEMA enters oblivion. Have you thought about what you as the individual can do? Do you think as an individual you don't make a difference in this wonderful organization? Nothing could be further from the truth. Whatever your interest is, or wherever your talent resides we have something for you. You are what makes this organization hum. Come join one of the committees. Lend us your talent! Lend us your voice! We

are calling your name. We want to include you up front and center. Become the leaders of the future!

Yes you are busy. Sometimes you just don't have the time at this point. Well there is another way you can assure your support of the WOEMA efforts which will help ensure the continued survival of our very important field of Medicine. On the WOEMA website you may have noticed a huge thermometer showcasing your financial support that keeps these committees able to do their important work. Let's increase the good heat of June. A productive way is to increase the Fahrenheit of that thermometer. You can do it! It doesn't take much to feel the good heat. Consider a monthly donation. Your WOEMA President has done it. That \$10 or \$20 per month is a great way to show your support without breaking the bank. It's easy. Try it.

Thank you everyone. So looking forward to seeing you at what will be a GREAT CONFERENCE. Register now! Do not be left out!

Rosalie Banasiak, MD, FACOEM
President WOEMA

UPDATE ON OEM RESIDENCY FUNDING RESOLUTION

A resolution on Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) residency funding, originally submitted by Dr. Bob Orford, has been unanimously agreed upon by both the ACOEM House of Delegates and the ACOEM Board of Directors. The resolution, which focuses specifically on supporting OEM residency training, was refined to address residency-related funding and has now been adopted by the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates.

The next step involves leveraging the AMA Resolution to advocate for OEM residency funding at the national level. The AMA is expected to formally communicate these concerns to the government through an official letter.

To maximize the impact of this resolution, our organization will be additionally targeting key stakeholders, including:

- Universities currently receiving NIOSH/OSHA funding
- Corporations with MD/DO Corporate Medical Directors and those employing OEM physicians
- Insurers, particularly those involved in Workers' Compensation
- Politicians in regions with OEM residency programs, including state governors, legislators, and members of Congress

A coordinated strategy will be implemented, combining leadership-driven advocacy from ACOEM with a grassroots campaign involving all members. This is a critical, existential issue for the future of OEM residency programs, and prompt, unified action is essential.

Salomeh Sadaghiani, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Chair, Legislative Committee Treasurer, Board of Directors
Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)

TOP HEADLINES

Funding Cuts Threaten Safety Training for Workers in

In California, Flawed Air Rules Threaten Farmworkers as

America's Most Dangerous Jobs



www.insurancejournal.com

The nation's 442,000 fishing, farming and logging workers make up just a fraction of America's workforce, but they have the highest fatal injury rate of any U.S. occupation...

[READ MORE](#)

Wildfires Pump More Smoke Onto Fields



insideclimatenews.org

Air pollution levels considered "safe" for farmworkers provide inadequate protection from health risks and injuries, a new study from University of California Davis finds...

[READ MORE](#)

SPECIAL WOHHC 2025 RAFFLE: WIN A HAWAIIAN TIMESHARE GETAWAY



Ready for a chance to turn your conference registration into a Hawaiian vacation?

All registered attendees of the **2025 Western Occupational Health Conference** are eligible to enter our **exclusive raffle** for a **timeshare getaway in Hawaii!**

Raffle Tickets:

- \$100 each
- 3 for \$250

Raffle closes: Friday, August 1, 2025

Winner announced: Monday, August 4, 2025

Timeshare Details:

- Westin Vacation Club
- The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas
- 1 Bedroom Premium Villa
- Arrival: 11/22/2025 - Departure 11/29/2025

How to Enter: Simply add raffle tickets to your WOHC 2025 registration — it's that easy!

Don't miss your chance to win a tropical escape just for joining us at WOHC 2025.

Aloha vibes await!

[Register Now!](#)



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UPCOMING WEBINARS

We invite you to join us for our upcoming educational webinars designed specifically for occupational medicine professionals.

Each webinar includes:

- 12:00 – 1:00 PM (PT): Live CME Webinar (1 CME credit)
- 1:00 – 1:30 PM (PT): Optional “Link & Learn” Session — Connect with speakers to further explore the topic, ask questions, and share feedback (non-CME)

7/11/25

[Headache Treatment Tailored to Occupational Medicine Clinicians with Dr. Diana Kraemer](#)

7/25/25

[Final Workers' Compensation Report: A California Perspective \(Part 2\) with Dr. Steve Wiesner](#)

8/29/25

[Lifestyle Medicine with Dr. Aisha Chaudhry](#)

10/31/25

[Issues Related to Space & Space Flight with Dr. Ronak Shah](#)

11/14/25

12/5/25

Flu/COVID/RSV Update with Dr. Christian Sandrock

FEATURED ARTICLES

Map Shows States With Highest Levels of Tiny, Toxic Air Pollution



www.newsweek.com

California and Oregon are among the U.S. hotspots for dangerous submicron (PM1) air pollution—those with particles less than a micron, or a millionth of a meter wide—according to new research...

Extended Process Pushes Hearing on New Mexico Worker Heat Protection Rule to 2026



www.abqjournal.com

A proposed workplace heat safety rule that would apply to all places of employment in New Mexico has caught the spotlight as employers and workers are voicing vehement arguments for and against it...

Study: Anxiety and Depression ‘Interfering’ With People’s Ability To Work



www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com

Social anxiety and depression “may serve as a barrier to seeking or maintaining employment,” according to a recent study out of the University of California, Los Angeles...

Air Pollution Map Reveals Health Threats From Tiny Particles



www.earth.com

Air pollution causes around 50,000 deaths each year in the U.S. Yet, not all pollutants are equally harmful. Among the most dangerous are fine airborne particles...

APPLY FOR ACOEM FELLOWSHIP- APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 1

Are you ready to be recognized for your dedication and leadership in occupational and environmental medicine? The Fellow of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (**FACOEM**) designation is ACOEM's highest acknowledgement and is **now accepting applications for the Class of 2026**.

Why Apply?

Recognition of your sustained impact in occupational and environmental medicine. Formal acknowledgment of your educational achievements and leadership. A distinguished credential that reflects your career-long dedication.

Council Vacancies (there are a few open positions on the Council, including one for Resident member)

- <https://acoem.org/About-ACOEM/Governance/Councils-and-Committees/COME>

Virtual Fall Summit 2025

- Now accepting proposals for 60- or 90-minute sessions
- **Deadline: June 25**
- [Submit a proposal now](#)

AOHC 2026 Session Proposals

- Now accepting proposals for concurrent sessions
- **Deadline: September 15**
- [Submit a proposal now](#)

Attend a Live Course in Chicagoland Medical Review Officer – Fast Track Certification

- October 4–5, 2025 | 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM
- Schaumburg, IL
- [Medical Review Officer - Fast Track](#)

INDUSTRY TRENDS

**What's Lost With NIOSH Cuts:
An Interview With David
Christiani**

**HHS Proposes Eliminating
NIOSH in FY 2026 Budget
Overhaul**



hsph.harvard.edu

In a recent interview, Dr. David Christiani explained the history of the ERC, the history of NIOSH and OSHA, and the critical importance of the field of occupational health for the safety of all American workers.

[READ MORE](#)



ohsonline.com

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has proposed eliminating NIOSH as part of its Fiscal Year 2026 budget plan, consolidating its programs under the newly formed Administration for a Healthy America.

[READ MORE](#)

WOEMA CELEBRATES PRIDE MONTH

In June, we celebrate **Pride Month** to honor the **LGBTQIA+** community as well as its history and resilience. It is a time to renew our commitment to a culture of diversity and inclusion, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Although difficult to quantify, an estimated 25 million US adults, **7.6 percent of the population**, identify as LGBTQ+. Despite expansion of federal protections for LGBTQ+ workers over the past several years, many experience adverse health outcomes and workplace stress. It is also important to be aware of the many **anti-LGBTQ bills introduced** that could further jeopardize healthcare.

OEM professionals are uniquely placed to contribute to healthy and inclusive workplaces through education and increased awareness, and by supporting LGBTQIA+ workers throughout the year.

Click on the links above to learn more.

Additional resources:

[Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality](#)
[LGBTQ Resource List](#)

WOEMA JEDI Committee

Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association



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