



**Join us for WOHC 2025 in Salt Lake City,  
September 25-27.**  
[Click here to register!](#)

## TOP HEADLINES

### **NIOSH Rehires Many Workers, but Program Cuts Remain**



[www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org)

NIOSH is restoring several programs and bringing back the staffers who run them, but much of the agency's work is still on the chopping block...

### **California Labor Pushes for Better Safety Enforcement**



[sacobserver.com](http://sacobserver.com)

California workers rally in Sacramento to push for stronger health and safety enforcement systems due to rising climate hazards and federal pullback...

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## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Fellow WOEMA Members:

The promise of April showers bringing May flowers holds true to form applied to our beloved WOEMA. The WOEMA garden has grown now to just under 600 members. We are now 7 states strong, and who knows, maybe more is yet to come. Six of the members have earned their laurels of ACOEM Fellow status. This well-deserved designation has been earned by:

- Amarilda Christensen, MD, MPH, FACOEM
- Marc D. Johnson, MD, EMPH, FACOEM
- Dorian Kenleigh, MD, MPH, FACOEM
- Krystal Lin, MD, MSPH, FACOEM
- Linda Moore, MD, MPH, FACOG, FACOEM
- Saloomeh Sadaghiani, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Well done, everyone. We look forward to all the future Fellows in our member states joining us.

Now we look forward to enjoying the upcoming WOHC conference in Salt Lake City. The conference will be held at the Grand America Hotel, THE premier venue in beautiful Salt Lake City, September 25-26, 2025. The Wasatch Mountains serve as the enticing backdrop to the what is tremendous scenery during one of the four favorite seasons of the year. The Fall colors will be Kaleidoscopic, and the air crisp. For the outdoor enthusiast, there can be nothing better except ski season. This is a family-friendly setting with activities ranging from hiking, bicycling, rock climbing, a world-class zoo, and would you believe a natural history museum with its very own T-Rex! Wow! Don't just bring yourself, bring the kids!

For the adults attending, there will be plenty to experience. We are introducing NEW, never-before-offered post-grad courses on Day 1. Whether you want to learn how to navigate the trials of dealing with lawyers, banking on your financial well-being, or operating an office ultrasound, we have it! The afternoon tops off with on-sites not available anywhere else. You can explore the Mormon Temple and have a rare opportunity to hear the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir in person, or venture to the Olympic Games venue in Park City, where you will learn about what it takes to keep all those athletes healthy and safe. There will be Freeform pool training where you will see the athletes jump, twist, and twirl in the air before landing with a big splash. There will be opportunity to run the virtual bobsled and ski high jump for those who dare! Stay tuned to the unfolding agenda for the plethora of plenaries on the following two days!

Although costs have risen year over year, we feel it is important to provide our members with a reasonable economic expenditure. As such, you will find Salt Lake City to be one of the more cost-effective large city venues, and this translates into conference fees remaining at last year's rates. In place begins our new offering of a lottery system for our attendees, each of whom will be entered into a giveaway contest. For every three conferences an attendee comes to, they will be eligible to win a variety of prizes which can range from a free night at the venue, dinner at the venue, a bottle of wine, one free post grad, one free on-site, one free signature event, and maybe more! The attendance does not have to be in succession. The 2024 Las Vegas attendance will be applied retroactively, so those who have attended 2024 and are attending 2025 and 2026 will be the first eligible in 2026. This will take the place of early bird registration. But there's more! This year, WOEMA member attendees will have the opportunity to purchase tickets to win a week in Hawaii, 7 nights, 8 days on the North Shore of Kauai during Thanksgiving week. I've been there. It's GORGEOUS! The WOWs just keep coming!

You have already been aware of our Donor's Circle, which is accessible through the QR code on the WOEMA website. The categories are:

1. Champion- recurring donations.
2. Vanguard- one-time donation.
3. Honors- Estate/Legacy donation.
4. Guardian- all three.
5. VISIONARY- top \$\$\$ amount for any one year goes to that individual.

Our goal is to reach \$100,000 for the year. We will be honoring those who contribute at our conference. No amount is too small or too large. You will always have the option of remaining anonymous. There will be a little “something, something” to acknowledge your generous support of this organization, of which we are so proud. Be looking for the grand thermometer showing our progress. It is my profound wish donation drive may lead us toward an endowment that can grow to fund future endeavors such as scholarships, grants, research, etc. Please consider helping us ensure the future.

Lest we not forget, a great big thank you to all our committee members who work so hard on behalf of all the membership. Our legislative committee, whose strong efforts have championed health and safety from silicosis to heat stress protection. Our membership committee, whose efforts have driven an ever-increasing membership. Our financial task force, whose concepts you have just read through. Our education committee that just keeps on giving us such incredible webinars. Our residents committee that fosters full support for those who herald the future. Our nominating committee, whose strong efforts provide us with the upcoming WOEMA leaders. Our awards committee, whose strong efforts always give us great recipients. Jedi, which champions efforts of Justice, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. And of course, the fabulous planning committee! Thank Dr. Wood for your and your members brilliant efforts for what will be a fabulous WOHC 2025.

Supporting WOEMA supports all of this and continues to move our specialty forward.

See you all in Salt Lake City and Thank You!

Rosalie Banasiak, MD, FACOEM  
President WOEMA



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## FEATURED ARTICLES

### Nevada Establishes New Heat Illness Standards for Workplace Safety



mynews4.com

The new regulations from OSHA Nevada require businesses with more than 10 employees to conduct a one-time hazard analysis of their working conditions...

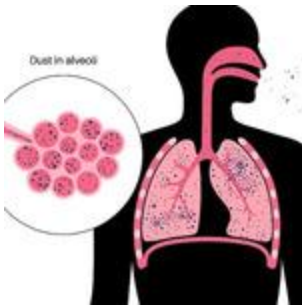
## Some Professions Have Much Lower Rates of Suicide. What Can We Learn From Them?



[www.sciencealert.com](http://www.sciencealert.com)

Where you work affects your risk of dying by suicide. For example, loggers, musicians and workers in the oil and gas industries have much higher rates of suicide than the rest of the population...

## Opinion: How DOGE Undermines Efforts to Combat a Deadly Lung Disease



[www.ehn.org](http://www.ehn.org)

A sweeping rollback of workplace safety regulations has gutted U.S. protections against silicosis, threatening to revive one of the nation's oldest occupational diseases...

## INDUSTRY TRENDS

### Toxic Turnout Gear: The Fight to Protect Firefighters From PFAS Exposure



[ohsonline.com](http://ohsonline.com)

A growing body of evidence reveals that PFAS in firefighter turnout gear is a serious occupational health threat, prompting urgent calls for action...

### An EPA Pivot on PFAS Raises Alarm Over Public Health Protections



[www.ehn.org](http://www.ehn.org)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is backing off parts of a major drinking water rule targeting toxic PFAS chemicals, raising fears of weaker protections for millions of Americans...

Special Edition

# LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE



## FELLOWSHIP CLASS 2025

While much of the recent conversation has focused on the challenges facing our specialty, we wanted to take a moment to share some good news from the ACOEM Fellowship Class of 2025. We're thrilled to announce that four of our very own Legislative Committee members—Krystal Lin, Marc Johnson, Dorian Kenleigh, and Saloomeh Sadaghiani—have been named new fellows!

Congratulations again to our new fellows! We can't wait to see all the great things you'll accomplish.

[WWW.WOEMA.ORG](http://WWW.WOEMA.ORG)

### FUN FACT...



Over 15% of the ACOEM fellowship class (4 out of 26 fellows) comes from WOEMA's Legislative Committee!

This outstanding representation is a testament to the passion and leadership within our group.

### FACEOM RECOGNITION

Attaining the Fellow designation FACEOM is ACOEM's highest acknowledgment, reserved for members who demonstrated years of dedication, exceptional education, leadership, and commitment to the field of occupational and environmental medicine (OEM).

# ASIAN AMERICAN NATIVE HAWAIIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE (AANHPI) MONTH

May is Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage (AANHPI) Month.

Please recognize and celebrate the rich cultures, diverse histories, and invaluable contributions of AANHPI communities to our society.

This is an inclusive month for a group of people in America with diverse backgrounds, who have either arrived through various waves of immigration and varied stories within the diaspora or who have had their land become part of America. 2025 marks 50 years since the first Southeast Asian refugees resettled in the United States, from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and Thailand.

According to a 2024 report by the US Treasury department, AANHPI people make up 6% of the US population. However, compared to Americans of other racial and ethnic backgrounds, AANHPI were the least likely to get care for mental illness, at about 2%. Workers from the AANHPI communities face unique occupational health problems though there has been relatively little research to quantify the risks.

We encourage you to take part in events, explore educational resources such as those included below, and engage in meaningful conversations throughout the month. By working together to build a culture of inclusion, respect, and understanding, we can develop more effective strategies to prevent occupational injuries and illness for all workers.

WOEMA JEDI Committee

- [Mental Health Information and Impacts: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders \(AAPI\)](#)
- [Punjabi Migration to the United States](#)
- [History of Korean Immigration to America, from 1903 to Present](#)
- [San José's Vietnamese American Community Remembers 50 Years Since the Fall of Saigon](#)
- [Pa'a Ke Aupuni The Reel History of Hawai'i](#)
- [Occupational Health Disparities Among Racial and Ethnic Minorities](#)



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