March 21 is the spring equinox, when the length of day and night are approximately equal everywhere on Earth. This phenomenon was first discovered by Iranians more than 3000 years ago and picked as the first day of Spring. Since then, Iranians as well as Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, and several other middle east and central Asian countries celebrate Nowruz, and in some countries as new year. As an Iranian while celebrating Nowruz, I believe, just like other fellow Iranians, that by the time Spring arrives everything freshens and we also need to freshen up by making changes in our lives and souls. One of the changes that I am going to make is to spend more time on my studies and research in order to graduate on time and in order to do that I need to cut back on other activities.

I, as the current president of ASSE Student Section, would like to announce that I am not running for office for year 2007-08.

I am very thankful for all the support and help that I have received from students, faculty and ASSE SWOC during the past 3 years, which helped me grow and develop skills needed for my professional career.

I will be in touch with this Section and I wish great success for our organization and next president.

Farman A. Moayed, PE
ASSE Student Section, President

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Spring and Persian New Year

Officers and Contact Information

President: Farman A. Moayed, PE, 556-3886
Vice-President: Tushyati Maudgalya
Secretary: Maria Rinder
Advisor: Richard Shell, Ph.D., PE
Co-Advisor: Ash Genaidy, Ph.D.
Website: http://altmine.mie.uc.edu/asse/public_html/index.htm
Volunteers Needed for Worldfest 2007

The Student Section of ASSE has been planning and preparing to participate in Worldfest 2007 event which is being held in the first week of May 2007.

The ASSE Student Section will provide a public presentation in a booth in front of the McMicken Hall on Thursday May 3rd.

One or two volunteers are needed to represent the ASSE student section for half a day. The presentation is limited to poster, picture and brochure displays.

If you are interested in volunteering and helping the student section please contact Farman Moayed either by email moayedfa@email.uc.edu or by phone 556-3886.

ASSE Student Section Seminars

On March 8th, 2007, ASSE student section had two seminars, during which students of Human Factors class presented their term projects to students and faculty audience.

The first group were Victoria Pugsley, Jennifer Watson, and Asha Belarski, and Well-being and Exercise as their topic. They explained that how physical activities can impact the risk for occupational disease such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and osteoporoses. It can also reduce the depression, stress and anxiety and help companies save money by reducing costs in health care, sick days, and replacement expenses.

Mariam Darwish, Amina Darwish and Amr Safwat were the second team presenting their topic, Cultural Effects on Productivity. They investigated several cultural factors and their effects on productivities in a few developed countries including mainly US, Japan, and Germany. They explained how government, unions and corporate can play a role in increasing/decreasing productivity and how they can take advantage of their social differences and still remain competitive by “creating culture” instead of imitating from other societies.

And the last group were Holly Barber, Thomas Knechtges, and Andrew Smith, and their topic was Improvement of White Collar’s Performance. After provide information about mental and physical illnesses common among white collar employees, they explained how basic ergonomic changes in work environment can improve their performance, reduce costs and the risk for occupational ailments.

This event was sponsored by Southwester Ohio Chapter of ASSE and we are grateful for their support.
Graduation

On Friday February 16, 2007, Setenay Tuncel, the very first president and former vice-president of ASSE Student Section at UC, successfully defended her dissertation and graduated.

We, on behalf of all the students and faculty of Occupational Safety and Health Engineering at UC, congratulate her on all her accomplishments and contributions to the safety engineering program at UC and ASSE Student Section.

We wish her luck, success and prosperity in all aspects of professional career and personal life.

Call for Candidacy for Next Year

This announcement is an official call for candidacy for year 2007-08 election.

The one year term of all the offices for ASSE Student Section at UC will finish by the end of June and none of the current officers is seeking for next year re-election.

Therefore all the positions in this section, i.e. president, vice-president and treasurer/secretary, are open to fill.

Interested students and members of ASSE can submit their candidacy to either current president, Farman A. Moayed (moayedfa@email.uc.edu), or faculty advisor, Professor Richard Shell (richard.shell@uc.edu).

The election will be held in late spring quarter.
A Little Bit of Humor

I knew something was missing from our newsletter… a little bit fun.

"How long did you say you worked for the Cirque de soleil?"

"With all these lectures and safety manuals, I'm about ready for a trip to where I can lie down and forget about all these rules and regulations!"

"I reckon everybody knows about this company's poor safety record by now!"

Source: www.almeidacartoons.com
BMW Honored By EPA

The United States Environmental Protection Agency named BMW Manufacturing Co. LLC and partner Dürr Systems Inc., joint recipients of the Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) Energy Partner of the Year award.

The award was given in recognition of the companies' achievements in implementing one of the most ambitious landfill gas-to-energy projects in North America recycling landfill methane gas from the Palmetto Landfill in South Carolina to provide energy to BMW'S paint shop, which Dürr built.

By using the previously untapped energy from landfill gas, BMW is able to reduce area emissions of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, by approximately 60,000 tons and recover enough energy to heat 15,000 homes per year. Landfills are the largest human-made methane source in the United States. Methane is produced as waste decomposes. ‘When released into the air, it is a greenhouse gas and contributes to local air pollution. Currently, 63 percent of BMW Manufacturing’s energy is provided by this renewable resource, saving the company at least $1 million per year in energy costs.

This is such a positive for everyone involved. There literally hasn’t been a downside to this project,” said Briggs Hamilton, BMW Manufacturing’s environmental section manager. ‘This project allows us to take a previously wasted energy source and use it to generate electricity and heat for our plant, this results in lower emissions, which helps to protect the environment and the community.”

BMW Manufacturing gained international recognition in 2002 when the automaker first announced it would use recycled landfill methane gas as an energy source in its automotive manufacturing facility. To do so, the company had to construct an unprecedented 9.5-mile pipeline from the landfill to its facility. The system went online in February 2003.

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The Student Section of the American Society of Safety Engineers at the University of Cincinnati was established in June 2004. Since then it has planned several safety related seminars for students at UC and its members have contributed and been involved in conferences, symposiums and seminars locally and nationally.

The main goal of this section is to promote the occupational, safety and health engineering field among undergraduate and graduate students and encouraging them to get involved in research and projects in safety engineering. This section strongly encourages all the student members to engage in teamwork with experts and professionals from other disciplines in order to develop their leadership skills in diverse environments and enhance their experience through opportunities which contribute to students’ educational mission, personal growth, global understanding and ethics in particular.

Future Activities
The ASSE Student Section at UC has been planning several activities for Spring Quarter. This plan consists of, but not limited to, one seminar with OH & S related topics, a field trip to Toyota Manufacturing Plant in Georgetown, Kentucky, and public presentation in Worldfest 2007 at UC.

You can also find us at http://altmine.mie.uc.edu/asse/public_html/