

## Three Winning Poster Sessions Chosen at Safety 2010

Poster sessions at ASSE's Safety 2010 in Baltimore, MD took a different twist. This year, a panel of ASSE and Academics Practice Specialty members selected a winner from each of the three poster categories: undergraduate student, graduate student and other (including faculty and government).

The three winners were:

### Undergraduate Student

*Alcoa Strategic Analysis Research Project*

Anton Matyushkov, Antonio Mendes, Alberto Branco—Indiana University of Pennsylvania

### Graduate Student

*Responding to Residential Elemental Mercury Contamination: Pawtucket, RI*

Marcella R. Thompson, Ph.D.(c), M.S., CSP, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN Doctoral Program, College of Nursing; Donna Schwartz-Barcott, Ph.D., RN, Faculty Advisor College of Nursing—University of Rhode Island; Robert R. Vanderslice, Ph.D., Chief Toxicologist, Rhode Island Department of Health

### Other

*Variability in Results of Fit-Tests at Coal Mines: NIOSH Mining Occupational Safety and Health Research Grant*

Mingyu Wu, M.S., Assistant Professor—Grand Valley State University; Steven Guffrey, Ph.D., CIH, Professor Industrial Engineering; Brandon C. Takacs, M.S., Assistant Professor—West Virginia University

Diana Stegall, CSP, ALCM, ARM, CPCU, Chair of ASSE's Professional Development Conference (PDC) Planning Committee, sees the long-term benefits of the poster sessions' new format. "One of the PDC Planning Committee's primary goals is to ensure that all aspects of the conference contribute to the objectives of the conference and the experience of the attendees. Every year, we closely evaluate the scores for the various conference components to identify where we can provide greater value for the attendee."

"We have had some excellent poster sessions in the past but wanted to improve the overall quality of the posters and create additional interest in the sessions. I envision a time when the poster sessions are used to share information on research that impacts the SH&E profession. Research that is cutting-edge but not developed enough for a full concurrent session. This would allow those interested in that subject to connect with those studying the subject, furthering the profession's body of knowledge," says Stegall.

Gail House, CSP, a PDC Planning Committee member, says the committee wanted to expand on the poster session experience since these sessions have always provided an excellent venue for academic updates. "As part of the PDC planning committee, we decided that judging the posters would recognize the top achievements in each of the three categories," explains House. "After the success of this year's poster sessions, we hope to increase the number of posters presented and to create an atmosphere of excitement as the posters continue to expand into other areas."

To learn what is in store for Safety 2011, ASSE's 100-year anniversary celebration in Chicago, visit <http://www.asse.org/education/safety2011-teaser.php>.