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SHS professors debut safety professionals 'must have' book

Assistant Professor of Environmental Health and Safety [Richard Olawoyin, Ph.D.](#) and Adjunct Assistant Professor [Darryl C. Hill, Ph.D.](#), from Oakland University's School of Health Sciences, debuted their newly edited occupational safety and health book at the Safety 2018 Professional Development Conference & Exhibition held earlier this month in San Antonio.

The book, *Safety Leadership and Professional Development*, "provides a road map that defines the safety profession and promotes leadership and professional development," according to a news release put out by the American Society of Safety Professionals.

"We included insightful contributions from both academic and industry leaders in health and safety," Olawoyin said. "We also discussed the topics health and safety professionals face on a daily basis, including ethics, leadership and management; certification and accreditation; professional development; risk assessment and hazard recognition; and workplace culture."

"The book should be required reading for new safety professionals and for students preparing for their first safety position," Paul Specht, Ph.D., CSP, professor emeritus at Millersville University said. "It addresses topics that are often overlooked or under-researched in more technical publications. It covers the key elements of successful safety and health programs, and more importantly offers the methodologies for their implementation."

Olawoyin says the book was written to appeal to a wide audience that includes undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students as well as certification trainees, and current occupational safety and health professionals.

When asked about the purpose of this new book, Olawoyin said, "The right to be safe is a fundamental human right. My understanding of the calling to become a safety professional does not end with the quest for self-improvement through technical skills alone. Rather, it encompasses altruistic and compassionate character, communal participation and indivisible humanism."

Olawoyin went on to say, "People understand what doctors, nurses, engineers and politicians do, but it is hard to summarize the common sense of safety professionals. Since there are no books in the market today that address the issues we face in our field, I proposed the idea and it was accepted."

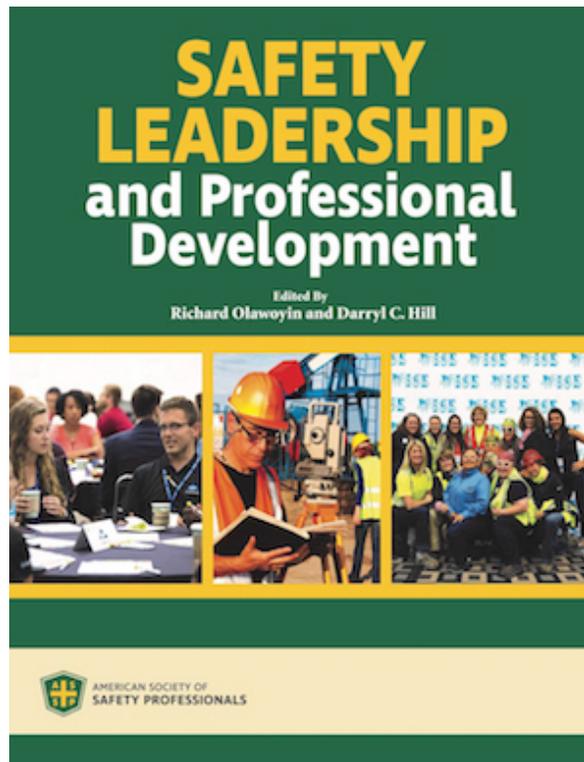
"Dr. Hill's experience, knowledge, advice and participation in this work has been invaluable," Olawoyin said of the book's co-editor. Hill has been an adjunct assistant professor for nearly 20 years at Oakland University. He is highly regarded within the profession and has held numerous national safety leadership positions, including that of past president of the American Society of Safety Professionals. He also served on the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Board of Scientific Counselors. He is currently a member of the OU's School of Health Sciences [Board of Advocacy and Resource Development](#).

Proceeds from the book will go towards student scholarships and professional development opportunities in the safety professions.

Olawoyin's hope for the book is two-fold. He wants the book to move forward the efforts of the American Society of Safety Professionals by better defining the safety profession and to effectively prepare safety leaders by delivering evidence-based learning. He is especially proud of the contributors who made the book possible, including three of his own mentee students who authored a chapter in the book.



Adjunct Assistant Professor Darryl C. Hill, Ph.D., left, and Assistant Professor Richard Olawoyin, Ph.D., both from OU's Environmental Health and Safety program in the School of Health Sciences, edited a newly launched book on the occupational health and safety profession.



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About the American Society of Safety Professionals:

For more than 100 years, the American Society of Safety Engineers has been at the forefront of helping occupational safety and health professionals protect people and property. The nonprofit society, recently renamed the American Society of Safety Professionals, is based in Chicago suburb of Park Ridge. Its global membership of over 37,000 professionals covers every industry, developing safety and health management plans that prevent deaths, injuries and illnesses.

About the School of Health Sciences

Oakland University's School of Health Sciences provides an exceptional environment of collaborative, academic and clinical learning that help transform students into leaders impacting the health needs of our communities in diverse wellness, safety and health-related practices. The School of Health Sciences is passionate about providing students with the best science-based health education, high-quality academic preparation, interdisciplinary teaching and excellence in instruction in the classroom and clinical laboratory.

Oakland University's Mission Statement:

Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship and creative activity.