

# ESN

## EKU Safety Newsletter

News of the people and events associated with  
EKU's safety degree programs

ISSUE 3 | FALL 2023

### Inside This Issue:

[Department News](#)

[Employer Spotlight](#)

[Student Internship Spotlight](#)

[Graduate Student Spotlight](#)

[Faculty Spotlight](#)

[Gift to DSS](#)

[Corporate Educational Partnerships](#)

[EKU OSHA Outreach Center](#)

[Job & Internship Fairs](#)

[Connect With Us](#)

...more

# EKU

DEPARTMENT OF  
SAFETY AND SECURITY



# Department of Safety and Security News

## 2023 NCS Safety Congress & Exposition + ECU Exhibition Booth

EKU staffed an exhibition hall booth for recruiting students into the Occupational Safety (OSH) & Safety, Security and Emergency Management (SSEM) degree programs.



**Dr. David Stumbo, Professor, Dept. Safety & Security**  
**Mr. Jordan Tayce, Enrollment Advisor, ECU Online**



**OCCUPATIONAL  
SAFETY PROGRAM**



# Employer Spotlight

An EKU Safety  
favorite for  
internship &  
employment  
opportunities

## WALSH CONSTRUCTION GROUP

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

Facebook:

@theBigGreenW

Instagram:

@theBigGreenW

Twitter/X:

@theBigGreenW

YouTube:

@theBigGreenW

LinkedIn: @walsh-  
construction

**The Walsh Group** A 125-year-old company providing construction services across the building, transportation and water markets. We operate as Walsh Construction and Archer Western Construction, leading some of the most prominent construction projects across the United States, including LaGuardia Airport's new Terminal B in New York, the New Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge in Washington DC, Salesforce Tower in Chicago, the new Louisville VA Medical Center, Bois d'Arc Lake Reservoir in North Texas and the LAX/Crenshaw Transit Project in Los Angeles.



# WALSH

# Employer Spotlight

An EKV Safety  
favorite for  
internship &  
employment  
opportunities



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

Facebook:

@theBigGreenW

Instagram:

@theBigGreenW

Twitter/X:

@theBigGreenW

YouTube:

@theBigGreenW

LinkedIn: @walsh-  
construction

**Driven By Safety – Safety is our culture** Protecting the lives of our clients, employees, subcontractors and the public is our greatest value and guides our philosophy. Our leaders recognize their responsibility to establish and maintain exceptional worksites. Their commitment is proven and demonstrated through our award winning safety performance and guided by a Core Safety Program. Our methodology of achieving safety excellence relies on a simple approach and message; “No One Gets Hurt.”

**Career Opportunities** We offer a collection of opportunities for the engineers and builders of tomorrow. From internships to co-ops to project engineer positions, The Walsh Group has a variety of avenues to begin, grow and expand your career. Our Internship and Co-op Programs allow candidates to work across our 21 regional offices and nearly 200 projects in the United States.

**More about entry level opportunities:**  
<https://entrylevel.walshgroup.jobs/>



# Student Intern Spotlight

## Ian Pitt



**Hometown:** Henderson, KY

**Degree:** Occupational Safety

**Expected Graduation Date:** May 2024

### **Tell us about your internship:**

My internship is with Pittsburg Tank & Tower in Henderson, KY. I work with EHS specialists, Site Safety Auditors, EHS Shop Managers, and the VP of Risk Management. Pittsburg Tank & Tower is one of the nation's top steel specialty contractors that provides construction, maintenance, inspection, and production services. During the construction and maintenance of water tanks, specialty tanks, radio towers, etc., Pittsburg Tank & Tower maintains a strong commitment on safety and risk management.

### **What led you to pursue a safety degree at ECU?**

I view my degree in safety as a building block for my future endeavors. I feel that a degree in safety has no limits in the workplace when paired with the right experiences. Additionally, I enjoy the commitment to making sure that the people that work with and around me are taken care of and are able to return home each day after work.

### **Do you have a favorite class at ECU?**

My favorite class at ECU has been Workers Compensation. This class was very challenging as I had no previous knowledge of the intricacies of workers' compensation, however I found it to be a very interesting and well-developed class. Workers' compensation is a topic that is dealt with often within safety and I think this class gave a great introduction to how it is structured.

### **What are your plans after graduation?**

After graduation I would like to take on a supervisory position within safety. I would like to gain as much experience as possible in order to continue my development as a young safety professional. When I am able, I plan to attain my CSP to continue my growth within my career path. From my experience within my internship, the learning in safety never ceases and I want to expose myself to learning opportunities whenever I can.



# Graduate Student Spotlight

## Holleigh White



**Preferred Pronouns:** She/Her

**Hometown:** Louisville, KY

**Degree:** Safety, Security & Emergency Management

**Concentration:** Occupational Safety & Safety Mgt.

### **Why did you decide to pursue a graduate degree at ECU?**

Truthfully, I did not know about the SSEM program until I had chanced upon a notice one of the facilitators of the program had made of them looking for a student for their NIOSH Grant. Though I knew that safety was a job someone could have at the time, I didn't realize that there were degree programs for it. I was a little directionless about what path I wished to take until I came across the post and reached out. Before this, I had some experience in the safety field through a volunteer-based committee at work and enjoyed the socialization and creativity surrounding some of the stuff I was doing as well as the technical aspects. When Dr. Dunlap reached back out to me to tell me about both the grant and a career in safety, I decided that pursuing the degree was a good choice to make.

### **Tell us about your favorite class in the SSEM program:**

Though there are many good professors in the program, my favorite has been Dr. Scotty Dunlap. The textbooks that he writes and assigns are quite easy to digest and use real world examples and clever metaphors to put some concepts into perspective. His assignments are challenging but not too overwhelming. He remains engaged with his students and answers questions you may have. Even though I am an online student, even before I had the opportunity to meet him face to face, I could tell that he is passionate about a career in safety. He also had a knack for helping other people interested in a career in the field as well from helping you get more involved in the program via attending out-of-state conferences, getting you connected with companies who may be hiring, or helping students dip their toes in the world of networking.

### **Favorite professor or staff member?**

My favorite professor is Dr. Spurlock. He is our faculty advisor with the ASSP student section of ECU which I am involved with. He is always patient and cares about students, school could be stressful sometimes and it is always great to reach out and receive help!

# Graduate Student Spotlight

## Holleigh White



**Cont'd.**

### **Something you learned in your Grad program that surprised you:**

One of the most useful things that I learned in my graduate program was a lesson that was, I see now, apparent in many of the classes but had not completely clicked for me until I had attended the most recent National Safety Council Conference in New Orleans. I know it seems counterintuitive to a Grad student, but I learned that you do not need to be a complete expert.

There is this big idea among students, I believe, that you should be an expert in something if you are going to have a career in something and you cannot start that career until you are an expert. Expertise comes from experience. Nobody who started their career in safety was an expert first and those that are very versed in the subject are so because of other people.

There is this idea that you must shoulder this weight, the burden of all the responsibility falls to you. However, the world of safety management is always changing, and safety is a team sport. It is okay to not know something, but it is not okay to just say you do not know something and leave it at that. If you do not know something, then find someone who does and get help or learn about it yourself.

### **Advice for students that are interested in this program:**

If I could give just one piece of advice for incoming students, it would be to manage your time wisely. There are many assignments in this program in which it may be prudent to look beyond just the current week so they can put the proper amount of time and effort into the projects at the end of each semester. There is a lot of “hands on” learning especially in the field study class where students are literally going to different job sites to assess their safety programs. Even beyond that, there are classes where students are to fabricate their own training and compliance programs



# Faculty Spotlight

## Dr. Scotty Dunlap, Ed.d, CSP Professor

School of Safety, Security & Emergency  
Management



### What was your highest degree earned?

Doctor of Education in Higher and Adult Education – The University of Memphis

### How long have you been at EKU?

15 years

### Favorite class that you teach?

This is a tough question because I love teaching them all. I love teaching SSE 880 – Research and SSE 896 – Capstone because of the opportunity to make the research process more accessible to graduate students.

I love teaching SSE 865 - Auditing because I spent a great deal of my career in industry conducting safety management system audits and I see the process as a great conduit to improve organizational performance.

### Advice for future/current students?

Though it might sound trite, follow your bliss. Find a path through either occupational safety, security, or emergency management that you can become passionate about and pursue it with vigor.

Second, if you are not currently employed in the field, engage in an internship while navigating your program of study. Internships provide the values of academic course credit toward degree completion, experiencing applied learning through work activities, gaining work experience that can be recorded on a resume, and building a relationship with an employer that could result in a full-time job offer.







**TOGETHER**

we can make a difference for Eastern's students.

**We are reaching out to you to request your help with an immediate need in the Occupational Safety (OSH) program.**

**EKU OSH faculty have identified the need to establish a new fund to create a foundation of support for their students.**

**Greatest needs funds across campus provide program-specific support to students, including professional development opportunities, supplies and training materials, and services that enhance the classroom experience.**

**Make a  
Gift**

**Gift Quick QR**



**Our first step is to raise the \$1,000 required to start a charitable non-endowed fund at EKU.**

**Your gift will help us reach this goal so that we can provide exclusive support for OSH students.**

# EKU Advantage and Corporate Educational Partnerships

TIME TO

## *break it down*

Benefits of the ECU Advantage include:

### **MORE HOURS, LESS MONEY, FINISH FASTER**

EKU will partially match your company's tuition benefit with a flat-rate tuition discount for your employees. All undergraduate and graduate students will receive free textbooks as part of the ECU Booksmart program.

Plus, get a 20% discount on ECU's Workforce Development courses.

### **LOCKED-IN TUITION**

Students are guaranteed a fixed tuition rate from initial enrollment for up to two consecutive years of enrollment.

### **ENHANCED CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Expedited and enhanced customer service assistance to employees to expedite and prioritize the admission processes, class registration, financial aid and scholarship applications. Dedicated academic advisors to provide individual attention to help employees move toward degree completion.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Access for student employees and dignitaries to all ECU facilities and events enjoyed by ECU students.

### **Investing in Employees**

Employers will enhance educational opportunities for its employees and maintain a competitive advantage in employee retention.



**Benton D.  
Shirey**

Director,  
Corporate  
Educational  
Partnerships

**Benton.Shirey  
@eku.edu**

**(859)622-2264**

**corporate.eku.edu**



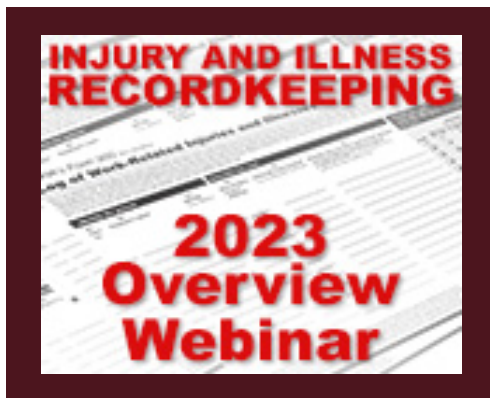
Eastern Kentucky University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age (40 and over), race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, ethnicity, disability, national origin, veteran status, or genetic information in the admission to, or participation in, any educational program or activity (e.g., athletic, academic and housing) which it conducts, or in any employment policy or practice. Any complaint arising by reason of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Eastern Kentucky University, Jones Building 416, Richmond, Kentucky 40475, 609 622-6020, or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202, 1-800-421-3481 (V), 1-800-877-8339 (TTY).

# KYSAFE

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH

<https://kysafe.ky.gov/>

## KYSAFE Releases New OS&H Educational Materials



### **Recordkeeping Overview 2023 Webinar**

This course will cover the basic requirements of 29 CFR 1904 and will familiarize attendees with the OSHA 300A, 300, 301 and equivalent forms.



### **Fall Protection Systems**

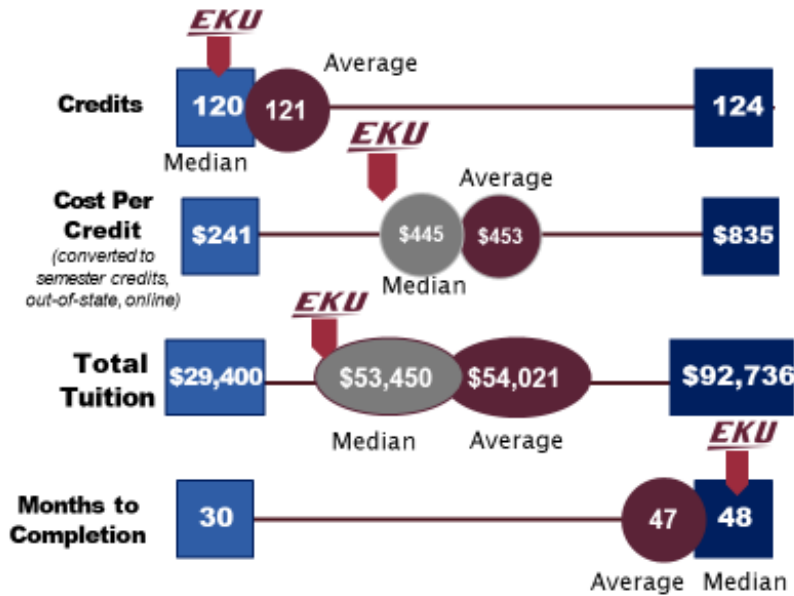
This module will cover 1910.140 where we will discuss the performance, care, and use criteria for all personal fall protection systems.



# EKU OSH & SSEM Programs Shine in Comparison

## Competitive Set Research

Competitive set comprised of **15 online Bachelors in Occupational Safety\*** programs at both private and public universities.



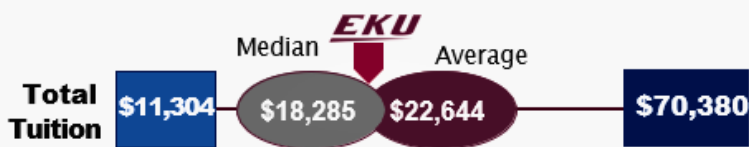
  
**47%**  
Are nationally ranked by USNWR

  
**27%**  
Offer competency-based courses

\* These 15 combine both 15.0701 and 51.2206 CIP codes

Source: Online Degree Database

Competitive set comprised of **28 online Masters in Emergency Management** programs at both private and public universities.



  
**52%**  
Are at nationally ranked institutions (USNWR)

  
**36%**  
Offer competency-based courses

Source: Online Degree Database

**Fall**  
**Job & Internship Fair**  
**Oct. 2, 2023**



**Recruiting Opportunities**

In-person interviews  
Virtual interviews  
Day-after interviews

**By the Numbers**

90 employers  
250+ students



**Make Plans !**

**Spring 2024**  
**Job/Internship Fair**

**March 6, 2024**



EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Office of Advising and Career Services

**(859) 622-1296**  
**oacs@eku.edu**



[www.joinhandshake.com/employers](http://www.joinhandshake.com/employers)



## EKU ASSP Student Section

### Student Officers

**President:** Brooke Reis

**President Elect:** Madeline Ping

**Undergraduate VP:** Amelia Allen

**Graduate VP:** Elaheh Siahkouhi

**Secretary:** Katie Mertens

**Treasurer:** Emma Hunley

**Faculty Advisor:** Dr. Barry Spurlock

## Faculty

**Ron Dotson, Ed.D.**

Ron.Dotson@eku.edu

**Scotty Dunlap, Ed.D., CSP**

Scotty.dunlap@eku.edu

**Chad S. Foster, Ph.D.**

Chad.Foster@eku.edu

**Joanne McGlown, Ph. D, RN**

Joanne.McGlown@eku.edu

**Troy A. Rawlins, Ed.D.**

Troy.Rawlins@eku.edu

**Tom Schneid, J.D., Ph.D**

Tom.Schneid@eku.edu

**Randy Shaw**

Randy.Shaw@eku.edu

**Barry S Spurlock, J.D., CSP**

Barry.Spurlock@eku.edu

**David Stumbo, Ed.D., OHST, CSP**

David.Stumbo@eku.edu

**Bill Sullivan**

Bill.Sullivan@eku.edu

**Brian K. Simpkins, Ph.D, Ed.D.**

Brian.Simpkins@eku.edu

# Eastern Kentucky University



An Authorized  
**OSHA** Training Institute  
Education Center®

**Zack Rhodus**  
Associate Director

[william.rhodus@eku.edu](mailto:william.rhodus@eku.edu)  
(859) 622-6921



**Trevor George**  
OSHA Training Specialist

[trevor.george@eku.edu](mailto:trevor.george@eku.edu)  
(859) 622-2961

## EKU OTIEC News

### Output for Fed FY 2023:

**1,330 students trained.....109 classes delivered**  
**2024 courses available in Richmond, Louisville, and online**

#### OSHA 10-Hour Training for KY Continuing and Technical Education

August 2023 - A partnership between the KY Department of Education and EKU has produced 44 authorized Construction OSHA Outreach Trainers and 33 authorized General Industry OSHA Outreach Trainers.

The program has had a huge impact for KY Career and Technical Education program; 5,881 KY high school students have received an OSHA 10-hour or 30-hour card through this partnership.

# Stay Connected



**EKU OSH LinkedIn**



**OSH Facebook**



**OCCUPATIONAL  
SAFETY PROGRAM**

## **EKU Safety Newsletter**

A biannual publication of the Department of Safety & Security

### **Editor**

Dr. David Stumbo, OHST, CSP

David.Stumbo@eku.edu





COLLEGE OF JUSTICE, SAFETY & MILITARY SCIENCE

# OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH

**Median Base Salary for full time OSH professional: \$97,000/yr**

**Source:**  
BCSP/ASSP 2018 Salary Survey

**Top 5 Industries**

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Insurance
- Oil, Gas, and Petrochemical
- Government/ Public Sector

**Source:**  
ASSP Database

**High demand and fastest growing profession in the United States**

**GREAT EARNING POTENTIAL  
HIGH RATE OF EMPLOYMENT  
INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE**

**[occupationalafety.eku.edu](http://occupationalafety.eku.edu)**

