

## SCHC Monthly Newsletter

Issue 29 | January 28, 2020



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### SCHC Members

We have a very busy first quarter that we hope everyone is excited about! To kick-off 2020, we will be counting on our members to help us elect new Officers and Board Members, join us in the many opportunities at the [SCHC 2020 Spring Meeting](#) (professional development, testing, presenting posters, hosting events, volunteering, etc.), [explore our partnership](#) with the Chemical Hazards Communication Society (CHCS), and help us grow our programs to benefit our society members, the hazcom field, and safety efforts around the world. It's going to be a fast-paced year. Thank you for being a part of it!

If you'd like to become an SCHC member, need to renew your membership, or want to know about the refer-a-friend program, [visit this page](#).

The SCHC 2020 Spring Meeting is fast approaching! **[Registration is OPEN](#)**. Check out the [Professional Development Courses](#) and [General Meeting Sessions](#) today to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration. **Course Registration Deadline is February 21st.**

### Mark Your Calendars

**February 15, 2020** - [Poster Abstracts Due](#) for Spring 2020 Meeting

**February 21, 2020** - [Early Bird Registration Discount](#) for Spring 2020 Meeting Ends

**February 28, 2020** - [Board Nomination Ballots DUE](#)

**March 6, 2020** - [Hotel Reservation Cut Off for Spring Meeting](#)

**March 28 - April 1, 2020** - [SCHC Spring 2020 Meeting](#) at the Charlotte Marriott City Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

**April 1, 2020** - [SDSRP Test](#), Charlotte, North Carolina

## SCHC

### Upcoming 2020 Officer/ Board Election

### Note to Spring Meeting Attendees

## Upcoming 2020 Officer/Board Election

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This Spring, the officers and five members of the Board of Directors will be elected. The Nominating Committee has chosen well-qualified candidates for the positions. All of the [candidates' biographies](#) appear on the ballot page on the SCHC website, and you can review them when you click on [this voting link](#).

Please complete the ballot, selecting one candidate for each of the officer positions and UP TO five (5) candidates for the Board. **Before submitting your vote, please ensure you have checked ONLY five of the possible candidates for the Board!** If more than five names are checked for the Board positions, your entire ballot will be rendered invalid and cannot be counted.

**The ballot deadline is midnight Friday, February 28, 2020. No ballots will be accepted after that date.** The candidates who are elected will be announced at the [Spring meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina](#).

Remember, your vote really counts in an organization this size. It is important to elect the best possible people to continue the tradition of excellence and leadership that has led to the growth and success of SCHC.

*Nominating Committee:* Mark Cohen, Chair, Denese A. Deeds, CIH, FAIHA, SDSRP, Suzanne Matuszewski, Luc Seguin, Ph.D., Darlene K. Susa-Anderson

## Note to Spring Meeting Attendees

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Each year, SCHC secures a block of hotel rooms so that members and attendees may enjoy a discounted rate during the Annual Meetings. Hotel reservations can now be made. [Visit www.schc.org](http://www.schc.org) for more information.

Where: Charlotte Marriott City Center

100 West Trade Street, Charlotte, NC 28202 (704) 333-9000

Phone Reservation: 800– 359-3204

Reference Code: SCHC 2020

The special rate is US\$179/night March 27-March 31, 2020 (with a few rooms available a few days prior to and after the meeting). Room rate includes complimentary internet access in the sleeping rooms. The hotel has a 72-hour cancellation policy.

**The reservation cutoff date is March 6, 2020.** Please note that the rooms usually sell out before the cutoff date.

## SCHC

### From the Outreach Desk

### From the Outreach Desk

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Happy 2020! With a new year, you are going to see some changes from your SCHC Outreach Committee. There has been some reorganization in the Society and that has meant that our committee has some new responsibilities.

First, the Social Media committee was absorbed into the Outreach Committee. So if you are having an issue with our Facebook page, LinkedIn Page, or Twitter account or have any questions about those, Outreach can help you out.

Second, the Membership committee has also been absorbed into the Outreach Committee. Membership previously handled things like the dinners at the conferences, coordination to improve the benefits for members, and awards. We have a lot of awards here at SCHC, many of which haven't been awarded in a long time. Keep an eye out at this space in the near future to see how we will be reorganizing the awards and the process for nominating for these awards.

Third, Outreach has been reorganized. We are now organized into subcommittees with a subchair to help cover all these increased responsibilities. There are Newsletter (Janelly Ricardo), Membership (Susan Thibodeaux), Social Media (Erin Weir), and Outreach (Kelsey Squelch). Each of these subcommittees has their own meeting time but we meet each month as a full committee to coordinate with each other and keep up with everything going on.

There are a lot of changes going on with our organization. We have elections coming up, we are going to be trying to increase our outreach to members and potential new members, and there are some other things going on behind the scenes that I can't disclose yet. We are really looking forward to the future, including the upcoming meeting Charlotte.

We'll be keeping you up-to-date on everything going on with the upcoming meeting in future editions of the newsletter as well as on our social media pages. And of course, if you'd like to help with our Outreach work, you are welcome to join us. You can contact me at [c.gioiello@ih-sc.com](mailto:c.gioiello@ih-sc.com) and I can add you, or you can always reach out to [socialmedia@schc.org](mailto:socialmedia@schc.org) as a general committee contact. So keep watching this space for all the news, and make sure to check out our Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter accounts to stay in touch!

Chandra Gioiello, Chair, Outreach Committee

## SDSRP – The Differentiator with an International Reach

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The SDS and Label Authoring Competency Assessment will be given at the **SCHC Spring Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 1:00 pm**. If you write or review Safety Data Sheets and Labels, taking the SDS and Label Authoring Exam is an excellent opportunity to test your knowledge and demonstrate your expertise. Based on GHS Revision 5, the test is comprised of general knowledge questions and a practical skills assessment. Passing all parts of the exam earns the examinee the SDS Registered Professional (SDSRP) designation.

Created through an SCHC/AIHA partnership, the SDSRP designation is sought after by employers, authors, and clients alike, both domestically and internationally. Angela Wheeler, MSc, CIH, CRSP, SDSRP, who works for Chemscape Safety Technologies Inc. in Calgary, Canada, recently communicated the value of the SDSRP designation as it relates to her industry.

Angela noted, “it is a mark of distinction/differentiator for those of us authoring SDSs. Becoming an SDSRP gave me the skills and confidence to write SDSs well.”

Presently the international reach is expanding, with approximately 11% of SDSRPs from Canada and others who reside in the U.S. but work on contracts in other countries. Recently Mahesh Rachamalla, who hails from India, earned the SDSRP designation. He posted the news on LinkedIn and received nearly 2,000 views!

Mahesh explains the growing need regarding hazard communication in India: “During the last decade, the chemical industry and service sector have grown to have more than 30 companies with 200 professionals working in SDS authoring with their service centers in India. Hazard communication requires professional expertise, and industries are willing to invest in their employees to upgrade skills and reduce any possible errors in SDS authoring. Industry stakeholders are actively looking for training and professional recognition for their workforce.”

AIHA Registry Programs continues to engage with the SDS and Label Authoring community, multi-national corporations, and local sections to promote the importance of the SDS and Label Authoring Registry and SDSRPs, both domestically and internationally. Consider taking AIHA’s Registry Programs’ SDS and Label Authoring Competency Assessment in April. Review the [qualification requirements](#) and [apply now](#) to sit for the exam at the SCHC Spring Meeting in Charlotte, NC, and join the ranks of other registered professionals in our global community!

## REGULATORY

### Hot Topics - PMN 101

## Hot Topics - PMN 101

*Submitted by Katy Austin, Product Safety & Regulatory Manager*

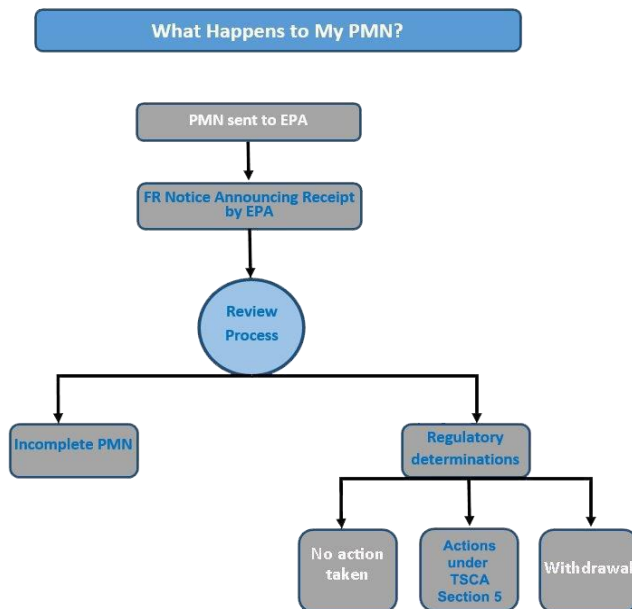
### Pre-Manufacture Notifications (a.k.a. “PMN’s”) - What do you Need to Know?

As your company approaches innovative projects more often, the principles of PMN’s will come up more often. What do you need to know?

Generally, the EPA filing itself is not the big expense for dollars or time, but rather the toxicology studies associated with proving there is no reason the EPA should be concerned about the new chemical either from environmental stewardship or for human health and safety.

The EPA will review the PMN to determine if there is sufficient or insufficient data present to make a verdict. If enough data is confirmed, the agency then determines if the PMN chemical “may present” or “is not likely to present” unreasonable risks (either to environment or human health).

If “likely to present risk” the EPA is authorized to dictate terms or limitations of use via a Significant New Use Rule (“SNUR”). This can alter the PMN submitter’s hopeful use and sales of product. Best ways to increase the likelihood of a favorable EPA determination? More data, and clear data, that supports why your new chemical is safe and biodegradable. What kind of timeline can a business expect after the studies are complete and your PMN is ready to submit? Typically bank on a couple of years ±.



*(graphic and reference: <https://www.epa.gov/reviewing-new-chemicals-under-toxic-substances-control-act-tsca/epas-review-process-new-chemicals>)*

## REGULATORY

### GCC Proposes Adopting GHS 5th Ver.

## Gulf Cooperation Council Proposes Adopting GHS, 5th Version

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A [recent ChemicalWatch article](#) reported that the standards organization for the Gulf Cooperation Council has published a first draft of technical regulation that would adopt the fifth version of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)* (with few exceptions) into its member countries. Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates comprise the Gulf Cooperation Council.



Currently, companies in the region do not follow a unified hazard system and rely on a variety of systems throughout the area. *"These differences create inconsistencies in hazard communication throughout the supply chain and result in additional safety and environmental risks and inefficiencies," the [Gulf Petrochemicals and Chemicals Association] said.*<sup>1</sup> The goal of adopting the GHS is to remove confusion, as well as, improve safety and hazard communications and standardization within the region and globally.

The article shares points of the GHS that will be modified or will not be adopted. EU requirements will play an important factor in the Gulf Cooperation Council's process.

SCHC Committee Member Katy Austin summarizes that "[a]ll of this is a win for any Hazard Communication professional if you're supporting a business that sells to the Middle East. This proposition will help harmonize the Safety Data Sheets used in these countries and ultimately will help make your job clearer and easier to deliver as a Safety Data Sheet author."

<sup>1</sup> Harvey, Ginger (2019, November) *Gulf countries propose adopting fifth revision of GHS*, [ChemicalWatch](#)

## REGULATORY

Four New Substances  
Added to ECHA  
Candidate List

### Four New Substances Added to ECHA Candidate List

Earlier this month, the [ECHA issued a press release](#) that they were adding four substances to their Candidate List.

#	Substance name	EC	CAS	Reason for inclusion	Examples of use(s)
1	Diisohexyl phthalate	276-090-2	71850-09-4	Toxic for reproduction (Article 57 (c))	Not registered under REACH.
2	2-benzyl-2-dimethylamino-4'-morpholinobutyrophenone	404-360-3	119313-12-1	Toxic for reproduction (Article 57 (c))	The substance is used in polymer production
3	2-methyl-1-(4-methylthiophenyl)-2-morpholinopropan-1-one	400-600-6	71868-10-5	Toxic for reproduction (Article 57 (c))	The substance is used in polymer production
4	Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) and its salts	-	-	Equivalent level of concern having probable serious effects to the environment (Article 57(f) - environment)  Equivalent level of concern having probable serious effects to human health (Article 57(f) - human health)	Used as a catalyst/additive/reactant in polymer manufacture and in chemical synthesis. It is also used as a flame retardant in polycarbonate (for electronic equipment).

*Table shared by ECHA.*

The Candidate List and the decisions behind them can be found on this webpage: <https://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>.

## REGULATORY

### CA Prop 65 Updates

## California Proposition 65 Updates

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[Per a California OEHHA Notice](#): On December 31, 2019, the California Office of Administrative Law approved amendments to Title 27, California Code of Regulations, section 25600.2, subsections (b), (c), (f) and (i), Responsibility to Provide Consumer Product Exposure Warnings. These amendments provide more specific guidance for manufacturers, retailers and other businesses in the chain of commerce on how to satisfy their responsibilities to provide consumer product exposure warnings for chemicals listed under Proposition 65. This regulatory action becomes effective on April 1, 2020.

[Final Adopted  
Regulatory Text](#)

Effective January 3, 2020, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

(OEHHA) added cannabis (marijuana) smoke and  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol ( $\Delta^9$ -THC) to the list of chemicals known to the state to cause reproductive toxicity (developmental endpoint). Information about the public comment, related research, and announcement can be found [here](#).

[Marijuana \(Cannabis\) Smoke Chemical Status](#)

A complete, updated Proposition 65 chemical list can be found [here](#).



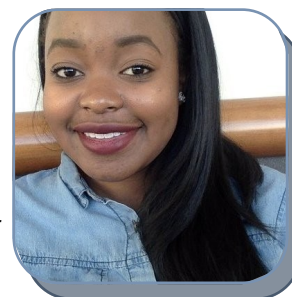
## SCHC

### A Year in Regulatory Compliance

## A Year in Regulatory Compliance

*Submitted by Asante Mpanda, Chemical Regulatory Specialist, IHSC, LLC*

I can say with complete transparency that I did not know what a chemical regulatory specialist did when I first found my position. The extent of my exposure to hazard communication was going over laboratory safety rules and personal protective equipment in school. Having that in mind, I was very nervous about my lack of experience and lack of knowledge.



Asante Mpanda  
*Photocredit: LinkedIn*

My expectations of regulatory compliance and hazard communication were quite different from the reality of the work. I believed I would be giving proper handling advice and creating warning labels, but, in reality, my job ranges from formulation review to cross referencing GHS, OSHA, and REACH requirements and interacting with local and international clients. I have since come to learn that a fundamental misunderstanding of industrial health and safety is quite common.

Initially, one of my biggest challenges was formulation breakdowns. Although I was familiar with many of the chemicals in our clients' products, I was unaware of the attention to detail that was required to classify the product hazards. Taking the time to meticulously review my work definitely increased my hazard communication skills and my understanding of GHS, REACH and OSHA regulations.

Learning the different SDS specifications for each client was difficult for me as well. I had to familiarize myself with REACH SDS and US SDS formats and the necessary disclosure for each SDS type. In addition, I discovered which chemicals could be made proprietary and whether or not there were listing limits. With time and experience, my daily challenges lessened but I knew I still had so much more to learn.

My first year working as a hazard communication consultant and SDS author has been one of my most transformative years yet. Prior to working in hazcom, I had no idea how important chemical regulatory specialists were in the development and release of commercial and industrial products. The field seems niche but it actually encompasses vast amounts of information ranging from product stewardship to toxicology. I am still very much a novice in this field but I undoubtedly know I am lucky to be working alongside a group of exceedingly knowledgeable individuals.

## Members Spotlight — Tracey Graham & Panagiotis “Noti” Mikroudis

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In this spotlight, SCHC Membership sub-chair Susan Thibodeaux interviews two new SCHC Board candidates that you may not know—Tracey Graham and Panagiotis “Noti” Mikroudis.

First, we’ll get to know Tracey Graham.

**Q: *What do you do?***

A: Currently, I am the Global Regulatory Affairs Manager for Ecolab’s Quick Service Restaurant and Food Retail Services Divisions. As such, it is my job to ensure that products are compliant with all regulations (not just OSHA type regulations) from cradle to grave in 172 countries around the world



**Tracey Graham**

**Q: *How long have you been doing it?***

A: I have been involved in Product Safety since 1996 and worked for Ecolab since 2007.

**Q: *What are your aspirations?***

A: I aspire to influence the creation of global regulations so that the world is a cleaner, safer and healthier place to live using the knowledge that I have garnered over the years to ensure we have clean water to drink, safe food to eat, abundant energy and can live in a healthy environment.

**Q: *What is something unique about you?***

A: I have some serious skills with a hula hoop and I can quote Shel Silverstein.

**Q: *Why do you love SCHC?***

A: I love SCHC because it allows me a safe space to learn new things, provides me with perspectives that might not align to my own thus challenging me to continue to grow, colleagues to share ideas with, and a platform to voice concerns and have them heard by various Agencies.

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## Members Spotlight — Tracey Graham & Panagiotis “Noti” Mikroudis

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Our interview continues with Pangiotis “Noti” Mikroudis.

### **Q: *What do you do?***

A: I am a Senior Product Safety Representative at Covestro LLC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I have been with Covestro, a high tech polymers company for about 4.5 years. Some of my key daily responsibilities include SDS authoring, customer support inquiries, and being on the campus emergency response team.



**Noti Mikroudis**

### **Q: *How long have you been doing it?***

A: I have been in the hazard communication industry for almost 12 years now. After college graduation in 2008 I began working at ChemADVISOR which officially kicked off my career in the hazard communication/product stewardship field. I was there for almost 4 years and it was during this time that I was introduced to SCHC. After 4 years of consulting experience I wanted to move into industry/manufacturing so that I could be more “hands-on,” so I took a product stewardship manager position at a smaller coatings and adhesives company where I remained for 3 years.

Those 3 years were packed with new challenges as I had to wear many hats but the experience gained was invaluable. I knew that I wanted to stay hands-on in industry but wanted to gain experience upstream in the supply chain to learn new chemistries and uses, as well as the challenges that raw material manufacturers face. It has been wonderful at Covestro. I am challenged everyday with the exact things I wanted to learn when I decided to join this company.

### **Q: *What are your aspirations?***

A: I just began a master’s program in environmental science and management at Duquesne University to advance my knowledge so that I can keep up with today’s demands for sustainability. I want to take this knowledge back to work so that I can help my company continue to be an industry leader in circular economy. I want to help make a difference for our environment.

*Continued on next page*

## SCHC

Members Spotlight -  
Tracey Graham &  
Noti Mikroudis (continued)

## CONTACTS

Outreach and Newsletter  
Committee Reminder

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## Members Spotlight — Tracey Graham & Panagiotis “Noti” Mikroudis

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**Q: *What is something unique about you?***

A: I am a trained Byzantine cantor. There about 10,000 in Greece but only a few thousand in the rest of the world. This skill has taken me as far as chanting services in the Holy Land during the week leading up Greek Orthodox Easter.



**Noti Mikroudis**

**Q: *Why do you love SCHC?***

A: SCHC has been a great source for my professional development, giving my career so many opportunities as well as the skills needed to be successful in this line of work.

If elected, I will do my best to make sure SCHC can continue to grow and be able to provide these opportunities to others who chose to attend conferences and be a part of this valuable society.

## OUTREACH AND NEWSLETTER REMINDER

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Please send all newsworthy newsletter topics to the Outreach Committee by email to [socialmedia@schc.org](mailto:socialmedia@schc.org).