

# ES&H COMMUNICATION

*Our Community for Environmental, Safety, & Health Communicators of the Society for Technical Communication promotes the importance of effective communication to protect the environment, workplace safety, and the health of all people.*

## Community for Environmental, Safety & Health Communicators

Co-managers:  
Carolyn Luttrell &  
Gevene Hertz

Our **Community for Environmental, Safety, and Health Communicators** allows technical communicators to stay current on developments in this growing area. This specialty includes writers and designers in fields ranging from space-related to archeological, medical, industrial hygiene, transportation, water management and hazardous materials, and more.

The ES&H Community meets annually at the STC International conference and informally through the ES&H e-mail list. Sign up at [http://lists.stc.org/cgi-bin/lyris.pl?join=stc\\_esh\\_sig](http://lists.stc.org/cgi-bin/lyris.pl?join=stc_esh_sig)

# Winter 2009

The official publication of the Community for Environmental, Safety, & Health Communication of the Society for Technical Communication

## New Leadership Slate

We have some administrative changes! We have co-managers, one in Europe and the other in the US. They are Gevene Hertz, PhD, who is a Senior Technical Writer and Editor with BK Medical in Herlev, Denmark, and Carolyn Luttrell, MA, a Document Management Specialist with DuPont's Corporate Remediation Group in Wilmington, Delaware.

## Gevene Hertz - Co-manager

Co-manager Gevene Hertz has been a technical writer for 14 years and a member of STC for almost as long. For the past 7½ years, she has worked for BK Medical, a Danish manufacturer of medical ultrasound equipment. She writes user guides and other material, and has particular responsibility for information about safety, cleaning and sterilization. One of her major concerns is making sure that user documentation complies with FDA, European and other regional regulations. She has a BA, MA and PhD in

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Creating and supporting a forum for communities of practice in the profession of technical communication

**ES&H Communication** is published four times a year by the Community for Environmental, Safety, and Health (ES&H) Communicators of the Society for Technical Communication. The ES&H Community assists members in the effective communication of the broad aspects of environmental quality, and safety and health aspects of occupational and outdoor environments. The Society for Technical Communication assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the Society's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of STC.

This newsletter encourages writers to submit articles to the editor. By submitting an article, you permit this newsletter to edit and run the article and other STC publications to reprint it without permission. Copyright is held by the writer.

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*New Leadership, Continued from Page 1*

Experimental Psychology, did postdoctoral research in visual neurophysiology, and had varied occupations before becoming a technical writer. Her current title at BK Medical is Senior Technical Writer and Editor. She has lived in Denmark for almost 30 years.

**Carolyn Luttrell - Co-manager**

Carolyn Luttrell has been in corporate America for over 30 years, and has done environmental and industrial safety writing since 1987. Her work includes reports, documentation for USA regulatory bodies, and developing industrial safety courses for sale throughout the world. She has taken master's level courses in energy and environmental policy at the University of Delaware. She has BA and MA degrees in English Literature.

Carolyn is an Associate Fellow of STC and was founder of the International Technical Communication Special Interest Group, of which she is the current Treasurer. She managed the SIG for five years.

Her interest in environmental work came when she wrote reports documenting emissions reductions as part of a sustainable development program and prepared documentation for USA regulatory bodies. She came to realize how fragile this world is and how important it is that we do not pollute and

that we live sustainably. She thinks often of the Native American proverb, "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." Her interest in industrial safety began when she developed courses that enable employees to work safely, no matter what industry they are in.

**Diana Barkley - Treasurer**

Diana Barkley works as a Communications Coordinator at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in Austin, Texas, where she edits regulatory guides, general information pieces (such as newsletters, posters, or brochures), and web pages.

She is a Senior STC Member and served as manager of the ES&H SIG, as well as served in various leadership roles for the STC Austin Chapter/Community. In 2003, she was the host/chair for the STC Region 5 Conference. She contributed to three award-winning entries in publications in the Austin Chapter's technical publications competition.

She has a Bachelor of Journalism degree from The University of Texas at Austin, a certificate in technical communication from Austin Community College, and basic training in auditing and inspections/investigations (National Certified Inspector/Investigator Training, the Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation). She's also a long-time member of the Austintatious Toastmasters Club.

#### Laura Allen - Newsletter Editor

Laura's experience and focus is in marketing communications. She has worked primarily on the fringes of our SIG's industries, mainly for an integrated design firm. She has a degree in technical communication from the Milwaukee School of Engineering and is considering going to graduate school.

#### Nicole Madison - Webmaster and Membership Manager

Nicole Madison is an Assistant Professor of Professional Writing at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, where she is also the faculty advisor for the Student Chapter of STC. She graduated with her PhD in Technical Communication and Rhetoric at Texas Tech University, and completed her MA and BA degrees at Bowling Green State University.

Her research interests involve health communication in translation, and localization techniques for health information, particularly in regard to Spanish speakers in the United States. Look for her article, "Localizing Medical Information for Spanish-Speakers: The CDC Campaign to Increase Public Awareness about HPV," in the August 2009 issue of Technical Communication.

#### Leadership Team's Email List

Gevene Hertz – geh@bkmed.dk  
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#### Call for E-Mail List Manager

We are accepting nominations for a new e-mail list manager. The responsibilities include maintaining and moderating the e-mail list. If you would be interested in the position, please contact Carolyn or Gevene.

#### NEW SIG Brochure

We have a new SIG brochure on our Web site, which is available for download.

#### Annual SIG Business Meeting Notes

Here's a recap of what ESH SIG Business

meeting the Communications Summit in Philadelphia last June. Thanks to Gary Sternburg for writing the minutes.

The business meeting was held as scheduled and the election took place. The following were voted in unanimously:

<b>Manager/Co-Manager:</b>	Gevene Hertz
<b>Manager/Co-Manager:</b>	Carolyn Luttrell
<b>Membership:</b>	Nicole Madison
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Diana Barkley
<b>Web Manager:</b>	Nicole Madison
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Laura Allen

The next election will take place in 2010.

During the meeting, a great suggestion was made that we post a ListServ question on a regular basis (once a week, once every two weeks, or once a month). ***If anyone would like to volunteer to do this, please contact Gevene or Carolyn.***

# Evening Get-Together & Atlanta Conference

## Evening Get-Together

Eight people attended the evening get-together, which Gary organized for Monday night at the conference. They had dinner at a nearby restaurant, and then five of them took a long walk and toured the city's historic sites. During the walk, they checked out such sites as: Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, the Betsy Ross House, South Street, Ben Franklin's grave, and Elfreth's Alley (the longest continuously lived-on street in the US). ***If anyone is interested in organizing a similar get together in Atlanta, please contact Carolyn Luttrell.***

## Preparing for the Atlanta Conference

The SIG will be having a business meeting in Atlanta, so by all means try to attend. We will also have a networking lunch, so please get a ticket and join us.

We will be hosting a table at the Atlanta Conference at the Sunday reception. We will have copies of the newsletter, our brochure, and maybe a few giveaways. ***If you're interested in working at the table, please contact Carolyn.***

## And Finally

- *We want to hear from you. If you have a book you would like to review, feel free to review it and send it to our Newsletter Editor, Laura Allen.*
- *If you have an ES&H-related accomplishment, make sure we know about it. This is your chance to let your ES&H community know what you've done.*
- *We're going to have a special section on educational opportunities in the field. We're posting them on the Web site so you can check them out! Contact Nicole if you know of any programs.*
- *What type of ES&H work do you do? How did you get started? Let us know! We'd love to feature you in the newsletter.*
- *We have a major project that we would like your input on. We would like to compile a list of regulatory requirements for the medical industry. If you can provide information for this project, please send it to one of our co-managers.*