# Mindfulness: Promoting Total Worker Health & Safety by Being in the Moment



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# University of California (UC)

- 10 campuses, 5 medical centers, 3 national labs
- > 233,000 students and > 190,000 employees



# UC Office of the President (UCOP)

- Systemwide Headquarters
  - Manages fiscal & business operations
  - Supports academic & research missions



## **UCOP Office of Risk Services**

- Implements Enterprise Risk Management
  - Includes UC Systemwide Centers of Excellence



Cheryl Lloyd Chief Risk Officer



Ken Smith Executive Director, EH&S

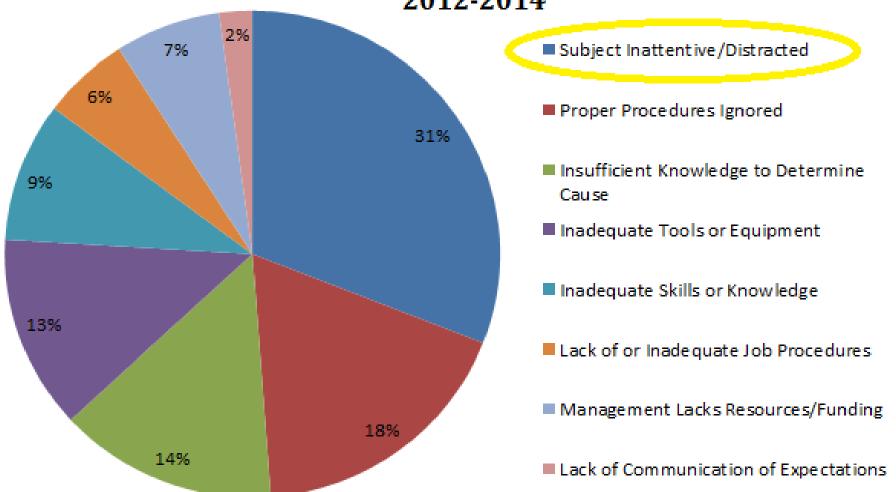


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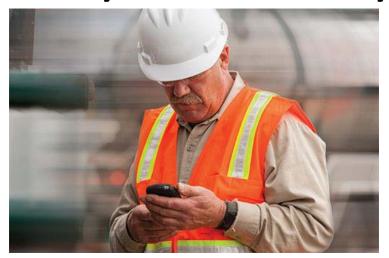


# Safety Issue: Inattention/Distraction

UC Irvine Campus Employee Injuries: Root Cause Trends 2012-2014



# Is inattention/distraction a safety hazard at your organization?







If so, how are you addressing it?

# **Existing Safety Trainings**



# Solution: Mindfulness Training (Attention Training)





# Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)

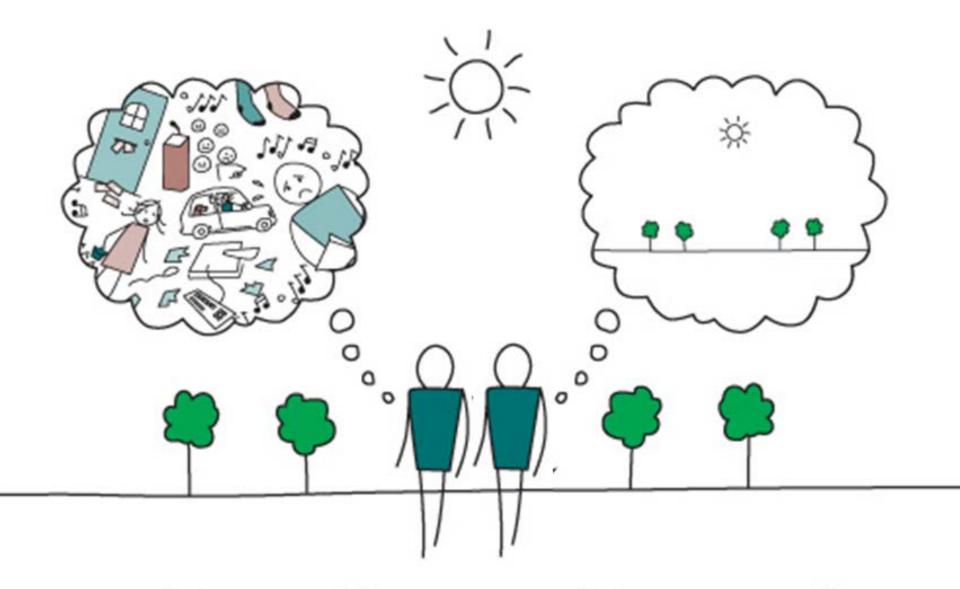
#### **Formal Practices**

- Body Scan
- Yoga-based movement
- Mindful Breathing
- Mindful Walking

#### **Informal Practices**

- Mindful Eating
- Mindful Driving
- Mindful Working
- Mindful of Any Moment!





Mind Full, or Mindful?

## MBSR Offered Worldwide



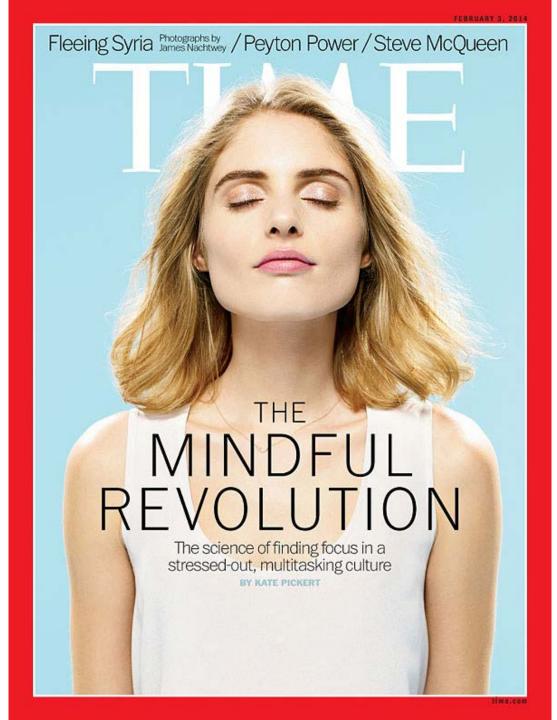
# **Workplace Applications**



# SEARCH INSIDE YOURSELF







## Mindfulness Research Centers

- Columbia
- Duke
- Eisenhower Medical Center
- Harvard
- Oxford
- Kaiser Permanente

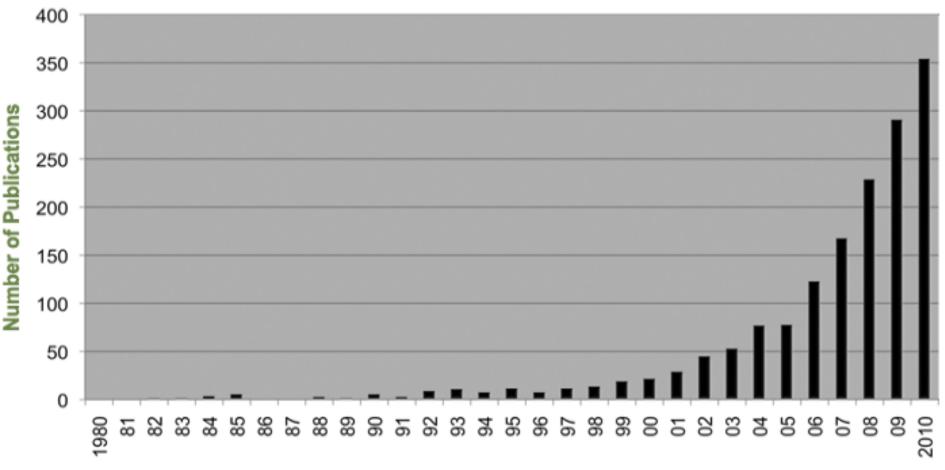
- Scripps
- Stanford
- U Mass Medical School
- UCLA
- UCSD
- Numerous Programs
   Worldwide





## Growth in Mindfulness Research

Figure 1. An example of growth in the mindfulness research literature across 30 years, 1980 - 2010



Year

Notes. Results obtained from a search of the term "mindfulness" in the abstract and keywords of the ISI Web of Knowledge database on Feb. 5, 2011. The search was limited to publications with English language abstracts.

# Summary of Research Findings

## Physical Health

- Reduces stress, chronic pain, headaches, blood pressure, cholesterol
- Improves immune function, sleep

#### Mental Health

- Reduces anxiety, depression, substance use
- Helps OCD, eating disorders, emotion regulation

## Healthy & Workplace Populations

- Reduces stress
- Improves immune response, sleep, overall well-being



# 5 Days Mindfulness or Relaxation Training

#### Increase

- Vigor
- Immune response



#### Decrease

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Anger
- Fatigue
- Significant decrease in stress-related cortisol

Tang, Y. et al. (2007) Short-term meditation training improves attention & self-regulation, Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences. 104 (43), 17152-17156

# Happiness



# **Changes Brain Regions & Activity**



#### Science News









#### Mindfulness Meditation Training Changes Brain Structure in Eight Weeks

ScienceDaily (Jan. 21, 2011) — Participating in an 8-week mindfulness meditation program appears to make measurable changes in brain regions associated with memory, sense of self, empathy and stress. In a study that will appear in the January 30 issue of Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging, a team led by Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) researchers report the results of their study, the first to document meditation-produced changes over time in the brain's grey matter.



# **Testing Performance**

Decreased mind-wandering
Improved working memory capacity
Better performance on GRE reading comprehension



Mrazek, MD et al. (2013) Psychological Science, 24 (5), 776-781

# Job Performance Mind Fitness

Improving Operational Effectiveness and Building Warrior Resilience

By ELIZABETH A. STANLEY and AMISHI P. JHA



# **Driving Safety**

- Mindfulness May Improve Driving Performance
  - Increases environmental awareness
  - Blocks out distractions
  - Helps to quickly identify hazards
  - Young adults lower in mindfulness texted more



Fedlman, G. et al. (2011) *Personality & Individual Differences*, 51 (7), 856-861 Kass, S.J. et al. (2011) *Mindfulness*, 2 (4), 236-241

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Cultivating Present Moment Awareness in the Workplace



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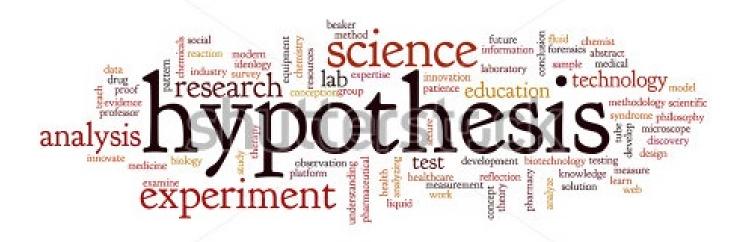
University of California, Irvine Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) is collaborating with the Susan Samueli Center for Integrative Medicine to research the impact of mindfulness on workplace health and safety. Sponsored by <u>University of California Office of the President</u> <u>Risk Services</u>, this project seeks to offer a complementary paradigm for creating safe and healthy workplaces across a variety of industries.

#### RECENT POSTS

Skeptical of Mindfulness?

Mindfulness: An Antidote

Mind Wandering & Happiness



# Mindfulness Improves Attention Reduces Injuries & Errors





- Adaptation of MBSR
  - Delivered by qualified mindfulness instructors
- Formats
  - Original (22 hours)
    - 8 weekly 2-hour sessions + 6-hour retreat
  - Abbreviated (12 hours)
    - 10 weekly 1-hour sessions (one is a 3-hour retreat)
  - Planning Online
    - 20-30 minutes sessions over 1 year

# Informal Pilot EH&S Staff & Facilities Managers



- Abbreviated format
- Approximately 30 participants
- No active control group
- Findings: Improved attention & reduced stress

## Formal Pilot



- Sample
  - 50 Nurses
    - UC Irvine Medical Center
    - High injuries & errors
  - Compensation 22 CEUs

- Random Assignment
  - Experimental
    - Mindfulness
  - Active Control
    - Health education

# Coming into the Moment



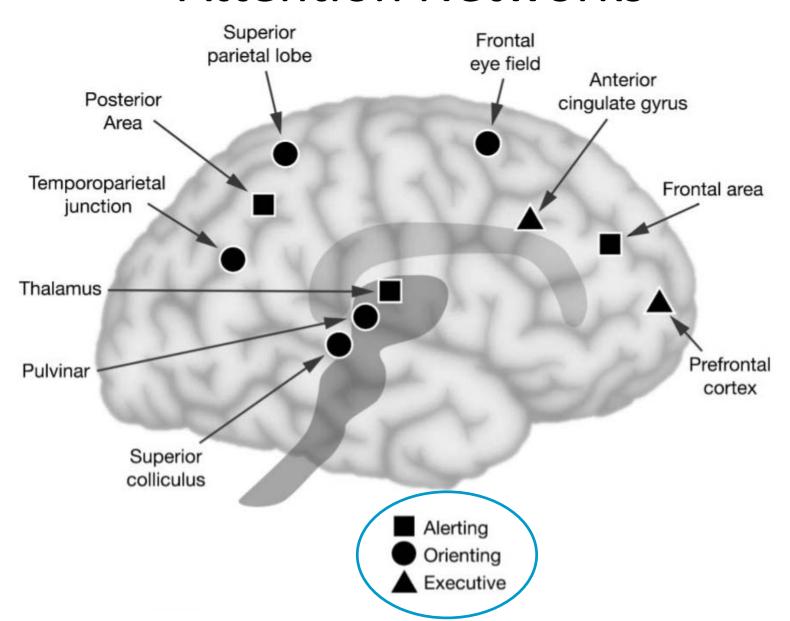
# Mindful Handwashing





- Mindfulness
  - Mindful Attention Awareness Scale
- Stress
  - Perceived Stress Scale
- Work Engagement
  - Utrecht Work Engagement Survey
- Burnout
  - Maslach Burnout Inventory

## **Attention Networks**



# Awaiting Results (Summer 2016)

Work-Related Injuries

Occupational Health data

- Work-Related Errors
  - Self-Report
- Sick Days
  - HR data
- Job Retention
  - HR data
- Organizational Costs
  - Workers' Compensation data & medical premiums



# Participant Feedback



# Recap What we are Examining

#### Whether Mindfulness:

- Reduces workplace injuries
- Reduces workplace errors



# Recap What We Know

### Research Supports that Mindfulness:

- Improves Physical Health
- Improves Emotional Health
- Improves Overall Well Being
- Improves Attention
- Improves Performance
- Changes the Brain



# Annual National Cost Occupational Injuries & Illnesses



Leigh, J. P. (2013) Economic Policy Institute

## Return on Investment





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