



# CSSSC Initiative: Safety Speaker Series

**The Issue:** Safety seminars take place infrequently and focus on notable external incidents rather than discussing departmental safety culture

**Our Solution:** Safety-focused guest speakers provide new perspectives and ideas, enabling a critical examination of our current safety culture which encourages students to identify areas for improvement and advocate for changes



## Promoting a Culture of Safety in Research

Dr. William B. Tolman  
Washington University in St. Louis

**Thursday, October 4, 2018  
9:00-10:00 am**

**Hawking Auditorium, Mitchell Institute**

A key to efforts to improve safety practices in academic laboratories is enhancing the culture of safety, defined as “the attitudes, beliefs, perceptions and values that employees share in relation to safety.” A new model for addressing the goal of improving the culture of safety was implemented in the Departments of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and Materials Science at the University of Minnesota, which involves empowered students leading the way through organization into a “Joint Safety Team” (JST). The genesis of this effort through a collaboration with Dow Chemical Company and snapshots of the myriad activities of the JST will be described. Successes and challenges faced as we have worked to improve our culture of safety will be discussed, and key factors that we believe are important for broadened implementation of the “JST model” will be presented.

*Host: Michael Nippe and Joe Zhou*

*Fall 2018 Safety Speaker Announcement*