

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

4/13/2022 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Proxy*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hawkinson (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Oglesby (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sulgi Lotze (1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Parisi, Chair (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Manley (5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brett Magnuson (2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nigel Horton (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kris Harrell (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colleen Irvin (9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Kwasinski (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Zuckerman (10)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Chateaubriand (10)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mary Ann Valentine (4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ansley Roman (5)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah O'Hara (6)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Antonio Vasquez, UAW 4121
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Harrington (6)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alaron Lewis (7)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hannah Wilson (8)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Faculty Senate – TBD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Miller (8)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GPSS – Gabby Rivera
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexander Lefort (9)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	= attended meeting		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Coppola (9)	*	= voting members		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Warren (10)	13	= voting members for quorum		
Ex-Officio Member		Ex-Officio Member		Env. Health & Safety Member	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracey Mosier, UWF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rick Gleason, DEOHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Katia Harb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Pennington, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Felicia Foster, AGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denise Bender
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Charvat, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Gwin, AGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin McKeown
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barry Morgan, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nielsen, Risk Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sonia Honeydew
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lorilyn A. H. Ignao
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Allyson Long, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Harvey
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenna Gravley
Guest					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Berard, HSAS&F				

Agenda

1. Attendance/Quorum

Erin McKeown confirmed attendance met quorum.

2. Call to Order and Welcome

Carmen Parisi opened up with a land and water acknowledgement, then expressed rules of the meeting and voting procedures.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carmen led a discussion to edit and approve the March 2022 meeting minutes. Edits pertaining to the BARC training were made and David Zuckerberg was marked as having attended the last meeting. Carmen asked if there were any other changes to the meeting minutes before she called for a motion to accept. Ansley Marie motioned to accept. Kurt Oglesby seconded. Motion passed and March meeting minutes were approved.

4. COVID-19 Update

Denise Bender presented Katia Harb's [April 2022 COVID-19 UWide Update](#). Within the UW community, 399 members tested positive, which calculates to a 4.7% positivity rate. Within King County, community levels remain low. The levels may rise to moderate if cases begin to rise. As expected, spring quarter saw an increase in cases, and BA2 subvariant has been spreading. UW community has generally reported mild symptoms. UW has adopted a singular COVID prevention plan. Site specific prevention plans are optional. Vaccination requirements remain in place. UW reminds everyone to maintain good hygiene by cleaning community and personal areas, and continue to use PPE.

In order to minimize risks, decision makers are conducting risk assessments. UW Medicine will continue to follow public health guidance and policies. Face coverings are still required in healthcare centers, shuttles, and are also required when returning to campus with symptoms and/or contact with infected persons. Face coverings are still recommended indoors as of April 9th. With recent infection rate increase, changes in face covering policies may be expected. Face coverings continue to be highly recommended for immunocompromised individuals and other high-risk groups.

UW is waiting for L&I to update worker protection guidance. Policy updates will be aligned with King and Pierce counties. Within the workplace, individuals are able to remind and recommend different protective measures but cannot require people to follow them. The vaccination policy is still in place for personnel and students, but visitors are not required to be vaccinated. Boosters are strongly recommended for those who are eligible. Fully vaccinated criteria do not include boosters. Unvaccinated employees and students must have an approved exemption.

The protective measures for eating/drinking areas and meeting spaces were archived, though it is still recommended to spend as little time in those spaces as possible. The COVID-19 Safety Training was updated as of April 6. Regulatory and public health guidance labels King County now

at low risk. Contract tracing is still occurring. Washington L&I is making broad changes to workplace COVID protection requirements. Employer vaccine requirements are beginning to be relaxed. It is highly recommended to review the COVID-19 Public Health Requirements and Guidance flowchart.

SeattleFlu.org is a resource available to see what is spiking during certain time periods. Sarah Coppola had questions about a student returning back to campus after 5 days quarantine and retesting positive for COVID-19 again. Sarah Coppola asked if we are assuming that individuals are no longer contagious after they no longer have symptoms and it's been 5 days of quarantine? Denise confirmed the studies show they are no longer contagious but will need to wear a well-fitted mask in public spaces. Denise said they are required to remain in isolation if they are still showing symptoms.

Members mentioned that President Biden extended masking on public transportation for two more weeks.

5. 2021 OSHA Data Summary

Erin McKeown presented [2021 Injury data](#). The metrics focused on recordable cases where injuries occurred at work or were work-related and required treatment beyond simple first aid required, or where the injury led to a person needing to take time away from work, or work with accommodations, a death, an illness or disease outcome from work (e.g. hearing loss, COVID-19). Erin mentioned sharps and bloodborne pathogen exposures are also recordable injuries.

All recordable injuries are summarized in the OSHA 300A summary sheet. The OSHA 300A summarizes the total number of cases, how many days away or job restricted days, numbers of employees, and total employee hours at work. This data is used to create incidence rates. The University's incidence rates fall below university and colleges nationwide, not including the UW hospitals.

Erin showed incidence rates for the hospitals compared to medical and surgical hospitals nationwide. Harborview Medical Center was above the average, UWMC Montlake was below average, and UWMC Northwest Hospital was out of range. All of the medical centers have seen spikes in recordables because of the pandemic. Sarah Coppola asked if the hospitals were different in case counts because of differences in their access or use of patient lifts. Erin indicated she would get back to Sarah with a response after speaking with employee health representatives at each of the hospitals.

At the UW (not including the medical center, we saw a total of 770 incidents in 2021. Over the past three years, there has been a steady ratio between recordable and non-recordable injury incidents. In 2021 16% of recordable injuries were severe enough to result in days away from work. Risk Services emphasizes a quick and safe return of employees to the workplace and offers employers financial incentives to do so. Most of the OARS reports received were injuries, though some were property damage, near miss, and fires. Erin highlighted three severe incidents: a leg laceration while moving a countertop, an electrical shocks and a J-Wing lab intruder.

Erin reminded members that they can access these metrics via their OARS Dashboards in Tableau. Erin mentioned that HSC-2 had most recordable injuries, followed by HSC-4, then HSC-1.

Top causes for recordable injuries were: ergonomics, needles/medical sharps, and slip/trip/fall incidents.

Erin talked about EH&S efforts to reduce office ergonomic injuries. EH&S hired ErgoFit to assist. ErgoFit offers ComfortZone, an online self-assessment software tool. The tool is used to teach methods to reduce ergonomic injuries, but also distinguishes high risk cases and guides EH&S and the vendor to conduct in-person evaluations as needed. Sarah C. asked if the ergonomic cases were acute or cumulative trauma, and Denise estimated that we were seeing 75% acute cases and 25% cumulative trauma cases. Denise estimated we see a ratio of 75/25 for forceful movements/repetitive motions and compounding movements in relation to ergonomics issues. Erin mentioned an interesting trend in ergonomic injuries related to working around or managing animal cages.

Erin mention other EH&S prevention efforts to promote safety that included updates to information of COVID-19 Safety, a Lab Safety Awards and Innovation event, MyChem upgrade, and a new training course called "Five Whys Root Cause Analysis".

Erin emphasized the need to report all incidents, unsafe conditions, unsafe acts, near misses, and injuries to promote a good safety culture at the UW. She said our on-time reporting and near miss reporting remain below our goals.

6. Organizational Group Reports

Carmen requested group reports. She also asked for recommendations on guest speakers at future U-Wide meetings.

HSC-1

Ryan Hawkinson mentioned that Lt. Chris Jaross spoke at his last committee meeting about the jurisdictional differences between Seattle Police and UW Police. Various departments have voiced concerns and frustrations with jurisdictional boundaries. Ryan also thanked Erin McKeown for reviewing the HSC-1 specific metrics at their last meeting.

HSC-2

Norman Kwasinski, nothing to report.

HSC-3

Kurt Oglesby, nothing to report.

HSC-4

Steve Berard, on behalf of Christine Aker, nothing to report.

HSC-5

David Manley, new chair for HSC-5. Meeting discussed injury data from various hospitals and they are anticipating a presentation at the end of the month for preventing workplace violence. COVID-19 remains to be a high priority as well as how to best take care of healthcare workers.

HSC-6

Sarah O'Hara, nothing to report.

HSC-7

Alaron Lewis, nothing to report from committee, though looking to hire a new employee.

HSC-8

Hannah Wilson, nothing to report. Asked for the best point of contact for setting up a new Maker Space. Denise said she or Brett Konzek can help.

HSC-9

Alex Lefort, Emergency Management presented on earthquake safety. He said there continues to be frustrations voiced from various groups over the inability to have site specific masking mandates. He said groups have been feeling that they take on extra burdens to place extra preventative steps.

HSC-10

David Warren, nothing to report.

7. Union & Senate Reports**GPSS**

Gabby Rivera, absent.

WFSE 1488

Paula Lukaszek, absent.

SEIU 925

Ann Aumann, nothing to report.

UAW 4121

Antonio Vasquez, nothing to report.

8. Ex Officio Reports**UW Facilities**

Chris Pennington, nothing to report.

UWPD

Lt. Chris Jaross, hired interim deputy chief with a 1-year contract until a new chief is hired. Process has been ongoing and the University has hired a firm to actively recruit. Department is hopeful to have a new full-time chief hired within the year.

Emergency Management

Steve Charvat, technical issues with buildings using emergency alert reader boards identified and being fixed. System is rarely used.

DEOHS

Rick Gleason, absent.

AGO

Nancy Gwin, nothing to report.

Claim Services

Ken Nielsen reminded us that supervisors should not make comments in OARS reports that accept liability for injury or illnesses. Workers' compensation is no-fault insurance. Condition is assertion of liability. Reports need to only give the facts of what occurred and let doctors diagnose conditions. Supervisors should identify root causes.

Transportation Services

Absent.

UW Tacoma

Susan Wagshul-Golden, nothing to report.

UW Bothell

Absent.

Faculty Senate

Absent.

9. EH&S Updates

L&I

Erin offered updates. A hearing regarding Harborview's COVID-19 outbreak has been rescheduled. LNI investigation at the UWMC Roosevelt Clinic regarding social distancing concerns remains open.

General

Denise offered staffing and policy updates. Natalie Daranyi accepted a position in Cleveland, OH. A position for a new physical safety lead has been posted. Diego Oliver accepted a new position and his position has also been posted. Two lab safety inspector positions are open. EH&S has been working to manage resource challenges. The Lockout/Tagout Manual and training are being updated.

Sarah asked what is the threshold at which the University will shift policies and how will that be communicated? Will faculty be included in these conversations? Denise explained that county and state health departments, L&I, and CDC guidance are all being considered to create requirements and recommendations for campus policies. She said that collective group has considered guidance and work together to determine policies. Some areas have been more conservative, and no criteria has been set as to what will trigger change. Currently, efforts are being made to align with public health departments and work with infectious diseases experts. Numbers are being monitored and there will be a change if the county shifts to moderate community levels, though face coverings are not required until high-risk community levels. Sarah C. expressed our duty to the community to not create a hospital crisis, emphasizing how to be stewards in the community. Consider how members of our University community spread out to the Greater Seattle Area. Denise asked at what rate students are wearing face coverings in the classroom? Sarah responded that around 90%, though likely due to a high-risk classroom population. Alex Lefort said about 90% of engineering students are also wearing facemasks in the classroom.

Good of the Order

Carmen said she had volunteered during the first week of April at the 2022 Partners in Emergency Preparedness (PIEP) conference at the Lynnwood Conference Center. Conference was an opportunity to share with partners in emergency preparedness. Members of the committee are able to support and help by attending next year's conference. Expertise can be used in a volunteer capacity. Carmen thought it was an excellent conference and an opportunity for those interested.

10. Adjourn

Carmen asked for any motions to adjourn meeting. Sarah O'Hara motioned to adjourn. Alex Lefort seconded.

Meeting adjourned 2:17pm