

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

3/8/2023 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Proxy*	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hawkinson (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Oglesby (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sulgi Lotze (1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Parisi, Chair (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Manley (5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brett Magnuson (2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nigel Horton (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Abian (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Martin Arroyo (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Kwasinski (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Zuckerman (10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colleen Irvin (9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Chateaubriand (10)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Kelly Carter-Lynn (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Desi Schatz (4)				Labor Union Member*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ansley Roman (5)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah O'Hara (6)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Harrington (6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Antonio Vasquez, UAW 4121
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alaron Lewis (7)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Miller (8)				Senate Member*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Costanti (8)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Faculty Senate - TBD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexander Lefort (9)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = attended meeting * = voting members 13 = voting members for quorum		<input type="checkbox"/>	GPSS - Gabby Rivera
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Coppola (9)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Warren (10)				
Ex Officio Member		Ex Officio Member		Env. Health & Safety Member	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tracey Mosier, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Gleason, DEOHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katia Harb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Pennington, UWF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marisa Graudins, UWHR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eleanor Wade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Johnson, UWF TS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jo Hill, AGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jimmy Spencer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barry Morgan, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nielsen, Claim Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Harvey
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin McKeown
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brett Konzek, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sonia Honeydew
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lorilyn A. H. Ignao
Guests					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scott Nelson, EH&S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allyson Long, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alex Hagen, EH&S

1. Attendance/Quorum

Sonia Honeydew announced the group reached quorum.

2. Call to Order and Welcome

Carmen Parisi welcomed the committee and began the meeting with a land and water acknowledgement and explained the meeting expectations.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carmen asked for any changes to the February 2023 meeting minutes. Ken Nielsen requested that his attendance be updated to indicate his presence at the meeting. Carmen asked for a motion to accept meeting minutes with the correction. Erin McKeown motioned to accept, and Christine Aker seconded. No opposition. February 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

4. Fire Safety Inspections and Evacuation Drills – Update

Scott Nelson (sdnpe@uw.edu) described that EH&S Building and Fire Safety (BFS) compliance responsibilities include routinely conducting both fire/life safety surveys and evacuation drills, and assisting with the development of evacuation plans for buildings. BFS tracks their progress meeting compliance deadlines for both surveys and drills, with a 95% compliance goal for each.

The EH&S Strategic Dashboard was displayed with last quarter's survey and evacuation drill data. Scott reviewed trends from the last few years and explained how the pandemic years impacted their capacity to complete work, due to shifting levels of community presence on campus, and staffing shortages in BFS. BFS caught up on surveys during the pandemic when buildings were less occupied, but then lost staff for half a year. The Fire & Life Safety Specialist position has finally been filled and will resume surveys and evacuations using established procedures. They usually focus on evacuation drills during the warmer months.

5. 2022 Injury and Illness Statistics

Erin McKeown presented 2022 incident data to the committee, first by defining OSHA recordable injuries: work-related hearing loss, medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, significant injury or illness, injury or illness requiring Days Away or on Restricted/Transfer duty (DART days), or death. Other recordable cases include needle sticks contaminated with human bloodborne pathogen or other potentially infectious materials, and bites/scratches/splashes involving non-human primates where a prophylaxis is given to prevent disease. COVID-19 was also recordable if contact tracers confirmed a positive test result that was possibly or probably due to workplace transmission. Other airborne pathogen cases can be recordable if treatment beyond first aid occurs to prevent the disease and the person contracts the disease after workplace exposure.

The previous year's OSHA-recordable cases are summarized in the OSHA 300A form that each department posts from February through April. Annual incidence rates are calculated as the rate of new injury/illness cases per 100 employees. When not including the medical centers, the University is aligned with averages of other universities across the country. Harborview Medical Center, Airlift Northwest, UW Medical Centers, and UW Primary Care Clinics recordable injuries were predominantly COVID-19, followed by much smaller percentages of bloodborne pathogen/medical sharp type injuries.

For UW data excluding the medical centers, there were 1094 total incidents. The Omicron variant increased incidence rates, the percentage of recordable cases, and the percentage of recordable cases with DART days. We nearly met our goal of 10% of UW OARS reports being near miss incidents. Overall, the top cause of recordable incidents was the coronavirus, then ergonomic related risk factors, then slip/trip/falls.

In 2022, EH&S conducted four serious incident investigations in conjunction with Labor & Industries: a fall from a fixed ladder, a cut from a non-human primate that became infected, an exposure to acetonitrile, and bloodborne pathogen/medical sharp injuries/near misses at the School of Dentistry. The School of Dentistry investigation remains open while the UW completes the obligations outlined in a settlement agreement.

All HSC members have access to the OARS Dashboard in Tableau that can filter by date, HSC, and department/unit name. Erin summarized 2022 data for each of the ten organizational HSCs and highlighted the following items:

HSC-1 (Administrative Units): Exposure to coronavirus and contracting COVID-19 in the workplace was leading cause of recordable injuries in HSC-1 but was a similar situation for most of the other committees. The department/unit with the largest number of recordable injuries in HSC-1 was the Washington National Primate Research Center. There were three L&I compliance investigations involving departments/units in HSC-1. They were mentioned earlier.

HSC-2 (UW Facilities): The Operations and then Building Services units had the most recordable injuries. UWF had a fantastic 15% near miss reporting rate. Employees are experiencing ongoing challenges with the unhoused and human waste cleanups.

HSC-3 (Student Life): HFS Dining had the most recordable injuries, mostly caused by knives/box cutters and ergonomic hazards. HSC-3 units reached the goal of 70% on-time reporting.

HSC-4 (School of Medicine): 41 out of 56 recordable cases were COVID-19 cases. Excellent work reaching and exceeding the 70% on-time reporting goal with a 72% on-time reporting rate. There was an L&I investigation involving sharps management at SOD.

HSC-6 (Arts & Sciences): 12 out of 15 cases were COVID-19. They approached the 10% near-miss reporting goal at a 9.4% near-miss reporting rate. When a 200-lb hoist fell, EH&S conducted a serious incident investigation which identified the need for qualified individuals to inspect, maintain, and test cranes and hoists.

HSC-7 (UW Bothell): All seven recordable injuries required DART, and only two were COVID-19 cases.

HSC-8 (UW Tacoma): 15 out of 16 recordable cases involved DART. Eleven of those were COVID-19; there was a mini outbreak from a faculty retreat. They exceeded the 10% goal with a 10.3% near miss reporting rate.

HSC-9 (Engineering): They had few recordable injuries, only 7 out of 69. Bioengineering had 3 recordable injuries involving non-human primates. HSC-9 had an astounding 34% near miss reporting rate and a 72% on-time reporting rate.

HSC-10 (Environment): 19 out of 20 DART cases were COVID-19; Oceanography had an outbreak on a research vessel. The other DART case was related to an exposure to a chemical drain cleaner aboard a vessel.

Accident prevention efforts in 2022 included many updates to COVID protocols, ergonomic assistance from ErgoFit Consulting for both industrial and office ergonomic injuries, and the use of slip/trip/fall data embedded in the OARS reporting process to better understand causes and locations of these injuries.

Erin ended with a call to action to report all incidents, unsafe conditions, unsafe acts, and near misses. Prevention is the goal! Report incidents within 24 hours to achieve on-time reporting (within eight hours for hospitalization or death.)

6. Accident Prevention Plan – Annual Review

Sonia Honeydew showed the WAC 296-800-13020 (2c) requirement that HSCs “Evaluate your workplace accident and illness prevention program and discuss recommendations” and showed the committee how to access the University of Washington Accident Prevention Plan from the [APP page](#). Sonia asked all HSCs including the U-Wide to review the UW APP and submit any suggestions or concerns to her by April 7th. We will discuss proposed changes at the April U-Wide.

Some revisions in progress are to revisit the use of the word “accident”, and to better define “near miss”. There was a suggestion to clarify that it is the department of the impacted person’s supervisor that determines which HSC will review an OARS report. Erin recommended including a hierarchy of controls under roles and responsibilities. The term “personnel” is used in the APP because unpaid individuals are also addressed in this plan.

7. Organizational Group Reports

Carmen asked chairs to share novel topics, interesting trends, or other updates from their last committee meeting.

HSC-1

Carmen Parisi: nothing to report.

HSC-2

Nigel Horton: group members are concerned about their duties to clean up human feces and drug paraphernalia. They know this concern is being addressed but wanted to keep U-Wide aware.

HSC-3

Kurt Oglesby: nothing to report.

HSC-4

Christine Aker: nothing to report.

HSC-5

David Manley: Sally Clark gave public safety talk. A new data migration project is in progress and should create better injury data visualizations across the hospitals. They welcomed a new vice chair to HSC-5.

HSC-6

Sarah O’Hara: OARS Report #2023-01-024: In Chemistry, several students’ eyes were exposed to a fume irritant, and when they tried to use two or three eyewashes simultaneously, they discovered there was insufficient water pressure. A member previously witnessed a similar issue in the Foegen building as well. They thought the problem may be inconsistent; water pressure levels may be related to overall water activity in the building at the moment.

HSC-7

Alaron Lewis asked about how to ensure personnel know about the OARS system, report process, near misses, etc. Katia suggested an annual educational push linked to posting OSHA 300A (incident summary sheets). Erin mentioned OARs posters are in development.

HSC-8

Stephen Costanti: nothing to report.

HSC-9

Alex Lefort: the group wanted to elevate some concerns about how January's workplace violence incident was liaised and make it clear that even internal threats should be taken seriously and involve 911 if there is an urgent concern. The building evacuation didn't go as intended. They learned they needed to train more people to act as the evacuation wardens since only one evacuation warden was working onsite during their evacuation. Scott agreed with having more trained evacuation wardens and indicated the [free online training](#) only takes 30 minutes. EH&S discussing "community wardens" in addition to primary and secondary evacuation wardens for each floor. Katia commented that regarding the January workplace violence incident, SafeCampus is following up. Katia recommended everyone review the workplace violence content in the APP.

HSC-10

David Warren: The College of the Environment held an internal raffle during the EHS lab safety week bingo challenge, and awarded one of their labs a \$1000 prize.

8. Union & Senate Reports

GPSS

Not present.

WFSE 1488

Paula Lukaszek: shared that books are being burned in the Central Plaza Garage and the By George area. She asked about an overdose in the By George area. Erin commented that over the weekend, she received a call from UWPD about an overdose of an unhoused individual. A contractor was called to manage the cleanup.

SEIU 925

Ann Aumann: nothing to report.

UAW 4121

Not present.

Faculty Senate

Not present.

9. Ex Officio Reports

UW Facilities

Chris Pennington: working with EH&S on an L&I investigation and working on SOPs that will be available soon.

UWPD

Not present.

Emergency Management

Not present.

DEOHS

Rick Gleason: nothing to report.

UWHR

Seth Greenfest: Proxy not present.

AGO

Jo Hill: nothing to report.

Claim Services

Ken Nielsen: nothing to report.

Transportation Services

Eric Johnson: nothing to report.

UW Bothell

Brett Konzek: nothing to report.

UW Tacoma

Susan Wagshul-Golden: nothing to report.

10. EH&S Updates

Labor & Industries

Erin McKeown indicated that Labor & Industries opened a compliance investigation on March 7, 2023 regarding human waste and drug paraphernalia cleanup from the unhoused community on campus.

Erin said the School of Dentistry settlement agreement is still ongoing.

General

EH&S is working on guidance for first aid kit contents regarding burn creams and prescription medications. Burn creams can be misused and are generally not recommended, though specialized items such as calcium gluconate gel is recommended for potential exposures to hydrofluoric acid. Prescription medications can lead to potential contradictions with personal medications and are also not generally recommended in first aid kits. Narcan is also not generally recommended for workplace first aid kits. First aid kit guidance is still being refined by EH&S to take into account field work and work at remote sites. EH&S will present final guidance at a later date.

March 2023 Biosafety Manual is now available online, as well as new safety guidelines for photography to reflect best practices for the use of PPE.

Katia Harb discussed upcoming changes to the Washington State COVID requirements. The State is removing the requirement for face coverings in medical environments on April 3, 2023. UW leadership and EH&S will be reviewing these guidelines and will release a statement before April 3 regarding UW requirements and guidance. Federal emergency orders expire in May 2023, and further State guidance will be under review and align with Federal requirements. UW guidance does not change until an announcement is made via UW channels. EH&S will provide another COVID-19 update before the end of the academic year. At present, employees are still expected to submit OARS reports for positive COVID-19 cases where contact tracers have determined it was possible or probable workplace exposure. Contact tracers are not funded past June.

11. Good of the Order

Carmen asked for anything to be brought up for the good of the order. No points were brought up. Then Carmen asked for any updates to attendance. Paula, Rick, Jimmy, Katia, and Andrew's attendance were updated.

12. Adjourn

Carmen asked for a motion to adjourn. Paula motioned to adjourn, and Rick Gleason seconded.

Meeting adjourned: 2:07pm