

## U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/10/2021 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Faculty Senate Member*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hawkinson (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Pekarek (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ian Bennett
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Parisi (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Oglesby (3)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erick Rostad (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beth Hammermeister (4)	<b>Labor Union Member*</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Liz Kindred, Vice-chair (5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE Local 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Zuckerman (10)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anne Sumpter (5)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Amanda Clouser, UAW 4121
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Camp (6)				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tamara Leonard (6)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Martin Arroyo (7)			<b>Proxy*</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexa Russo (7)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brady Rainey (4)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wade Haddaway (8)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Harrell (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christopher Barrett (8)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = attended meeting * = voting members <b>13</b> = voting members for quorum			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexander Lefort (9)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sheila Prusa (9)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Warren (10)				
Ex-Officio Member		Ex-Officio Member		Env. Health & Safety Member	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracey Mosier, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Gleason, DEOHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katia Harb
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barry Morgan, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nielsen, Risk Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sonia Honeydew
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenna Gravley
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allyson Long, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Harvey
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Hagen
Guest					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Manley, ALNW				

## Agenda

1. Attendance/Quorum
2. Call to Order
3. Approval of October Meeting Minutes
4. COVID-19 Update
5. Critical Care Above: the Mission of Airlift Northwest
6. Encountering People Living with Homelessness on Campus
7. Organizational Group Reports and Election Updates
8. Union Reports
9. Ex Officio Reports
10. EH&S Updates: L&I and General
11. Good of the Order
12. Adjourn

*Minutes by Sonia Honeydew*

*The meeting was conducted on Zoom to adhere to COVID-19 pandemic protocols per guidance from the Washington State Dept of Health, and the CDC. The meeting was recorded.*

### 1. Attendance/Quorum

Sonia verified that attendance was counted, and quorum was met.

### 2. Call to Order

U-Wide Chair Carmen Parisi called the meeting to order with a land acknowledgement and reminder of our Zoom voting process.

### 3. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

Carmen facilitated a vote; October meeting minutes were approved as is.

### 4. COVID-19 Update

Katia said that after a decline in state and UW cases, UW has a post-Halloween increase. Testing at UW has decreased. UW has no known cases of classroom transmission, but likely transmission between students living together and potentially one workplace transmission.

Boosters are promoted for those 18 or older, two months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Those 65 or older, plus certain additional groups, are eligible for boosters six months after their second Moderna or Pfizer shot. The additional groups include those in healthcare or childcare settings, in security roles or working in residence halls, food service, mailing service, or shuttle drivers. See the [Vaccinate WA Vaccine Locator link](#) and new [article on eligibility](#).

UW's [COVID dashboard](#) now shows vaccination rates. Over 98% of employees are vaccinated, with the same rate among the 94% of responding students. Students who haven't shown proof



of vaccination or received an approved exemption will be unable to register Winter quarter. Unvaccinated employees and students must wear a procedure (not cloth) mask at the University, distance when eating/drinking, and get tested weekly (twice weekly if in a healthcare setting). Affected personnel and their supervisors have been advised, and a monitored test result portal opens soon. To align with the county and state, UW venues and events (except food establishments) now [require a check of vaccination or negative test result](#).

## 5. Critical Care Above: the Mission of Airlift Northwest

Liz Kindred introduced David Manley, the Program Safety Officer of Airlift Northwest and member of HSC-5. David's background is flight paramedicine, and he specializes in critical care.

Airlift Northwest was founded in 1982 by a doctor at Harborview (the level one trauma and burn center for WA, WY, AK, MT, and ID). They have flown over 130,000 patients. They have eight bases over two states, five helicopters and a backup, two airplanes in WA and a plane in Juneau. All of the aircraft are medically configured.

Recently with COVID-19 causing capacity issues, the majority of their calls are hospital ICU/emergent transfers, often bringing very sick patients to a higher level of care. They also provide pre-hospital (911) response, disaster response and event standby. With the expertise of UW Medicine and HMC backing them, they have specialty pediatric and cardiac transport teams, participate in cutting edge research, and have quarterly ongoing education. On every flight they carry whole blood, have iSTAT lab capabilities, and stock critical care formulary.

The emergency response environment is innately stressful, and their employees work in complex and dynamic environments, dealing with multiple unknowns and partnering with diverse teams. Their top employee safety hazards are infectious disease transmission (they were a leader in COVID transport protocol), ergonomic injuries (moving patients and equipment, and working in cramped spaces), fatigue and resilience (coping with vibration, temperature extremes, altitude changes and dehydration), and transportation safety (training, compliance, and night vision).

Strategies include safety naps, hydration, fatigue time-outs, and "3 to go, 1 to say no go." Their built environment provides a framework for managing risk, and they follow Just Culture and TeamSTEPPS principles. Safety surveillance and communication channels are active 24/7.

## 6. Encountering People Living with Homelessness on Campus

Lt. Chris Jaross of UWPD explained that we don't have homeless encampments on campus, but we have transient homelessness. We have people who find their way into buildings and may stay one or more nights. When staff find campers, they should call UWPD, and UWPD will make contact with these individuals. UWPD responds to 911 calls and can provide King County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) services, including a night in a shelter or a bus pass. UWPD may also call in other specialized resources.



There are some people who choose not to take advantage of area resources, for example one person has been on campus at least 21 years. The person steals lunches, takes showers, etc, and UWPD can't trespass this person anymore; arresting and charging the person is no longer a solution. The person was briefly in temporary housing but returned to campus.

Carmen asked if the UW-hosted Tent City had any impact to the campus. Chris said there may have been a slight rise in car prowls, but that tent cities are very structured, with strict rules and internal policing. UW had no issues with Tent City and will host them on campus again. Sonia heard someone who worked near it suggest that it improved UW's local security.

Tony asked how to approach a person in the HUB who you suspect is homeless or not safe. How might you ask them to use a mask or leave the premises without agitating them? Chris said UWPD does not proactively look for people who seem "out of place", because that's too difficult to determine. Instead UWPD responds to community calls about people inside buildings or causing disturbances. Officers are trained through the Academy and CIT in de-escalation, but they can't rely on CIT to deal with psychological and emotional issues.

Sonia asked about advice for people on campus early or late. Chris recommended traveling in pairs and using a flashlight. Be aware of your surroundings; don't be looking down at your cellphone or wearing headphones (which decrease your spatial awareness). Sonia asked whether UWPD had a special relationship with custodial staff who may encounter campers. Chris said UWPD often receives secondhand calls from supervisors but encourage custodians to call UWPD directly. Sonia asked whether the Husky Nightwalk program was well utilized. Chris said UWPD is revamping it to increase use, since there are more people back on campus.

Christine asked about advice for staff working late or early, who encounter someone inside a building. She cited the recent incident of an intruder with a knife in a lab. Chris suggested that if you're working alone and can do so, close and lock your door (and draw your shades), including when you leave to go to the restroom or get food. Tell your coworkers when you'll be working after hours alone. Chris said that people find their way into areas that are supposed to be locked. If someone seems unsafe, call UWPD with your best description. UWPD will make the determination whether that person is supposed to be there. Don't confront the person, especially if they don't seem OK. The intruder with the knife was likely trying to find laptops to steal and was startled when confronted.

Christine asked when it would be appropriate to pull the evacuation alarm. Chris said only in a fire or a drastic emergency when you are scared for your life, but if you can't get through to 911 for some reason, pulling the fire alarm will get the police there. Chris invited any additional questions via email to [cjaross@uw.edu](mailto:cjaross@uw.edu).

## **7. Organizational Group Reports and Election Updates**



**HSC-1:** Ryan reported they brainstormed ideas for how to encourage on-time OARS reports (within 24 hours of the incident). Central HR could remind departmental HR. It could also be emphasized in supervisor trainings, internal communications, and websites. HSC-1 elections are still in the nomination process (the deadline was extended to 8am Monday).

**HSC-2:** Mark reported that the Project Delivery Group was ensuring the contractors they had on campus were complying with the state vaccine mandate. Erick Rostad, the HSC-2 Election Coordinator, is leaving UW next Tuesday so they'll need a replacement. Sonia mentioned that Erick shared the short list of nominations received so far, and UWF may need clarifying communication about the nomination deadline.

**HSC-3:** Kurt reported that HSC-3 is still in the nomination phase and responses have been sparse despite two reminders.

**HSC-4:** Christine reported much discussion about the J-wing intruder incident, which involved a Bunsen burner, a knife, and spilled chemicals. EH&S considers it a serious incident and is performing a Root Cause Analysis. The person has been banned from campus, per HSB security. Reminder: don't let anyone follow you into a secure area. Keep your doors locked. HSC-4 elections at some schools are complete and others are midway. The School of Medicine lacks historical knowledge so we're seeking assistance from our Executive Sponsor.

**HSC-5:** Liz reported they discussed hospital staff COVID cases -- mostly community transmission, but it does affect staffing levels. Their Employee Health provides rapid testing for staff who suspect they may have allergies and want to rule out COVID. In the past month Harborview piloted a program for UW Medicine where any visitor must show proof of vaccination or recent negative test. They now require visitors where procedural masks rather than cloth masks. There was discussion of inclement weather planning, with the windy October and November. Don't forget to get your flu shot; we're at 65%. Both UWMC and HMC have determined their election winners.

**HSC-6:** Eric reported that they have a new Election Coordinator, many nominees, and next week will discuss the election phase.

**HSC-7:** Martin reported they had a presentation on campus traffic issues partly caused by construction. Alexa Russo has left the University and Kris Harrell is the elected replacement. They discussed ergonomics. They had a member of ASUWB in attendance. Their elections are complete, thanks to Allyson and their Executive Sponsor, who supported the election process vocally at a couple meetings. HSC-7 awaits the list of appointees from the Executive Sponsor.

**HSC-8:** Chris reported that Sonia gave a quick presentation on metrics in Tableau. Their election is complete and they emailed winners information about what to expect at the January meeting. They are 95% done with the list of appointed members; Chris needs verification from the Executive Sponsor that all groups are represented, and a response from



Faculty Council about whether they want to appoint someone. Everything should be done by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**HSC-9:** Sheila did not attend the HSC-9 meeting. Per Sonia, Michael Glidden said they're about to send out the Catalyst survey for the election.

**HSC-10:** David Warren reported they reviewed the election process. They had two OARS reports that were COVID exposures on a ship because the captain contracted by NOAA did not follow COVID protocol (refused to wear a mask and claimed to be vaccinated but was not). People had questions about proper responses, but the federal government is following up. HSC-10 elections are being run within each group. David's has closed nominations and the elections are beginning.

## 8. Union Reports

Paula described a concern about private contractors not wearing masks in new buildings on campus, in spaces where UWF employees are working. She wondered if managers know how to follow up. Paula asked if anyone is checking up on contractors and who could be contacted. Denise Bender responded that EH&S can check Purchasing's list of the contractors who have declared they have a program in place to verify proof of employee vaccination. We can go to the hiring manager for the contractor and have them assure that the contractor is following their COVID prevention plan, in addition to the UW's face covering policies.

Ann Aumann asked whether there was a general clause in OSHA to cover contractors on campus who may have a policy they're not enforcing. Denise responded that it is a governor's mandate, and we have authorization to prevent them from coming on site if they're not compliant. Katia confirmed that; if they're not following our rules for face coverings or the vaccine mandate, we have a responsibility to ask them to leave or change their behavior to be compliant. If people are comfortable doing so, they can ask them to mask up. With contractors there is the additional layer of finding out who hired them. We have already followed up with a few companies in situations like this.

Denise said she'd recently received several "Report a Concern" reports (submitted online) and has been able to go to departmental leadership to have them correct the behavior observed (mostly lack of face coverings).

Paula also asked about a class in the training center earlier today, where eating is not allowed. A class member ate candy through the class and was not wearing their mask. Tracey Mosier said anyone seeing that behavior, if they're not comfortable asking the person directly to wear their mask, should tell the instructor or the front desk.

## 9. Ex Officio Reports

**UW Facilities:** Tracey had nothing to report.



**Emergency Management:** Barry mentioned yesterday's mix-up in communications in the weather alerts from federal agencies and local governments. Severe weather events are more frequent now, so Emergency Management and Crisis Communications may increase communications regarding weather emergencies. They encourage everyone to check which geographic area is covered by the alert, since you may be at work and get an alert for your residential area.

UWEM has a Business Continuity Teams site, where business continuity planners can get a basic introduction to business continuity and Husky Ready. Please reach out to Barry at [bm1933@uw.edu](mailto:bm1933@uw.edu) for an introduction; winter is coming so business continuity is important. Also, if you have a seat in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or are part of an EOC, please reach out for monthly training on basic responsibilities and roles in the EOC.

**DEOHS:** Rick Gleason had nothing to report.

**AGO:** Nancy Gwin had nothing to report.

**Claim Services:** Ken Nielsen had nothing to report.

**UW Bothell:** Susan Wagshul-Golden had nothing to report.

**UW Bothell:** Allyson reported that after a recent OARS report, she created a [Paper Cutter Safety Focus Sheet](#). Building coordinators posted them on safety boards and in copy rooms.

## 10. EH&S Updates: L&I

Erin reported an L&I concern having to do with wheel maintenance on hospital linen and garbage carts, which can weigh up to 700 pounds each. A cart maintenance SOP has been produced and employees have been trained on how to take carts out of service for repairs. There are still four COVID-19 related L&I cases in negotiation with the Board of Appeals.

### EH&S Updates: General

Erin reported that EH&S has five open positions: an Administrative Assistant and Program Operations Specialist within Occupational Safety and Health, two Lab Safety Inspector openings, and one Biosafety Officer opening.

EH&S has updated the Confined Space Entry program and the initial and refresher training courses. We also released a new training course for supervisors and incident investigators who need to find correctible root causes and corrective actions when reviewing incidents and injuries.

Denise commented that in response to OSHA's Emergency Temporary Standard for Healthcare Workers (effective in June), the state is developing its own standard by Thanksgiving. This is



related to UW appeals of citations at the hospitals regarding N95s and social distancing. We'll need to look at our COVID prevention practices where medical care is provided, including Dentistry.

Denise also said that monthly and quarterly metrics for Near Miss reporting and On-time reporting look really good across the committees. We are very close to meeting our goal of 70% of reports being submitted within 24 hours actually exceeded our goal of 10% for near miss reporting at one point. We appreciate the committees encouraging Near Miss and On-time reporting as it is being reflected in the metrics. Erin commented that Christine Aker in HSC-4 is particularly good about emphasizing if reports are on-time in the committee reviews.

Sonia asked that all group representatives think about their HSC's top achievements from the 2020-2021 term and bring those comments to the December U-wide report-out.

#### **11. Good of the Order**

Carmen asked for any comments for the good of the order. There were none.

#### **12. Adjourn**

U-Wide Chair Carmen Parisi adjourned the meeting early at 2:17 pm.