

## **Oregon State University Health and Safety Committee**

### **Summary of the April 25, 2012 meeting**

**Members present:** Martha Adams, Greg Axe, Jim Ervin, Joseph Evans, Rainier Farmer, Bryan Feyerherm (Chair), Camille Freitag, Karin Hardin, Dan Kermoyan, Ricardo Letelier, Heidi Melton, Kay Miller, Jennifer Stewart

**Members absent:** Brandi Aston, Patrick Hughes, Michael Mayers, Mathew Rodgers

#### **MINOR BUSINESS.**

Bryan asked about future meeting locations. Camille and Greg agreed to check on room availability. Dixon Recreation Center and the Student Health Center will be kept in mind as back-ups.

Next month will be elections for new Secretary and President-Elect. Volunteers and nominations will be accepted.

#### **INCIDENT STATISTICS AND REPORTS**

An odor in Kerr Administration Building was caused by a combination of factors. A non-functioning fan, a dirty floor mat, and rat feces and urine were found. The odor resulted in four Reports of Accident/Illness from three individuals. Rats are a problem where there is a lot of ivy (as found at Kerr); there is currently no budget for ivy removal.

The Dean of Veterinary Medicine is looking to get a position with FTE dedicated to safety. Matt Philpott will forward information on who will be Vet Med's safety contact.

Supervisors are responsible for completing paperwork once notified of an injury.

Dan will talk with Mike Mayers regarding the ladder fall injury.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** February minutes will be distributed via email for review and approval.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Department Heads are in charge of creating their own emergency plans. An evacuation plan is not required, but recommended. There may be changes in the future due to Senate Bill 242.

Bryan will talk with the Emergency Response Committee regarding implementation, and whether there is a plan to resume evacuation drills. Student Health Center and the Library both conduct regular drills that take about 15 minutes. Drills in other buildings may be best conducted when there are few students, as it is more important that faculty and staff are there so they know what to do and how to get students out.

It would be good to have a way to track which buildings have plans in place. The mandate for such a plan should come from a high (VP) level.

Agriculture will be a good test case (they are requiring all departments to do evacuation plans). The Agriculture Safety Committee is leading the drive.

The template should include how to make people aware of the plans. Plans will be two-part, with

both generic and specific information.

As part of the “Be Well” program, emergency response is to be included in an article for spring. The article will encourage people to ask supervisors, building managers, others where the emergency evacuation plan is for their building.

### **FIRE/LIFE SAFETY**

A bid for fire alarm system repair or replacement for Kerr, Milam and Ag and Life Sciences totaled nearly \$1,000,000. Since no money exists for the project(s), the work was put on the deferred maintenance list.

The committee discussed whether there are funds designated for maintenance of safety systems. The Risk Office has in the past utilized grant funding or other federal funds for some work. With a number of aging buildings, there is a long list of deferred maintenance items.

In order to get better clarity on how funding is prioritized, particularly for safety issues, Bryan will draft a letter to Mark McCambridge asking him to help the committee understand the process and how the UHSC can help, and invite him to an upcoming meeting if he would like to discuss the matter.

### **POLICY AND PROCEDURE REVIEW**

Further discussion of evacuation planning/emergency posters/Policies 102, 204 and 207 tabled until May meeting when Matt Rodgers is expected to attend.

### **SAFETY TRAINING UPDATE**

In February, Environmental Health and Safety recorded the following safety training, which occurred in 31 departments:

- 18 Bloodborne Pathogen/Laboratory Biosafety (initial or refresher)
- 5 General Lab Safety
- 30 Animal Handler
- 7 Respirator training/fit testing
- 10 Acknowledgement of safety training and hazcomm
- 2 Forklift
- 3 Golf/utility cart
- 8 Office safety
- 4 Custodial worker (lab hazard awareness)
- 9 Isotope user (initial or refresher)
- 1 Sealed (radiation) source refresher
- 1 X-ray machine
- 3 Radiation Center
- 26 Laboratory Hazard Awareness (initial or refresher)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Confidentiality of accident report information depends on the intended use of the information. Safety committee members should generally not get identifying information, as the discussion is about the incident and prevention (not personnel issues). Management can get names if appropriate. If accident reports are shared within a department, an attempt should be made to remove identifying information. SB 242 may affect what information is received from the insurance carrier (still SAIF for now), how comprehensive it is, and may include risk numbers also. Heidi is meeting with Graduate Research Assistants who are looking to add into their contract that

they must have a member on the UHSC. Generally, UHSC membership is a three-year commitment, which could be an issue with GRAs. Appointing an alternate could help if attendance is a problem.

With regard to recent serious incidents on campus, problems with alcohol might need more attention. There are several visible initiatives, including Be Well, Stop Smoking, Healthy Campus, and Fire Safety. But alcohol abuse is not as prominent. Alcohol education is required at all fraternities and sororities (although not at dorms).

Robert Reff at the Student Health Center is the Controlled Substance/Alcohol Prevention Coordinator.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

Camille and Greg will look into scheduling rooms for future meetings.

Dan will talk with Mike Mayers regarding the ladder fall injury.

Bryan will draft a letter to Mark McCambridge.

Bryan will talk with the Emergency Response Committee.

Members will nominate or volunteer to be UHSC officers.

**NEXT MEETING** May 23, 2012, 2:00 – 3:30 PM, **Richardson 115**

**Safety Committee Roster:** Martha Adams, Greg Axe, Jim Ervin, Joseph Evans, Rainier Farmer, Bryan Feyerherm, Camille Freitag, Karin Hardin, Patrick Hughes, Dan Kermoyan, Ricardo Letelier, Michael Mayers, Heidi Melton, Kay Miller, Mathew Rodgers, Jennifer Stewart

### **DISTRIBUTION:**

Committee members

Mark McCambridge, Vice President for Finance and Administration

Rick Spinrad, Vice President for Research

Edward Ray, President

Vincent Martorello, Director, Facilities Services

Larry Roper, Vice Provost of Student Affairs

Sabah Randhawa, Provost and Executive Vice President

Staff, Environmental Health and Safety