

Oregon State University Health and Safety Committee

Summary of the May 23, 2012 meeting

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

Members absent: Brandi Aston, Joseph Evans, Patrick Hughes, Michael Mayers, Kay Miller

Added to the agenda : use of the campus alert system

INCIDENT STATISTICS AND REPORTS

First aid cases:

4/5 – strained back transporting drum. The corrective action is that a dolly has been obtained.

4/27 – slipped on wet floor. Were there wet floor warning signs? Dan will look into it.

4/29 – burn. Did the supervisor instruct the employee to work in a dangerous manner? No. The corrective action is to be more aware of hot surfaces.

3 cuts on sharp surfaces – Is there a way to reduce these accidents?

3/21/12 - allergic reaction. Was the cause determined? No, but two other employees reported similar symptoms and these will be on next month's report. The employee refused to seek medical attention.

Medical Treatment:

4/26 – shoulder injury lifting dog. Is it common to one person to lift a big dog? Yes, but it isn't a good practice. Vet med is moving toward forming a safety committee.

4/9 – tick bite. Is medical treatment required for every tick bite? Some people want the tick professionally removed either because they are worried about parts left behind or because the tick is inaccessible. People also want the bite documented in case symptoms of Lyme disease develop.

Time loss:

4/7- motorcycle accident. Team Oregon work is considered physically demanding because the instructors must be able to lift a bike and because the employees are scattered over the state and often in very small work groups appropriate alternate work cannot always be found. How many people are employed by Team Oregon? Heidi will find out, but there are many people working very limited hours. Is there any re-training requirement for instructors? Risk management may want to look into the structure of the program.

4/10 – carpal tunnel. What sort of work was the person doing? Sterilizing instruments in necropsy. The work flow is under examination.

4/13 – tripped over curb. The area is scheduled for repair.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The letter regarding safety and financial decisions to Mark McCambridge has been sent.

The fire doors in Milam were found to be deficient and funds budgeted to cover the ~ \$200,000 cost of replacement. Dan is trying to get the alarm system replaced at the same time.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE REVIEW

Policy 102 has been updated to be consistent with the new emergency poster.

There was a question about the existence of any other similar campus policies. The Emergency Management steering committee does not have any and no one knew of any others.

There was discussion about where the Campus Evacuation Plan belongs. Is it a policy or should it be in the safety handbook? It was suggested that there be a new section of policies for emergency planning and response. In this case 102, 204 and 207 would move. Emergency management has other plans such as pandemic response and lab emergency which could also go in this new section. The committee then discussed the ownership of and responsibility for these policies. The University Health and Safety Committee should retain final responsibility, but can delegate the responsibility for writing and reviewing the policies to Emergency Management in the same way the animal handling and chemical and radiation safety are delegated to other committees. Each policy or section of policies should have a clear statement of the groups responsible for writing, maintenance, review and approval.

Policy 204 and the Campus Evacuation Plan: Several people have minor edits to the list of phone numbers in the evacuation plan and these should be sent to Matt along with any other suggested edits.

There was discussion about the conflicting references to employee's responsibility to use fire extinguishers. Is training required or not? There is currently no training offered on campus. Matt wants the language referring to the use of extinguishers left in to further awareness of their existence. He pointed out that, while employees may not be expected to stand and put a fire out, they may be safer taking the extinguisher along when evacuating. The topic of extinguisher use and training should be on the next agenda.

There was discussion about the means of communicating the plan with the campus community. Administration is behind the plan, but is not mandating that units create their own plan. There are no consequences for not making a plan. The idea is that units would use the Campus plan as a template and refine it to reflect their individual locations and situations. The plan is currently communicated by Matt going out to the units and several units are developing plans to see how the process works.

SAFETY TRAINING UPDATE

In April, Environmental Health and Safety recorded the following safety training, which occurred in 29 departments:

27	Bloodborne pathogen/laboratory biosafety (new or refresher)
4	General lab safety
20	Animal handler safety
16	Respirator training/fit test
16	Acknowledgement of training and hazard communication
16	Forestry field safety training
16	Golf cart/utility vehicle
1	Office safety
2	Initial isotope user training
5	Radiation Center training
5	Isotope refresher training
12	X-ray training

NEW BUSINESS

Campus alert system – There was a bomb scare incident at Kerr that was very similar to the one in January, but this time no alert was issued. The alert system is currently for emergencies only and not for crimes or weather incidents. Decisions are made on a case by case basis. When an area of campus is closed and the bomb squad shows up people want to know what is going on. The sense of the committee was that it is better to err on the side of more information.

ACTION ITEMS

Members will nominate or volunteer to be UHSC officers. Bryan will begin the process by email. Members will send edits on the Campus Evacuation Plan and policy 204 to Matt. Dan will look into the wet floor signs Heidi will find out how many instructors work for Team Oregon.

NEXT MEETING June 27th, 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
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