

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

5/10/2023 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Abian (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Martin Arroyo (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Kwasinski (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Zuckerman (10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colleen Irvin (9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Chateaubriand (10)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Herber (5)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Desi Schatz (4)				Labor Union Member*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Herber (5)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah O'Hara (6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	GPSS – Gabby Rivera
<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 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 Gaudins, UWHR	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Harvey
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Lorilyn A. H. Ignao
Guests					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Caroline Shelton, OYPC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anthony Stewart, UWPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jane Skau (9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taylor Erickson, COVID-EHC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sophia Gabrielle, COVID-EHC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allyson Long, UWB

1. Attendance/Quorum

Sonia Honeydew announced the group reached quorum.

2. Call to Order and Welcome

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

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carmen asked for any corrections to the April minutes. None were raised. Christine and Sarah motioned to accept the minutes as is. Minutes accepted.

4. COVID & MPOX Update

Ellie Wade presented, as Assistant Director of EH&S Campus Preventive Health, which includes our Employee Health Centers and COVID Response and Prevention team. The UW's 10-day case count has been 50-80 for several weeks, evenly split between students and employees, other than a brief surge in student cases after spring break. We continue to have low utilization of the Husky Coronavirus Testing Program (HCTP), but most HCTP results are positive.

King County is seeing lower reporting rates, but they do not require reporting like UW does. WA state is currently in the "low" community level, as it has been for some time. The community level metric will be discontinued on May 11th and replaced with COVID-19 hospital admission rates.

Per Jeff Gottlieb's message earlier this week, at the end of Spring quarter we will update our COVID program and policies. The emergency orders driving most of our requirements have broadly ended, and WA L&I regulations and public health guidance became more general, plus our COVID-19 situation has remained relatively stable due to high vaccination rates, increased immunity from exposure, and reduced rates of severe illness, reducing the strain on our healthcare system. Therefore, we are shifting our framework from emergency response to community-based response, focusing on how to reduce risk for individuals and units.

Here are the UW policies that are *not* significantly changing: prevention plan, training, face coverings, isolation, symptom monitoring, and cleaning/disinfection. The COVID-19 Prevention Plan will be part of the Accident Prevention Plan (APP). COVID-19 training (with some changes to content) is still required for initial hires, with an annual refresher recommended. Face coverings will shift from "recommended" to "optional" outside of healthcare settings but are still required after an exposure or positive test. Isolation guidance continues to align with the CDC and be reflected in our [flowchart](#), which will be simplified once reporting requirements change.

Here are the policies that *are* significantly changing: case reporting to EH&S, testing availability, and vaccination. As of June 12th, UW employees and students are no longer required to report positive tests to EH&S, *except*: those who believe they may have acquired COVID-19 *at work* must submit an [OARS report](#). Also, any supervisor who suspects a workplace outbreak (when about 10% of their workforce is out sick with COVID-19) should contact EH&S for assistance with additional prevention practices. Contact tracing, workplace/classroom notifications, and updated COVID-19 case dashboards will stop, and the UW EH&S COVID-19 Response & Prevention Team will dissolve by the end of June. EH&S will still have staff for consultation and guidance at covidehc@uw.edu.

Testing availability will change in June, even though recommendations for testing frequency remains the same (aligned with the [CDC guidelines](#)). We'll continue to offer free "rapid" antigen tests in familiar locations across all our campuses for the next academic year, but most free PCR testing sites are closing. Your local Public Health office may have suggestions for PCR testing locations after June 11th. The HCT voluntary research study will end testing after June 16th, 2023.

As of June 12th, outside of healthcare, UW employees and students are no longer required to be vaccinated for COVID-19, though being [up-to-date](#) is still highly recommended. The COVID-19 immunization policy for healthcare settings is still being refined.

Other programmatic updates: the EH&S and UW COVID-19 websites will update through the summer. The Clean & Safe Storefront will close by June 30th. Buildings will need signage updates in late June. Guidance for COVID-19 prevention at events has been simplified and incorporated into general events guidance. UW Facilities will continue enhanced HVAC filtration in some spaces.

Paula's question: has COVID-specific leave ended? Ellie's answer: yes, last October; see [HR site](#). Chris' question: will WA Exposure Notification app stop working? Katia's answer: yes, tomorrow. Desi's question: will UW Facilities maintain portable air cleaners? Ellie's answer: yes, in non-departmental instructional classrooms and some other identified areas where there is limited mechanical ventilation. In all other locations, Building Coordinators should put in a work order for UW Facilities to pick up the portable air cleaner unless a department wants to pay to maintain it.

Ryan's question from HSC-1: with the end of vaccination requirements, employees are less comfortable with everyone unmasked, but units cannot create mask requirements so what is recommended? Katia's answer: individuals can politely ask, and you can wear one yourself (N95s are still free around campus). The department may choose to supply masks. Sarah's question: how will we know when air purifiers need maintenance? Ellie's answer: there should be indicator lights or alarms to indicate when an air filter or UV light needs changing, and a work order to UW Facilities should get that maintenance done. Chris Pennington indicated the manuals are online.

5. Safety of Minors

Caroline Shelton, from the Office of the Youth Protection Coordinator ([OYPC](#)), gave an update about minors on campus as we head into summer. OYPC acts as a policy administrator, university consultant, convener, and champion of youth safety.

OYPC provides [guidance on APS 10.13](#) for University- and third party-led youth programs. Youth programs are required to have an emergency preparedness plan. Youth programs must be included in the department/unit's Fire Safety & Evacuation Plan (FSEP). OYPC also provides guidance in the document "[EH&S Considerations for Youth in STEAM Environments](#)," which applies federal and state regulations for minors around hazardous materials or equipment, e.g. in labs and shops.

OYPC recently produced "[Climate and Weather Condition Preparedness](#)" guidance that addresses air quality and extreme heat or cold. They also provide COVID-19 operational guidance for youth.

OYPD does strongly encourage using OARS reports to document any injury or near miss so that OYPD can gather that data periodically and work toward improvements.

In 2019, UW hosted around 30k youth, and while numbers dramatically decreased during the pandemic, we *already* have 30k registered to be on our properties this summer, before all the programs have registered. Caroline shared a list of 25 locations already scheduled to host youth.

Drive slowly and watch for kids on campus this summer; OYPC can provide a reminder poster. Be prepared to offer wayfinding assistance to guardians or lost kids. Consider that there may be kids present during an emergency evacuation or building lockdown. All UW employees are [mandated reporters of child abuse or neglect](#). Direct any questions to OYPC at 206-616-5706 or uwminors@uw.edu. Please share this with your organizational HSCs and units.

Alaron's question: if we're working with high school students are we required to work with OYPC? Caroline's answer: yes, work with us if they're an intern, and ask us if you're not sure what role they'll have. Sarah's question: how does this apply to Robinson's scholars during the academic year? Caroline's answer: they do fall under the previously described policy, but they're also seen as UW students. UW employees would still report any suspected abuse or neglect, and OYPC works with the Robinson Center to ensure their space is safe for the variety of youth in their program.

6. Organizational Group Reports

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

HSC-1

Ryan Hawkinson: just the question about what nudging departments can provide regarding masking when employees have susceptible family members at home.

HSC-2

Brett Magnuson: occupants of the leased U-District Building (UDB) described a problem with elevators failing and people getting stuck; they're working on questions re: ADA requirements and safety concerns. The emergency number was moved from outside to inside the elevator. Erin: if UDB is managed by Kidder Matthews, Scott Nelson or Real Estate should request repairs.

HSC-3

Tony Colinares: nothing to report.

HSC-4

Christine: for graffiti, in addition to requesting a work order, submit an online report to UWPD. The graffiti cleaner can make walking surfaces slippery so make sure the area is blocked. As more people are returning to campus, it's a good time to review FSEPs; direct questions to Scott Nelson.

Desi Schatz: Building Coordinators (BCs) were concerned to see an unofficial UW Reddit post about an overdose death in the Art Building when they hadn't received official communication. They asked how UW is communicating about such instances, how can they be prevented, and how would someone respond to an overdose victim? Lt. Chris Jaross indicated a member of the public had locked themselves in a restroom and were found dead by a custodian. The custodian phoned UWPD. UWPD notified the building coordinator for the Art Building. Katia: SafeCampus did work

with the department to prepare communication to send to building and department leadership, although there was a one-day delay getting the language reviewed and distributed.

Katia: so if there was an issue that involved a threat to people in the immediate area, that's when your communications would be broader? Chris: yes, UW Alerts are used to alert the community to an immediate or ongoing threat to the public, and in this circumstance neither of those conditions were met. The Timely Notifications are sent out when we hear about past threats.

Sonia: is there a UW policy for how the building or the department leadership should communicate events like this to their occupants? Chris: It is up to them. Katia: SafeCampus works with department to prepare communication to send out to building or department occupants.

Sonia: If someone finds an apparent overdose victim, should they approach and check the person or back away and call 911? Chris: That is a personal preference and may be based on your experience and knowledge, but if you don't feel safe to approach, just call UWPDP.

Desi: are there plans for preventive actions, i.e. additional security patrols at night/weekends? Maybe it would be better for security to discover this than a custodian? Are there any preventive actions we can employ? Chris: I don't know that anyone could stop someone from locking themselves in a bathroom. We're doing our best to hire security guards. We get requests almost daily asking for night-time walkthroughs after suspicious people have been seen. We've dedicated security to some of the more problematic areas on campus, such as CPG. We're challenged with hiring enough staff to meet our needs.

Sarah: are we covered by Good Samaritan laws if we use Narcan on campus? Lt. Stewart: yes people are covered as long as it is within the scope of the use of Narcan.

Stephanie: if a student overdosed, would Student Life be notified? Lt Jaross: Yes, we would have notified differently and more broadly.

HSC-5

David Manley: Erin gave us an overview of OSHA recordability. We discussed current initiatives with Harborview's Workplace Violence program.

HSC-6

Sarah O'Hara: nothing to report.

HSC-7

Alaron Lewis: Just an increase in OARS lately, including one where there was a roadway oil spill heading towards a drain; we discussed the appropriate response.

HSC-8

Stephen Costanti: nothing to report.

HSC-9

Alex Lefort: we have also had an increase in OARS, including a person living in the stairwell of MEB causing a potential fire hazard, but we're working with Scott Nelson. At CSE a member of the public waved toy guns and used threatening language so the front office was closed.

HSC-10

David Zuckerman: nothing to report.

7. Union & Senate Reports

GPSS

Not present.

WFSE 1488

Paula: we have had several safety violations at the ICA buildings and wondered who enforces safety regulations there. Dempsey Indoor Stadium has a platform overhang above the restrooms used for storage without any railings. Also, at the stadium and concession stands during the games there are extension cords all over and the breakers keep tripping. Katia: Jimmy Spencer will contact Paula to gather more information and investigate.

SEIU 925

Not present.

UAW 4121

Not present.

Faculty Senate

Not present.

8. Ex Officio Reports

UW Facilities

Chris Pennington: nothing to report.

UWPD

Lt. Chris Jaross: UWPD has contracted a third-party vendor in CPG stairwells during the night shift; if security officers see anybody they contact UWPD to provide resources or clear the area. UWPD has been setting up temporary fencing in the Schmitz loading dock, to keep people from sleeping overnight and lighting fires, etc. There will be a permanent fence with a locked gate. UWPD has been interviewing for their new Deputy Chief and preparing for commencement.

Emergency Management

Barry Morgan: not present.

DEOHS

Rick Gleason: thank you to all who attended Worker Memorial Day on April 26th. Some additional statistics from the most recent statistical year of 2021: in terms of worker deaths, Washington has always been below the national average, with 2.1 deaths on the job per 100,000 workers, compared to the national average of 3.6. We were the third safest state in America.

UWHR

Marisa: 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: Our UWT Safety and Security [Emergency Preparedness webpage](#) links to a safety briefing script to start meetings and events. Our student government is leading its implementation, to shift our culture to improve emergency preparedness.

9. EH&S Updates

Labor & Industries

Erin McKeown reported that WA Labor & Industries (L&I) initiated a compliance investigation related to UW Facilities personnel who clean up human waste and items left by unhoused individuals. The three violations related were (1) providing bloodborne pathogen training, before initial exposure and annually thereafter, to those assigned to do the cleanup work; (2) offering the hepatitis B vaccine to personnel assigned to do the work with potential exposure, and within ten days of their initial assignment to do the work; and (3) offering training that is appropriate for the literacy and language of the workers.

General

Jimmy Spencer relayed that we have updated the [guidance for campus events](#) to include COVID-19 prevention guidance. There's a new form to assist with [safe laboratory move-out practices](#), whether that be temporary moves, long term moves, renovations, relocations, closures, etc. There are new nanomaterials, chloroform, and metallic lead SOP templates on our chemical SOP page. There is new [guidance on planning for evacuations in hybrid work environments](#), where we are increasing the recommended number of evacuation wardens in each area of the building, so you have full coverage in an evacuation. Scott Nelson can answer any questions about how many wardens are appropriate for your area. Finally, WA L&I continues to hold hearings on proposed outdoor ambient heat exposure rules, and EH&S has had representatives at some of these meetings. The new rule is effective June 15th and EH&S will update the community.

Katia added that with warmer temperatures coming this week and next week, please disseminate the information on [preventing heat-related illness](#). Also, several of the EH&S news items you've just heard will be in our EH&S external newsletter, which you can sign up for on the left [here](#).

10. Good of the Order

Carmen asked for anything for the good of the order. Sonia noted the new [box cutter focus sheet](#) and updated [laser cutter focus sheet](#). Chris Pennington said Facilities also has one for [box cutters](#).

11. Adjourn

At 2:24, Carmen asked for a motion to adjourn. So motioned and seconded.