
Interdepartmental Correspondence
Environmental Health and Safety
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UNIVERSITY-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 2009 1:00-2:30 pm – UW Club Conference Room

In Attendance

Leslie Anderson (1)
Ron Fouty (2)
Pete Federici (2)
Paul Zuchowski (3)
Barbara Lovseth (4)
Bob Ennes (4)
Chuck Treser (4)
Susie Sargent (5)
Tracy Harvey (6)
Stephen Costanti (8)
Michael McMillan (8)
Michael Glidden (9)

In Attendance

Rick Gleason (Fac. Senate)
David Zuckerman¹⁰
Laura Davenport (SEIU - 925)
Elizabeth Dahl (Ex-O, AGO)
Tracey Mosier (Ex-O, FS)
Jude Van Buren (EH&S)
David Leonard (EH&S)
Denis Sapiro (EH&S)
Michael Merrill (EH&S)
Siri McLean (UWEM)
Carol Garing (Crtv Com)

Not Present

Connie Bartlett (1)
Diane Hanks (3)
Rich Lee (4)
Megan Amen (5)
Sherri Huber (6)
Deborah Conley Staerk (7)
Ken Jones (7)
Jack Herndon (9)
Margery Cooper (10)
Ray Hartman (11)
Kristian Haapa-aho (11)
John Freudenthal (UAW Local 4121)
Paul Bentson (WFSE 1488)
Wendy Winslow-Nason (Ex-O, RM)
Steve Charvat (UWEM)

Agenda

1. Call to order
 2. Presentation: UW Emergency Preparedness Training Resources
 3. Minutes for September
 4. 2009 Committee Elections: Questions and Answers
 5. Group and Union Reports
 6. EH&S Report and L&I Inspections
 7. Adjournment
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Recorded: by Michael Merrill

1. Meeting was called to order and facilitated by Ron Fouty.

2. Presentation: UW Emergency Preparedness Training Resources

Siri McLean is the Plans and Training Manager for UW Emergency Management (UWEM). She described the following training offered by her office:

Preparedness 101: Know Your Hazard (in the Pacific NW) – 1 hour

- Know what you are preparing for.
- What are the hazards in the area you live and work?
- What is the greatest risk?

Preparedness 102: How to Build a Disaster Kit – 1 hour

- What emergency supplies you need and
- Where to find the supplies you need.
- What are the best places to store and use these supplies?

Preparedness 103: Who Depends on You? – 1 hour

- Children, elders, pets, our employer, etc.
- They are counting on You to be prepared in an emergency.
- Helpful tips for being a dependable resource.

Preparedness 104: Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) – 1 hour

- This program was designed to help neighborhoods prepare for disaster.
- “9 Steps to Take Immediately Following a Disaster” to secure your home and protect your neighborhood.
- These steps will help you think clearly, minimize damage and protect lives.

Our Biggest Hazard: Earthquakes

- Seattle sits on top of a major fault zone.
- Washington has the second highest risk in the nation of economic loss caused by an earthquake, behind only California.
- Learn about the 3 types of earthquakes that occur in this region.
- Mitigation steps you can take to reduce risk and increase personal preparedness.

Specialized Training: Customized length

- Contact UWEM to develop any type of specialized training for your unit.
- Presentations can be designed for 10 minutes to 3 hours in length.
- UWEM staff will work with your training coordinator to modify their standard courses to meet your requirements.
- Options include brown bag lunches, employee orientations, special events, etc.

NIMS Compliance Courses (National Incident Management System):

- Offered by FEMA

UWEM as Your Conduit to External (Federal) Training:

- Hundreds of (mostly free) training opportunities are offered by the Federal Government to emergency planners, responders and those with a role in disaster

preparedness, response and recovery. UWEM can direct UW staff to those specialized courses at various national training centers.

- o <http://training.fema.gov/index.asp>
- o http://www.ndpc.us/consortium_members.html

We're all responsible for being prepared. "We're in this together!" If you are interested in any of the above training, contact Siri McLean at sirim@u.washington.edu or 206-897-8081.

Question: Where can we buy 72-hour emergency kits?

Answer: Look at "Prepare Smart" at <http://preparesmart.com/>. If you call Keith, he'll give you a UW discount of 20%. Products are available now, but purple and gold kits with the UW logo will be available soon.

3. Minutes for September were approved as written.

4. 2009 Committee Elections: Questions and Answers

Denis Sapiro updated members on communication regarding the election. Packets were mailed last week to Committee Heads, Committee Chairs, and Election Coordinators. Documents included a letter from EH&S Director, Jude Van Buren.

Today's handouts include several useful sample documents, a recommended timeline and a checklist for Committee Chairs. These will also be sent electronically to U-Wide members.

Question: What documentation is needed for the election process?

Answer: Catalyst surveys can create different kinds of reports that you could print and keep. Save distribution lists, paper ballots (if used), letters of appointment and any other pertinent communications such as e-mails.

5. Group and Union Reports

Group 1, Administration/Other Academic Programs: Leslie Anderson reported that EH&S' Charles Easterberg gave their Group an interesting presentation on the H1N1 flu virus. They also discussed upcoming elections. Guests will attend their next meeting.

Group 2, Finance and Facilities: Ron Fouty reported having an abbreviated meeting. It was observed that supervisors seem to be more engaged with OARS reports, but could still show some improvement regarding recommendations. Annual fire drills have taken place in keeping with October Fire Safety Month. Annual asbestos training is being done in a couple of groups. The election was also discussed.

Group 3, Student Affairs: Paul Zuchowski reported discussing OARS accident reports and the election process.

Group 4, Health Sciences/Hospitals: Barb Lovseth reported hearing OARS reviews by their sub-committees (HMC/UWMC/HSA). Issues were discussed regarding motorized beds purchased about 3 years ago. Apparently, their batteries last about 3 years and are dropping dead. The H1N1 flu vaccines and elections were also discussed.

Group 5, Built Environments: Susie Sargent reported there were no OARS cases to review. They are planning safety presentations to be included in the beginning-of-the-school-year faculty/staff orientations. They put up H1N1 posters, and discussed their election.

Group 6, Arts & Sciences: Tracy Harvey reported losing a bit of meeting time to some members' fascination with the Cunningham Hall move. They Reviewed OARS reports and chose their Election Coordinator.

Group 7, UW Bothell: Dave Leonard reported for Ken Jones who was unable to attend. The campus has been evaluating issues with their new south entrance. A big curve in the middle may cause the existing 35 mph speed limit on campus to be excessive.

Group 8, UW Tacoma: Michael McMillan reported meeting two times since the last U-Wide due to a previous cancellation. They have been discussing how to use distress calls or code words. Violence prevention training was provided by Stephen Costanti.

Group 9, Engineering: Michael Glidden reported a large turnout at their last meeting. Their two OARS reports, both at non-campus facilities, generated some confusion about responsibilities. One involved an elevator door mal-function. They attempted to watch a safety video, but experienced technical difficulties (yes, even with engineer members).

Group 10, Forest Resources: Dave Zuckerman reported he will be the Election Coordinator. Members discussed an OARS report, laboratory training at external worksites, contacting Dave Leonard about acquiring a NO SMOKING sign for the courtyard, and lock-out/tag-out training now scheduled with Industrial Hygienist, Jay Herzmark of EH&S.

Group 11, Ocean & Fishery Science: not present.

SEIU 925: Laura Davenport reported sending out an e-mail to her union's members announcing upcoming elections. She expressed concern about an employee who had a personal chemical sensitivity problem in another unit. Apparently, HR was involved with a possible accommodation, but the employee retired before the process could be continued.

WFSE 1488: Paul Bentson not present.

UAW 4121: John Freudenthal not present.

Faculty Senate: Rick Gleason commented on how members of local safety groups in our region often speak at each others' meetings. He added that our own Ron Fouty, Safety Director for the Capital Projects Office, is scheduled to speak at the next meeting of the Puget Sound Safety Summit. General Contractors are also concerned about protecting the public. (Unfortunately, that group meets at the same time we do.)

6. EH&S Report – L&I Inspections:

Denis Sapiro reported:

- The UW requested consultation with L&I on an asbestos release in McMahon Hall, June 15-26. Testing has shown no asbestos above the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and clearance limits at this time.
- Risk Management requested advice from L&I regarding Workers' Compensation costs which are higher than other institutions. They have had 4 meetings so far. Meetings have also been held with DSHS and DOT regarding their programs.
- The "factoid" mentioned at a previous U-Wide meeting regarding 66 days lost per ... (?)... has been researched.
 - Only claims involving lost time were used for the analysis.
 - The majority of lost days came from cases that lasted longer than a year.
 - The recently formed Return-To-Work Committee is due to start examining this issue. They will look at Harborview first because of its level of influence on the UW Experience Factor (which helps determine the rate we pay).
 - About an 8% increase is expected State-wide in Workers' Compensation.
- We have received two new "telephone-faxes" from L&I. This is where EH&S is called to investigate a UW complaint internally within a given time frame – instead of L&I doing it.
 - We are looking into HMC safety officer concerns regarding reduction of their coverage in both the morning and the afternoon. Concern was also raised about radio communication within the building at the Pioneer Square Clinic. (Security officers have radios that connect directly to both the HMC dispatcher and the Seattle Fire Department.) Apparently all clinic rooms do have "panic buttons." Concern about lack of training on defensive tactics and the use of the ASP Baton was proved to be unfounded since all officers received 2-year training in 2008.
 - We also looked into the concern some custodians had about asbestos exposure when they switched to day shift and started working in Guthrie Hall. A survey of deteriorated sheetrock in a custodial closet showed the material to contain less than 1% asbestos.
- A custodian was hospitalized from suffering a stroke while at work.
- Dave Leonard reported that H1N1 vaccines are expected to be available at the UW the last week in October. Notification will go out to the whole campus when they are available. Vaccination is planned to take place at the HUB, with other locations such as UW Bothell, under consideration. The University coordinates with King County who actually receives the vaccines. Students younger than 24 will be given priority.

7. Chair, Ron Fouty, adjourned the meeting.