HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Enhanced lab safety: Received Provost investment for additional 2.5 FTE to support the implementation of a new institutional chemical and physical safety in research committee and related policy to continue to improve safety performance in labs; launched new resources, including an updated Lab Safety Dashboard, risk assessment tool and lab liaison visits; updated the animal use health screening policy to align with new federal enforcement practices to ensure all personnel in animal care and use environments receive a health screening.

Achieved efficiencies with food-safety inspection system: Developed a new web-based electronic food-safety inspection system. The new system improved overall management of inspections and reporting, ensured compliance and increased inspection efficiency of University food establishments.

Launched University safety learning management system (Bridge): Improved customer service and provided access to a larger library of online safety training courses.

Informed WA Department of Ecology policy: Provided input on our state’s implementation of the new EPA Generator Improvement Rules. These rules allowed increased efficiency of the collection of chemical waste from off-site research labs and reduced waste disposal costs.

Launched office ergonomic self-assessment software: Provided workers with access to a risk assessment tool that helps them quickly identify and mitigate ergonomic risk factors associated with their office workspace.

Implemented MyChem efficiencies: Improved usability of the MyChem inventory system by integrating waste disposal requests into the system. This allows users to request chemical waste collection electronically without completing additional paperwork and more efficiently move their chemical inventories to new locations as labs expand or relocate to new buildings.

Developed boating safety standards: Created the UW Boating Safety Advisory Committee, which supported the creation of the University’s first Boating Safety Manual and webpage, which established safety standards for University departments that use and operate boats.

Achieved 100% compliance with seven Department of Health radiation safety inspections: Included contributing to The Joint Commission inspection of UW Medical Center and three license inspections.

Responded to an extraordinary radiological emergency: Served as a key participant in a multi-agency and multi-department cleanup and recovery effort due to a Cesium-137 release in the University’s Research & Training Building. EH&S’s Pre-Entry Assessment Team (PEAT) was mobilized for the first time to conduct a hazard assessment for initial re-entry into the building.

Supported research expansion to new Life Sciences and South Lake Union buildings: Supported 51 laboratory moves for over 100,000 square feet of research space; ensured labs were operating safely for biological, radiological and chemical hazards. This included testing of 80 biological safety cabinets and 43 fume hoods.

Enhanced employee health and safety: Implemented a new high-rise fire and life safety building inspection program for the Seattle campus; developed and launched a new UW Fall Protection Program Manual; initiated the Lead Lean project to establish a disposal and recycling process for metallic lead products and safe work practices to prevent occupational exposure to lead.

Expanded outreach: Completed an outreach project to prevent work-related hearing loss, which increased correct use and effectiveness of earplugs for employees in the Hearing Loss Prevention Program; increased EH&S newsletter recipients from 2,000 to 13,000.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

UW Laboratory Safety Initiative Successes and Next Steps Katia Harb, Pac 12 EH&S Directors Conference, April 2019

UW Fall Protection Program Denise Bender, Pac 12 EH&S Directors Conference, April 2019

The Day in the Life of a Biosafety Officer Lesley Decker, Northwest Association for Biomedical Research (NWABR) Conference, April 2019

Laboratory Safety Tracy Harvey, NWABR Conference, April 2019

Collective Wisdom from the Shared Lab Space Subcommittee Tracy Harvey, CSHEMA, July 2018

UW Lab Safety Program Alex Hagen, Allen Institute, 2019

PUBLICATION

Cost of Responding to the 2017 University of Washington Mumps Outbreak: A Prospective Analysis Journal of Public Health Management and Practice (JPHMP), February 2019
**Food safety inspections completed**

389,579

*People ate at campus events where temporary food permits helped ensure food safety*

**Laboratory safety surveys completed for**

764

*75 UW departments*

**444 Biological Use Authorizations**

**25% Increase from FY18**

1,750 *Chemical fume hoods tested*

1,098 *Biological safety cabinets certified*

2,455 *Staff hours in May and June supporting response and recovery efforts of a radiological emergency*

**Dive safety oversight to**

80 *scientific divers who conducted*

16,780 *containers handled to remove 308 tons of hazardous waste*

800 *SCUBA dives*

1,539 *Health screenings completed for personnel who work in an animal care and use environment*