HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Improved laboratory safety compliance by 58% — the Provost-funded Lab Safety Initiative improved safety in 90 target laboratories by breaking down barriers to a culture of safety. Overall, labs meeting expectations increased from 38% in June of 2016 to 60% in December 2017 (N=1,013).

Provided transparent lab safety performance — through our enhanced web-based lab safety survey dashboard, executives, deans, and chairs of science departments can review safety performance of laboratories, providing objective data to inform oversight and action.

Reduced turnaround time of research safety reviews by seven days — for occupational health review of animal research protocols to better align with the Office of Animal Welfare review times. Improvement ensured no delay in approval of research protocols with no compromise in the quality of the review.

Reduced administrative burden and improved client experience — through continuous improvements to MyChem’s waste collection functionality. New features save users data-entry time by reusing past waste reports to pre-populate a new waste request. In addition, a new comments field was added so users can send EH&S notes with the collection request. Since these changes, MyChem waste collection tool usage has increased 41%.

Supported communicable disease risk mitigation — following locally reported legionella, mumps, and TB cases, collaborated with UWMC and other campus partners to minimize associated risks and prevent further cases.

Improved online access to health and safety information — the newly designed EH&S website allows users to more easily find safety and health information and provides a new look-up tool that allows users to select the specific workplace hazards they may experience. The tool lists the recommended and required safety training courses to mitigate job-related hazards.

Ensured diving safety and compliance for students — trained and certified eighteen (18) student divers for the University’s Human Powered Submarine (HPS) Team in the Mechanical Engineering Department and diving projects in remote locations around the world.

Removed over 1,000 pounds of radioactive waste — through the Provost-funded Legacy Waste Initiative, worked with campus partners to identify, collect, and dispose of legacy radioactive waste items. This initiative saved over $60,000 by optimizing disposal methods. Additionally, we shipped nearly 3.5 tons of depleted uranium bricks for reuse instead of the standard disposal method, saving the University approximately $20,000.

Published Respiratory Protection Program — that outlines roles, responsibilities, and procedures for respiratory protection, job hazard evaluations, respirator selection, medical evaluations, care and use of respirators, and training and fit-testing for personnel who use respirators.

Joined a Center for Shared Services — staff participated in all phases of the design and development of a new Center for Shared Services (CSS) with the goal of reducing administrative burden for purchasing, travel, and other administrative processes.

Launched new Accident Prevention Plan — published University-wide Accident Prevention Program and safety orientation video that provides consistent and necessary health and safety information that applies to all workers.

Characterized airborne chemical exposure — characterized risks and verified safety measures through quantitative exposure monitoring for airborne contaminants such as formaldehyde and in multiple workplaces across campus.

Enhanced fire safety — planned and facilitated fire evacuation drills and produced over 50 evacuation route maps for UW Seattle campus buildings. Partnered to write a new charter for higher education laboratories that modified the international fire code; this is anticipated to result in a 70% increase in research-building compliance for chemical quantity limitations.

AWARDS

CSHEMA Award of Merit Both the Lab Safety Initiative and the Accident Prevention Plan projects received the national CSHEMA (Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association) Award of Merit, which honors the innovative achievement of higher education institutions in the categories of process improvement, resource management, and safety culture.
BY THE NUMBERS

FY18

Over 90% fire drill completion for 154 Seattle campus buildings

Verified documentation for immunizations and health screenings for 4,400 students participating in clinical practicums

22,000 Dosimeters issued to monitor employees for job-related radiation exposure

346 Biological Use Research Authorizations

80

784 tons of hazardous waste

60

50 Investigations of reported indoor air quality complaints

40

Achieved 58% improvement in safety compliance for 90 labs due to a provost-funded lab safety initiative

40

9 L&I safety complaint investigations received and resolved

335,000 People were served food at UW events that met state public health requirements, as issued by EH&S

1,011 Hours of instructor-led health and safety training

80

1,451 Participants in Animal Use Medical Screenings protected from health and safety hazards

70 University scientific divers who conducted SCUBA dives

20

54,000 Staff time for clinical and outreach activities to stop a mumps outbreak

9 Staff time for clinical and outreach activities to stop a mumps outbreak

Over 420 food safety inspections for Husky Stadium concession stands