U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

5/11/2022 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elected Member*</th>
<th>Appointed Member*</th>
<th>Proxy*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Ryan Hawkinson (1)</td>
<td>☒ Kurt Oglesby (3)</td>
<td>☐ Sulgi Lotze (1)</td>
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<td>☒ Carmen Parisi, Chair (1)</td>
<td>☒ David Manley (5)</td>
<td>☐ Brett Magnuson (2)</td>
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<td>☒ Nigel Horton (2)</td>
<td>☐ Andrew Abian (7)</td>
<td>☐ Martin Arroyo (7)</td>
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<td>☒ Norm Kwasinski (2)</td>
<td>☒ David Zuckerman (10)</td>
<td>☐ Colleen Irvin (9)</td>
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<td>☒ Tony Colinares (3)</td>
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<td>☐ Andrea Chateaubriand (10)</td>
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<td>☐ Christine Aker (4)</td>
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<td>☒ Mary Ann Valentine (4)</td>
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<th>Labor Union Member*</th>
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<tr>
<td>☒ Ansley Roman (5)</td>
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<td>☒ Sarah O’Hara (6)</td>
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<td>☒ Laura Harrington (6)</td>
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<td>☒ Alaron Lewis (7)</td>
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<td>☒ Hannah Wilson (8)</td>
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<th>Senate Member*</th>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Michelle Miller (8)</td>
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<td>☒ Alexander Lefort (9)</td>
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<td>☒ Sarah Coppola (9)</td>
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| 13 = voting members for quorum |
| David Warren (10) |

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<tr>
<th>Ex-Officio Member</th>
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<th>Env. Health &amp; Safety Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>☒ Tracey Mosier, UWF</td>
<td>☒ Rick Gleason, DEOHS</td>
<td>☒ Katia Harb</td>
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<td>☒ Chris Pennington, UWF</td>
<td>☒ Felicia Foster, AGO</td>
<td>☒ Denise Bender</td>
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<td>☒ Steve Charvat, UWEM</td>
<td>☒ Nancy Gwin, AGO</td>
<td>☒ Erin McKeown</td>
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<td>☐ Barry Morgan, UWEM</td>
<td>☐ Ken Nielsen, Risk Services</td>
<td>☒ Sonia Honeydew</td>
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<td>☐ Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD</td>
<td>☒ Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT</td>
<td>☒ Lorilyn A. H. Ignao</td>
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<td>☐ Seth Greenfest, UWHR</td>
<td>☐ TBD, UWB</td>
<td>☒ Tracy Harvey</td>
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<th>Guests</th>
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<td>☒ Matt Moeller</td>
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Agenda

Final 5/11/2022 U-Wide meeting minutes
1. **Attendance/Quorum**  
Sonia Honeydew announced attendance reached quorum.

2. **Call to Order and Welcome**  
Carmen Parisi opened the meeting with a land and water acknowledgement and explained how meeting voting procedures will be conducted.

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**  
Carmen asked for any changes or suggestions to the April meeting minutes. No comments were raised. Alex Lefort motioned to accept. Ryan Hawkinson seconded. April meeting minutes were approved.

4. **COVID-19 Update**  
Katia Harb presented an overview of the COVID-19 community levels. As expected, increase in cases in the UW community and Greater Seattle Area after returning from spring break. Last week, positivity rate of 5.2% from Husky Coronavirus Testing Program (HCTP). Currently community level is “medium,” and hospital levels are relatively low. Pierce and Snohomish Counties remain relatively low, though are increasing. BA.2 subvariant is dominant variant now. Relaxing the masking mandate may be contributing to slight rise of infection rates. On April 26 when King County moved to “medium” level, returned to “masks strongly recommended indoors”. In healthcare settings and on UW Shuttles, masks are still required. HCTP will continue for ‘22-‘23 school year, though roughly half of positive test results came from home antigen testing kits. EH&S COVID-19 Response and Prevention team received another year of federal funding.

Reviewed [COVID-19 Public Health Requirements and Guidance flowchart](#). Pay attention to allergy symptoms and consider getting tested periodically if cannot distinguish from COVID symptoms. Spikes observed are assumed to be related to bigger events, parties, department dinners, etc. Encouraged to test before entering events as a best practice.

Floor opened for questions. Carmen asked from the chat if employees can still get L&I support if tested positive from work. Seth Greenfest responded that there are no changes to policies if employees are exposed to COVID from work. Guidance is posted on the [HR website](#). Sonia mentioned to [report all positive tests to EHC](#), and if a potential workplace transmission fill out an OARS report. Katia expressed that it can be difficult to tell how and where exposure came from. David Zuckerman asked for advice on second boosters. Katia provided the specifics of eligibility per CDC guidance. There is no current UW requirement, outside of the medical facilities, to receive a booster. Many are choosing to wait so that immunity is stronger later. Talk to personal doctor for individual guidance.

5. **Pre-Entry Assessment Team (PEAT)**  
Matt Moeller and Doug Gallucci presented “Is it safe?” from UW PEAT, one disaster response team of the University. Earthquake hazards surround the University as part of the Puget Sound seismic zone and there are buildings on campus with vast amounts of hazardous materials. Seattle Fire
expressed, following an earlier earthquake, that the UW Campus needed to be self-sufficient in the event of an earthquake. Various safety issues include chemical spills, leaking gas cylinders, evacuation routes, building infrastructure safety.

The role of PEAT is to enter buildings after disasters (e.g., earthquakes) to monitor for chemical hazards. A question was raised about access to care for research animals. Matt answered that the UW Earthquake Response Teams are made up of the ATC-20 (assess the structural integrity of buildings); PEAT (pre-entry assessment team – manage potential hazardous materials spills); and RAT (Rapid Access Team – assess needs of animals). The University has little capacity for cleanup. PEAT responsibilities do not include personnel rescue; they leave individuals sheltering in place, advise leadership, and continue to work to allow next entry team.

Mobilization practices include use of personnel who are hazardous materials trained. Typically, teams do not know what hazards to expect when entering buildings and therefore wear Level B protection suits (PPE including respiratory protection with breathing air). Part of their process is to check for radiation and air quality in any areas they may need to breach. The PEAT has created standardized ways to communicate with other emergency response teams, including post-earthquake building signage. HazMat areas are labeled. Restricted buildings may be used for shelter, etc. Carmen asked about a symbol mentioned for emergency responses. See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3V_0p3uoKIE. Alaron Lewis asked where UW Bothell is on hierarchy for emergency response. PEAT conducts drills for Bothell and Tacoma. PEAT will go where administration asks them to go.

6. Organizational Group Reports

Carmen requested groups to present reports to discuss anything new, interesting presentations, or updates.

**HSC-1**
Ryan Hawkinson: dealing with first drone injury.

**HSC-2**
Nigel Horton: for Materials & Construction, OARS report asking for more people to support mason work so they do not get hurt trying to lift heavy objects on their own. New safety officer, Bob Dillon to work with construction manager, Steve Babinec. The Total Recordable Injury Rate (TRIR) goal for project delivery is 2.0.

**HSC-3**
Kurt Oglesby: nothing new to report.

**HSC-4**
Christine Aker: nothing new to report.

**HSC-5**
David Manley: each group gave statistics from quarter 1. In April focused on workplace violence. Current initiatives, distributions, OSHA initiatives.

**HSC-6**
Sara O’Hara: nothing new to report

**HSC-7**
Alaron Lewis: nothing new to report

**HSC-8**
Hannah Wilson: nothing new to report

**HSC-9**
Alex Lefort: last review of charter with addendum about simplified Robert’s Rules (willing to share).
Sarah Coppola: many of College of Engineering individuals went to a super-spreader event, exhibiting symptoms after return to campus.

**HSC-10**
David Zuckerman: OARS reports included tick bites. Tick avoidance guidance and care shared.

7. **Union & Senate Reports**

**GPSS**
Not present.

**WFSE 1488**
Paula Lukaszek: concerns about ergonomics studies with custodians, and shuttle bus and truck drivers are also experiencing issues. Most recently an ergonomic issue with a driver came up two weeks ago and a report was provided to Transportation Services (TS). Paula mentioned that Metro has proactively worked on ergonomics for their drivers. Tracey Mosier will follow up with TS on the report and recommendations. Sonia mentioned that EH&S is reviewing ergonomics issues and can discuss with concerned staff. Erin McKeown asked to emphasize entering OARS reports on issues.

**SEIU 925**
Ann Aumann: nothing new to report.

**UAW 4121**
Not present.

**Faculty Senate**
Not present.

8. **Ex Officio Reports**

**UW Facilities**
Tracey/Chris: nothing new to report.

**UWPD**
Not present.

**Emergency Management**
Steve Charvat: Campus safety reorganization happening behind the scenes.

**DEOHS**
Rick Gleason: WA Worker Memorial Day summary. About two workers a week lost their life last year. Presented data. COVID remains the leading cause of death in Washington on the job in 2020-2021, followed by construction, transportation, public safety, warehouse, and agriculture deaths. Carmen expressed that the memorial was powerful.

**AGO**
Nancy Gwin: nothing new to report.

**Claim Services**
Not present.

**Transportation Services**
Not present.

**UW Tacoma**
Susan Wagshul-Golden: nothing new to report.
UW Bothell
Allyson Long left UW. Await replacement.

9. **EH&S Updates**
   **L&I**
   Erin McKeown offered updates that EH&S and L&I have met and provided the following notes:

   EH&S staff and Union representatives met with Labor and Industries regarding a violation for respirator selection and use at Harborview Medical Center's Post-Anesthesia Care Unit and emergency room. UW Medicine policies regarding the selection and use of respirators was being revised when this investigation began in November 2021. The changes were being made as part of a settlement agreement with LNI. UW Medicine requires healthcare workers to wear a NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator, eye protection, gloves, and a gown when providing care to patients that are known or suspected of having COVID-19. The hearing officer proposed to reduce the violation from serious to a general violation and reduce the fine amount from $6k to $3k.

   The LNI investigation at the UWMC Roosevelt Clinic regarding social distancing concerns closed with no violations.

   MyChem system was updated and released. Share concerns with Mark Volkert, mvolkert@uw.edu. Denise Bender added that there will be new requirements in MyChem in the end of June. Douglas Gallucci explained the new requirement for inventory owners to upload SDSs for new inventory items. This will be effective starting June 30th.

**General**
Newsletter was published, including a new article on lockout/tagout. LOTO manual is currently under review by EH&S; departmental review and comments welcome.

10. **Good of the Order**
Sonia expressed a thank you for Accident Prevention Plan reviews. Goal is to have a new draft presented to group next month. Sarah Coppola asked, “Is anyone looking at the mental health crisis among workers?” Denise answered that no one in EH&S is. UW Medicine has reached out to mental health experts and is boosting support for workers experiencing burnout. EH&S can investigate what is being done and share information. Nothing has been formally organized. Seth said that telework will continue in an attempt to reduce anxiety. Programs and supports for caregivers are also offered. Laura Harrington suggested reminding the campus community of the CareLink resource. Norman Kwasinski mentioned his group uses it often. Ansley advocated for the use of CareLink -- though limited, still a valuable resource. Katia mentioned that some find it useful and individuals make the resources available. Denise mentioned the UW Resilience Lab teaching how to increase one’s “window of resilience”. Katia mentioned the UW Resilience Lab could present to the U-wide and can help teams/groups or individuals. Erin will look into coordinating a presentation in the future. Sarah mentioned that there is a crisis point, entering unchartered new world due to the work environment of the last two years. Sonia mentioned the across-the-board staffing shortages and increased workload adding onto the stress of the work

11. Adjourn
Carmen asked for a motion to adjourn. Sara O’Hara motioned to adjourn. Sarah Coppola seconded.
Meeting adjourned: 2:09pm

Resources:

https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/health/the-expiration-date-on-your-covid-rapid-tests-may-have-been-extended-heres-how-to-look-up-the-new-one/


https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/05/11/how-scholarly-meeting-became-superspreader-event

https://hr.uw.edu/returntowork/covid-19-policy-updates/

https://www.uwmedicine.org/coronavirus/vaccine

https://sayyescovidhometest.org/

https://www.ehs.washington.edu/about/latest-news/mychem-users-required-upload-sdss


https://wellbeing.uw.edu/unit/resilience-lab/

https://wellbeing.uw.edu/topic/mental-health/

UW Center for Child & Family Well-Being https://ccfwb.uw.edu/