# U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

**11/18/2020 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Elected Member*</th>
<th>Appointed Member*</th>
<th>Faculty Senate Member*</th>
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<tr>
<td>☒ Ryan Hawkinson (1)</td>
<td>☐ Mark Pekarek (2)</td>
<td>☐ Ian Bennett</td>
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<td>☒ Carmen Parisi (1)</td>
<td>☒ Kurt Oglesby (3)</td>
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<td>☐ Erick Rostad (2)</td>
<td>☒ Beth Hammermeister (4)</td>
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<td>☒ Tony Colinares (3)</td>
<td>☒ Liz Kindred, Vice-chair (5)</td>
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<td>☒ Christine Aker (4)</td>
<td>☒ Allyson Long (7)</td>
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<td>☒ Michael Sage (5)</td>
<td>☒ Cham Kao (7)</td>
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<td>☒ Eric Camp (6)</td>
<td>☒ Susan Wagshul-Golden (8)</td>
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<td>☒ Sarah O’Hara (6)</td>
<td>☒ David Zuckerman (10)</td>
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<td>☒ Martin Arroyo (7)</td>
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<th>Labor Union Member*</th>
<th>Env Health &amp; Safety Member**</th>
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<td>☒ Alex Russo (7)</td>
<td>☒ Ann Aumann, SEIU 925</td>
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<td>☒ Wade Haddaway (8)</td>
<td>☐ Paula Lukaszek, WFSE Local 1488</td>
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<td>☒ Christopher Barrett (8)</td>
<td>☒ Christine Kang, UAW 4121</td>
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<td>☒ Sonia Honeydew, Chair (9)</td>
<td>☒ Amanda Clouser, UAW 4121</td>
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<td>☐ Colleen Irvin (9)</td>
<td>☐ Vacant, ASUW</td>
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<td>☒ David Warren (10)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Guests**</th>
<th>Ex-Officio Member**</th>
<th>Ex-Officio Member**</th>
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<tr>
<td>☒ Natalie Daranyi</td>
<td>☐ Tracey Mosier, UWF</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>☒ Chris Pennington, UWF</td>
<td>☐ Felicia Foster, AGO</td>
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<td>☒ Ken Nielsen, Risk Services</td>
<td>☒ Nancy Gwin, AGO</td>
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<td>☐ Rick Gleason, DEOHS</td>
<td>☒ Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD</td>
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<td>☒ Steve Charvat, UWF EM</td>
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<td>☒ Barry Morgan, UWF EM</td>
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**Quorum is 12 or more of voting members**

* - attended meeting
* - voting members
** - non-voting member
Agenda

1. **Call to Order**
   Sonia Honeydew called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

2. **Attendance/Quorum**
   Sonia conducted attendance and quorum was met.

3. **Approval of October meeting minutes**
   October meeting minutes were approved.

4. **COVID-19 Update**
   Katia Harb provided the following COVID-19 updates.

   There has been an exponential increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, and a threefold increase in the number of people who indicate they may have had close contact to a person who is COVID-19 positive.

   Non-essential travel during holidays is not advised, but if people travel, health authorities recommend testing before and after travel, and quarantine for 14 days after returning.

   The Husky Coronavirus Testing Program is busy conducting COVID-19 testing for anyone with symptoms, but expanded the program to test employees/students who are on campus one day a week (Tier 2 status).
Katia reminded members that EH&S publishes new and updated COVID-19 guidance information on our website in the [Covid-19 Prevention and Response- What's new](https://www.ehs.washington.edu) section. She mentioned the following new items on the EH&S website:

- A **UW Return to On-site Work Decision Tree** was developed to help managers and unit leaders with identifying and approving on-site work activities, while UW leadership continues to promote telework where possible through the end of this academic year.
- New guidance was posted in the frequently asked questions regarding **preventing skin problems** while wearing a facemask.
- EH&S adopted CDC updates to the definition of close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual - being within six feet for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period. The EH&S' contact tracing team has already been applying this new definition, and published the [EH&S' contact tracing process](https://www.ehs.washington.edu) on the EH&S webpage.

Katia mentioned that EH&S is working with the School of Public Health and Department of Health (DOH) on piloting a new WA COVID-19 exposure notification application (WA Notify App). This application is supposed to be launched statewide by the end of this month. Katia said that it's been introduced to about 24,000 students and is expected to be introduced to faculty and staff before the end of the month.

EH&S has hired two full-time contact tracers, and one of them start this week. Katia also announced that EH&S has hired a COVID-19 Response and Prevention Manager, Ibrahim Khalil. The contact tracing group reports to Sheryl Schwartz and works 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week.

Katia reminded everyone to review and update their COVID-19 prevention plans and monitor adherence to them.

### 5. Confined Space Entry Program

Natalie Daranyi provided a presentation on the University's new 'Confined Space Entry Program'. She said the regulation changed in 2018, and that a confined space is defined as a place that is large enough that someone can fully enter into it, has limited or restricted entry and exit, and is not designed for continuous human occupancy. She gave several examples of confined spaces including lift stations, tanks, pits, and attics or crawlspaces.

Natalie covered the difference between a confined space and a permit-required confined space. If one or more of the following additional conditions exist, the space is considered a permit-required confined space:

- Has a potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere
- Contains materials that may engulf someone
- Configuration could lead to someone being trapped or asphyxiated
Contains a physical or health hazard like chemical, biological, mechanical, electrical, thermal, gravity, hydraulic, pneumatic, steam, etc.

Natalie said that training is required for all permit-required confined space entries and that an entry form must be completed among other specific procedures to guide in the recognition, evaluation, and control of hazards. She said that when hazards can’t be eliminated, an entry rescue plan must be established.

Natalie said that the Program Manual has been updated, and the new Permit-required Entry Form is complete. She said she has work remaining to complete the EH&S website and to update our training courses. She mentioned that EH&S currently provides awareness level training, and both initial (12 hour course) and refresher training in Permit-required Confined Space Entry. She said she is also working on a new online course called ‘Confined Space for Researchers and Academics’ that should be published soon. The new course focuses on entry where hazards can be eliminated and entry is done using alternative methods.

6. Organizational Group Reports

HSC 1 – Ryan Hawkinson said that HSC-1 didn’t meet since their meeting fell on a holiday (11/11). However, they reviewed the Accident Prevention Plan (APP), compiled their comments, and emailed them to Erin McKeown.

HSC 2 – Mark Pekarek and Erick Rostad were not present for the meeting. Chris Pennington provided the report. She said that HSC-2 met and reviewed OARS reports. They discussed concerns with individuals not wearing PPE and following posted signage, and the need to minimize in-person training during the current COVID-19 surge.

HSC 3 – Kurt Oglesby said that HSC-3 met on October 21 and reviewed OARS reports. They discussed what occurred at the U-Wide Meeting and reviewed UW's APP with Erin McKeown's assistance. Tony Colinares added that the Husky Union Building (HUB) is open for studying, if students follow recommended social distancing measures. Students will be checked in from the north entrance, where they go through attestation and will be handed an 'In' or 'Out' sticker. The main hallways of first, second, third floor of HUB, the lounge areas and the Lyceum Auditorium are socially-distanced and open for UW staff/students. People may also eat in the Lyceum.

HSC 4 – Christine Aker said that HSC-4 met and reviewed OARS reports. They had a presentation from UWPD on best practices for handling unauthorized visitors or personnel in UW buildings. They also had Lesley Decker, EH&S Biological Safety Team, do a presentation on Biosafety.

HSC-4 began their review the APP and will continue discussing it at their next meeting.

Christine said that UW has opened South Campus Center to UW staff/students as a study space. Christine thanked those who are developing and implementing safe re-opening protocols.
Christine said Kim Dinh will be the new interim executive sponsor for HSC-4 due to organizational changes that took place a few months back.

**HSC 5** - Liz Kindred said that HSC-5 met on October 26, and an Employee Health nurses provided a presentation on sharps safety that included statistics and a review of cases over the previous year. She said sharps injuries are the leading cause of injury at medical facilities and presentations on the topic may help prevent them. A large number of the sharps injuries occurred in operating rooms and laundry facilities.

HSC-5 also discussed concerns about breakrooms and social distancing. They are converting conference rooms, waiting areas, and other large open spaces into break rooms so employees can social distance during their lunch breaks now that weather is worse.

Liz said that today is National Injury Prevention Day, and that the Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center partnered with University of Washington to promote suicide prevention. Safe storage of firearms and prescription medications is a good start to suicide prevention. Hospitals and trauma centers across the country will be lit in green light to shine a light on opportunities to prevent serious childhood injuries.

**HSC 6** – Sarah O’Hara said that HSC-6 met on October 15. They reviewed OARS reports and discussed the U-Wide meeting.

**HSC 7** – Martin Arroyo said that HSC-7 reviewed OARS reports and discussed the APP. He will compile their comments to send it to Erin McKeown. Martin also introduced Allyson Long, their new EH&S Specialist.

**HSC 8** – Chris Barrett said that HSC-8 met on October 15 and reviewed OARS reports. Brett Konzek from EH&S was their guest speaker and presented on indoor air quality. They plan on discussing the APP at their next meeting.

**HSC 9** – Sonia Honeydew said that HSC-9 met on October 27. Natalie Daranyi from EH&S was a guest speaker who covered energy hazards and controls. She talked about the three categories of electrical safety: hazardous electrical safety, electrical safety for electric workers, and lock-out / tag-out. She noted that we should not use LOTO controls for access control.

Group 9 noted Facilities’ safety rules for space heaters, important in cooler “curtailed” buildings, and EH&S’ safety alert about kitchen fires.

HSC-9 had a discussion about how employees should notify EH&S but not necessarily their supervisors of a positive or potential COVID-19 case. EH&S will handle all of the notifications following proper methods. Katia Harb confirmed that EH&S will guide the employee, student, and their supervisor through the correct process for follow-up.
HSC-9 also discussed vandalism and break-ins during the reduced occupancy period of the pandemic.

They plan on discussing the APP at their next meeting.

**HSC 10 –** David Warren said HSC-10 met and discussed OARS reports.

Ken Nielsen presented on the ‘Back to Work Program’ and L&I claims.

The RV Carlson got stuck due to a low tide.

Stephanie Harrington and HSC-10 discussed the implementation of a new college wide safety suggestion box. HSC-10 would review and approve proposals. A small budget would be established to pay for the winning initiatives.

David said the RV Thompson is currently in dry dock and he asked for suggestions to maintain social distancing when people and contractors are coming and going to complete work all over the vessel. Beth Hammermeister suggested a log book to track these details.

HSC-10 wondered if flu shots can be a requirement of people who work on a ship.

7. **Faculty Senate Reports:** Ian Bennett was not present.

8. **Union Reports:** Christine Kang, Amanda Clouser, and Ann Aumann were present at the meeting, but had no updates.

9. **Ex-Officio Reports:**

   **UW Facilities:** Chris Pennington was present, but had no updates.

   **Emergency Management:** Barry Morgan said that they’re continuing to keep an eye out for PPE and cleaning products for the Safe and Clean Storefront in case of a supply chain interruption due to the ongoing surge of COVID-19 cases.

   **UWPD:** Lt. Chris Jaross said the UWPD was authorized to hire and utilize unarmed responders on campus to help respond to non-serious incidents like when employees are locked out of their offices or vehicles.

   Lt. Jaross said that based on new state mandates impacting hospitals with regard to the visitation policies, UWPD will be placing staff at UWMC and Northwest hospitals over the next few weeks.
He said they had no safety concerns related to the last football game, and were looking forward to same at the next football game.

**DEOHS:** Rick Gleason was not present.

**Attorney General's Office:** Nancy Gwin had no updates.

**Claims Services:** Ken Nielsen had no updates.

10. **L&I updates:**

   Erin McKeown reported that there are four on-going L&I inspections.

   UWMC Northwest – Employee concerns with access to N95 masks
   UWMC Montlake – Employee concerns with access to N95 masks
   Eastside Specialty Center – concerns related to social distancing, barriers, and mask usage
   The closing conference for the Eastside Specialty Clinic was today. EH&S is awaiting the results of the closing conference.
   HMC (908 Jefferson Building) - concerns related to screening patients for COVID-19.

   Erin McKeown said Andreea Minea is leaving UW and taking a new position with Nissan as a Safety Manager. She thanked her for her work at UW EH&S.

   Erin demonstrated and talked about the new training report tool on the [UW EH&S Training webpage](#). She said this tool can be used to find specific training records for multiple staff by organization code, manager’s UWNetID, or by searches for one or more individual UWNetIDs.

11. **Good of the Order:** Nothing additional was discussed.

12. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm