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<tr>
<th>Elected Member*</th>
<th>Appointed Member*</th>
<th>Faculty Senate Member*</th>
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<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>
<td>Paula Lukaszek, WFSE Local 1488</td>
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<td>☒ Christine Aker (4)</td>
<td>☒ David Zuckerman (10)</td>
<td>Ann Aumann, SEIU 925</td>
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<td>☐ Anne Sumpter (5)</td>
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<td>Amanda Clouser, UAW 4121</td>
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<td>☒ Eric Camp (6)</td>
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<td>☒ Alexa Russo (7)</td>
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<td>☐ Alexander Lefort (9)</td>
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<td>☒ Sheila Prusa (9)</td>
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<td>☐ David Warren (10)</td>
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<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>Jenna Gravley</td>
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<td>☒ Allyson Long, UWB</td>
<td>Tracy Harvey</td>
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<td>☒ Lesley Decker, EH&amp;S</td>
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<td>☒ Esther Pelham, EH&amp;S</td>
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Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. COVID-19 Update
3. Attendance/Quorum
4. Approval of September Meeting Minutes
5. National Biosafety Month
6. EH&S Resources for a Safe Return to Lab Work
7. Charter Updates and Vote
8. Organizational Group Reports and Election Updates
9. Union Reports
10. Ex Officio Reports
11. EH&S Updates: L&I and General
12. Good of the Order
13. Adjourn

Minutes by Sonia Honeydew

The meeting was conducted on Zoom to adhere to COVID-19 pandemic protocols per guidance from the Washington State Dept of Health, and the CDC. The meeting was recorded.

1. Call to Order
   U-Wide Chair Carmen Parisi called the meeting to order with a land acknowledgement and reminder of our Zoom voting process.

2. COVID-19 Update
   Katia began with the case update. With more people on campus, testing was promoted, resulting in an anticipated sharp increase in positive results, which is now decreasing. Currently 1.7% are testing positive; of those, 90% are students and 90% vaccinated people. With an 82% response rate, 97% of students and 96% of employees attest they are vaccinated.
   Katia shared the county public health relative COVID-19 risk rates for the unvaccinated: 8x more likely to test positive, 46x more likely to be hospitalized, and 78x more likely to die.
   Booster shots are now available for those eligible.

   Then Katia described the vaccination policy updates for employees and students. Religious and medical exemption determination letters are being issued this week. Those approved must wear a procedure or surgical rather than cloth mask on campus, distance six feet while eating and be tested weekly (twice a week if working in a health care setting). The testing location is the student or employee's choice, but tests should primarily be PCR tests. The portal for uploading weekly test results should be announced next week. As of October 25th, King County orders proof of vaccination or a negative test result for event and entertainment venues; for consistency this will apply to UW Bothell and Tacoma as well. Chris Pennington asked whether
the unvaccinated need to wear those medical or procedural masks everywhere, indoors and out. Katia answered only where masks are currently required.

Contact tracing communications are being revised based on feedback, and processes automated to reach more people faster. In classroom settings we rely on WA Notify to identify close contact exposures, so please activate it on your mobile device. A new Public Health Guidance Flowchart clarifies guidance for isolation and quarantine. Tracey Mosier asked how to judge new symptoms that might be attributable to a personal medical condition. Katia answered that right now (with the recent surge) we're being more conservative and asking people to stay home and get tested unless they are absolutely certain the symptoms are not from COVID-19. Katia concluded that as always, updates are at the UW Coronavirus page and the EH&S COVID Resources page and we appreciate feedback.

3. Attendance/Quorum
Sonia verified that attendance was counted, and quorum was met.

4. Approval of September Meeting Minutes
Carmen facilitated a discussion and vote. September meeting minutes were approved with one change: the addition of “HSC-2 Not Present” under group reports.

5. National Biosafety Month
Lesley Decker, EH&S’ Biosafety Manager, defined biosafety and described the origins of National Biosafety Month in October 2014 by the NIH. Each year there is a different focus, e.g. exposure response, sharps safety, or biosafety SOP template. Esther Pellham, Biosafety Officer, described the 2021 focus: “wear a lab coat to protect yourself.” Lab coats are now required even in Biosafety Level One (BSL-1) labs.

Esther reviewed “Do’s and Don’ts” for proper use, storage, and cleaning of lab coats and other personal protective equipment (PPE). Outreach with this message has gone to PIs and Lab Managers with Biological Use Authorizations (BUAs), into the EH&S newsletter, onto the EH&S home page, and to the Office of Research site. Please share this message with your departments.

Lesley told us more about the EH&S Biosafety group, which reviews and approves BUAs along with the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC). They inspect labs that work with all types of biohazards, including animals and transgenic plants. They advise on sharps safety and biohazardous waste, and help labs choose appropriate disinfectants for work with agents. They perform incident response drills. They are supporting so many labs doing COVID-19 research that the BSL-3/Select Agent Program has more than doubled. Note that in BSL-2 and higher labs, personnel should be wearing a disposable medical/procedure mask.

6. EH&S Resources for a Safe Return to Lab Work
Alex Hagen, Manager of EH&S’ Lab Safety Inspection Program (labcheck@uw.edu), shared that on the [EH&S COVID-19 Health and Safety Resources](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/handbooks/covid-19/) page the “Guidance for Researchers” link in the COVID-19 Resources section contains tools for safely resuming work in the lab. These tools are all based on labs conducting annual self-inspections in addition to any EH&S lab safety surveys. Self-inspections are also necessary if lab functions change at any time. Lab self-inspections check that all safety resources are in place and current.

The [Lab Self-Inspections page](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/lab-toolkit/self-inspection) has a video with best practices and how to access the self-inspection tool in the [Lab Safety Dashboard](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/lab-toolkit/lab-safety-dashboard), and links to a focus sheet on the key elements of lab self-inspections. Labs must document their self-inspections, and may do so with the same checklist EH&S uses in Lab Safety surveys.

The Lab Safety Dashboard, accessible to the PI and Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO) can be used to store records and print PDFs of self-inspection reports. It can also be used to update the list of lab personnel and check that their Managing Lab Chemicals training is current.

Labs partially or completely vacating a space for remodeling, relocation, or closure must leave the space clean and safe. The Lab Manager or Responsible Party should follow instructions on the [Notice of Laboratory Moveout form](https://www.ehs.washington.edu/faq/lab/moving), and post a copy of the complete form inside the door near an exit. Departments may have additional requirements.

Carmen asked for an official definition of a laboratory. Alex said the lab safety standard defines a lab as a place relatively small amounts of hazardous substances are used on a nonproduction basis.

7. **Charter Updates and Vote**

Sonia shared a proposed change to the U-wide charter: an additional paragraph in the Membership section, addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion. Carmen facilitated a vote, and the addition was approved. Erin encouraged HSCs to add the same language to their charters.

8. **Organizational Group Reports and Election Updates**

**HSC-1**: Carmen Parisi reported that Group 1 discussed ShakeAlert and the Great ShakeOut. At the end of this week the request for nominations goes out.

**HSC-2**: Erick Rostad reported that at the end of this week a letter would go out to UW Facilities employees naming Erick as the Election Coordinator, and then he’ll begin to receive nominations. Mark Pekarek said the Project Delivery Group expressed concerns about tunnel safety, and UWPD is aware that people living with homelessness have been getting into and camping in the tunnels.

**HSC-3**: Kurt Oglesby reported that an email blast went out to Student Life for nominations and they’re awaiting responses.
**HSC-4:** Christine Aker let us know that Beth has retired so Brady Rainey will proxy for Beth on the U-wide. Group 4 is working on getting all their groups to provide information to their election coordinator. They performed their quarterly trend review of OARS reports. HSC-4 asked whether more dining services will open because there aren't many places to procure food. They also point out the increased vandalism at South Lake Union and an upcoming School of Medicine Town Hall on personal safety and security measures this Thursday from 1-2pm. The event will be in person and via Zoom, featuring John Slattery, Vice Dean for Research and Graduate Education, and a UWPD representative.

**HSC-5:** Liz Kindred said that September was a very busy month for the hospitals, hopefully their peak for COVID-19, which generated the highest number of worker exposure cases at Harborview Medical Center (HMC). 97% of UW Medicine staff are vaccinated. At HMC 31 nominees have been collected for two spots on HSC-5, and after vetting we'll run that election. HMC started their flu shot campaign. Pfizer COVID boosters were discussed.

**HSC-6:** Eric Camp said they encountered an election snag when their Election Coordinator left. They've reorganized, called for nominations, and elections will commence soon.

**HSC-7:** Martin Arroyo reported they completed the call for nominations and the election will begin this Friday. We invited several nominees to attend our HSC-7 meeting so they could learn about the role. We had a video on hazards, discussed the Great ShakeOut, and will have another Household Hazardous Waste event this weekend.

**HSC-8:** Chris Barrett said they discussed the Great Shakeout in detail. He said that 75% of their departments have nominees, and many are a single individual. The election is in progress and they began the process of collecting appointees.

**HSC-9:** Sheila Prusa reported that HSC-9 had a long discussion about lab decommissioning and moving. There are chemical waste disposal contractors vetted through EH&S to collect chemicals because they are a state-regulated issue. We discussed the Great ShakeOut. We decided to continue meeting via Zoom.

**HSC-10:** David Zuckerman reported that they discussed the Great ShakeOut. We have no new safety suggestions or speakers scheduled. We discussed the vaccine mandate. We plan to contact UWPD regarding an apparent uptick in security concerns along the Burke Gilman trail. On Monday our Executive Sponsor wants to discuss whether our election will remain decentralized or become centralized, then the call for nominations will go out.

**Union Reports**
Paula reported for WFSE Local 1488. Their members have been discussing the vaccine mandate, and last month Facilities Maintenance and Construction seemed to have a lot of positive COVID-19 cases.
Ann Aumann had nothing to report for SEIU 925.

10. Ex Officio Reports

**UW Facilities:** Nothing to report.

**Emergency Management:** Barry mentioned the Great ShakeOut next Thursday at 10:21am, which should be announced with a UW Alert and an email from the Crisis Communications team lead. We recommend you test the Drop, Cover, Hold process or review your business continuity plans. Sign up at [https://www.shakeout.org/](https://www.shakeout.org/).

**DEOHS:** Rick Gleason had nothing to report.

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

**Claim Services:** Ken Nielsen had nothing to report.

**UW Bothell:** Allyson reported they collaborated with Husky Coronavirus Testing Program to get a staffed kiosk on their campus two weeks ago. It’s been a great service and helps with employees who have exemptions, and the student residents.

11. EH&S Updates: L&I

Erin McKeown reported a new Labor and Industries (L&I) notice of concern regarding linen and garbage carts at UWMC. The carts can be heavy (up to 700 lbs) and the wheels need repairs or replacement. UWMC and a vendor are tracking them down to complete maintenance.

The other open L&I cases with UWMC, HMC, and the Eastside Specialty Clinic are still in negotiation.

**EH&S Updates: General**

Denise Bender said they’ve revised the Confined Space Entry Program Manual and revised the 12-hr initial Confined Space Entry training. The refresher training will also be updated.

Instructor-led training is now being held in person, including Lock out Tag out training, Fall Protection, Confined Space, First Aid/CPR, and Forklift Operator training. We had a variance on respirator fit testing requirements but as of January 2022 the state will again enforce fit testing requirements if people are two years past their last fit test date. EH&S wants departments to convey this to their respirator wearers.

UW got a final settlement signed from the U.S. Department of Energy (DoE) for the cesium release at the HMC R&T building, so that issue is closed.
Diego Oliver has been conducting building evacuation drills, and fire extinguisher training courses.

12. Good of the Order
   Carmen asked for any comments for the good of the order. There were none.

13. Adjourn
   U-Wide Chair Carmen Parisi adjourned the meeting early at 2:11 pm.