

FY21 ANNUAL REPORT



We partner with the UW community to provide a safe campus and protect our environment

HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COVID-19 response and prevention: Created and published a public-facing COVID-19 tracking dashboard. Added over 300 hundred users to the respiratory protection program, supported campus units and student groups with COVID-19 prevention, prevented disease transmission through contact tracing, supported increased SARS-CoV-2 research, and managed COVID testing related increases in waste volume from hospitals, clinics, and diagnostic centers (sometimes exceeding 500% of pre-pandemic levels).

Supported completion of Cesium-137 remediation: Continued to work with the Department of Energy (DOE), the Washington State Department of Health (DOH), and other stakeholders to support the remediation of the Research and Training building due to the accidental release of Cesium-137 that occurred in May 2019. WA DOH released the building on April 29, 2021. Supported the School of Medicine in facilitating the re-occupancy of the building by researchers.

Facilitated safe and compliant research: In partnership with the Radiation Safety Committee (RSC), developed a policy for Authorized User (AU) supervision requirements for the safe administration of radioactive materials to patients. Labs can now document radiation surveys, inventory disposals, and inventory verifications and look up Radiation Use Authorization (RUA) information in the electronic portal (EHSA). Added lab member lists and training records to the PI dashboards and Enhanced the Lab Inspection Dashboard for Chairs, Deans and Principal Investigators.

Improved building system safety: Managed \$1.25 million in capital safety funding from the state to improve safety-related building elements and safety systems for the 2019-2021 biennium. Examples include improvements in fire protection, emergency washing devices, ventilation systems, and safe access to buildings.

Implemented cost saving efficiencies: Worked with vendor to recycle a specialized AmBe neutron source, rather than disposing the source as radioactive waste, saving approximately \$50,000. Another benefit is the Am-241 source, with a half-life of 432 years, can be reused again for beneficial purposes. Implemented hazardous waste generator improvement rules requiring new

container marking for thousands of chemical waste containers on all three campuses. Waste consolidation saved hundreds of dollars per shipment of contractor labor, supplies and disposal costs. Implemented EPA/WA Ecology rules, which reduced cost and decreased response time for offsite collection of pharmaceuticals at clinical locations.

Improved Chemical Labeling: Created a new Chemical Container Labeling website with information about secondary-container chemical labels and other types of chemical labels. Includes downloadable label templates for making labeling easier and faster.

Enhancing Workplace and Field Safety: Published workplace safety requirements and on-line training for wildfire smoke and excessive outdoor heat exposures. The Field Operations Safety manual was developed and published in collaboration with stakeholders from various UW departments and approval from the Institutional Chemical and Physical Safety committee. Completed a major update of the Core UW Accident Prevention Plan with help from the Health and Safety Committees. The addition of a template Supplemental Accident Prevention Plan helps departmental units address their site-specific workplace hazards.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

A University's Response to a Cesium Release Phil Campbell, and Katia Harb, Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA) Conference and Institute of Nuclear Material Management Panel, July 2020

COVID-19 Biological Research at UW Lesley Decker, 2021 NWABR IBC Conference, February 2021

UW Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases Sheryl Schwartz, CSHEMA, April 2021

Engaging Department Administrative Staff in Supporting Lab Safety Alex Hagen, CSHEMA, April 2021

AWARDS

UW David Thorud Leadership Award Katia Harb, Senior Director of EH&S, for her extraordinary work to reduce risk for the UW community from COVID-19

FY21

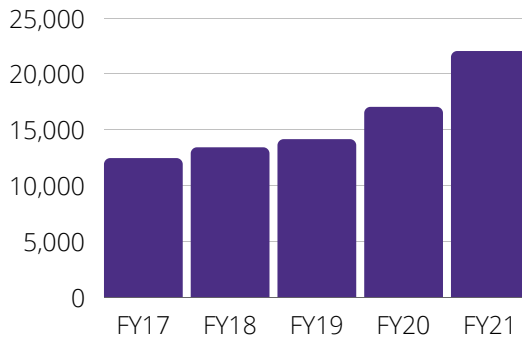
JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021

Fire and Life Safety surveys completed

154

on the UW Seattle campus

99% periodicity compliance



784

Laboratory safety inspections



254



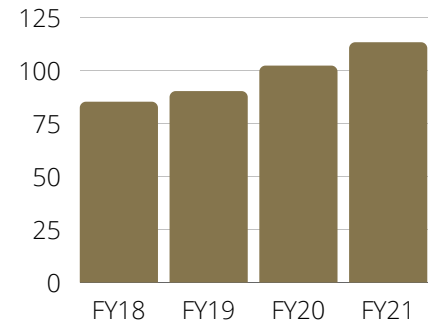
Biosafety laboratory inspections in 507 rooms

Biological safety cabinets certified

940



1,887 Chemical fume hoods tested



Increase in radioactive material shipments from FY20 to FY21

11%

Radioactive Use Authorization inspections

63



341 Contamination surveys completed

4,927 Wipe samples taken



22,000 Faculty, staff and students completed one or more safety training courses

29% increase from FY20 to FY21

Respirator fit tests completed



1,108

56% increase from previous year due to increase in users during the pandemic

Biological Use Authorizations (BUAs) approved



396

Health screenings

completed for personnel who work in an animal care and use environment

1,291



Expanded health and safety information



on the EH&S website

314 guidance documents added and updated

144 news articles added

82 webpages updated

48 COVID-19 resources added

12 webpages added

Eliminated collection and disposal of 30,000 lbs of hazardous waste

Diverted for recycling:



60,000 lbs batteries



18,000 lbs fluorescent light tubes

Helped manage the disposal of 340 tons of hazardous waste in



19,000 containers