

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Proxy*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hawkinson (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Oglesby (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sulgi Lotze (1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Parisi, Chair (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Manley (5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brett Magnuson (2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nigel Horton (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Abian (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Martin Arroyo (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Kwasinski (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Zuckerman (10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colleen Irvin (9)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Chateaubriand (10)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Ann Valentine (4)				
Labor Union Member*					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ansley Roman (5)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah O'Hara (6)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Harrington (6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Antonio Vasquez, UAW 4121
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alaron Lewis (7)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hannah Wilson (8)				
Senate Member*					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Miller (8)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Faculty Senate – TBD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexander Lefort (9)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	= attended meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	GPSS – Gabby Rivera
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Coppola (9)	*	= voting members		
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Warren (10)	13	= voting members for quorum		
Ex-Officio Member					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracey Mosier, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Gleason, DEOHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katia Harb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Pennington, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Felicia Foster, AGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Denise Bender
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Charvat, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Gwin, AGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin McKeown
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barry Morgan, UWEM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nielsen, Risk Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sonia Honeydew
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lorilyn A. H. Ignao
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seth Greenfest, UWHR	<input type="checkbox"/>	TBD, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracy Harvey
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenna Gravley
Guests					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matt Moeller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doug Gallucci		

Agenda

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. Question in chat asked about monitoring wastewater testing. Katia responded that is best at a county level, so UW is not currently employing that strategy.

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_Op3uoKIE. 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 uncharted 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

environment. Someone mentioned UW Family resources,
<https://www.washington.edu/parents/resources/pfg/>.

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.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests#list>

<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://www.ehs.washington.edu/about/latest-news/incident-insights-hazardous-energy-leads-fan-belt-injury>

<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/>