

Group 4 Health & Safety Committee
December 16, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
T-269, Health Sciences Building
Meeting Minutes

Present: Jim Angelosante, HS Admin, ExOfficio
Ann Aumann, UWMC
Rita Bellanca, WNPRC
Paul Bentson, WFSE
Siobhan Brown, SOM
Daniel Chan, Dentistry
Gail Colfax, Social Work
Bob Ennes, HS Administration
Ed Farnham, HS Administration
Retha Hay, Employee Health
Liz Kindred, HMC
Joseph Kwok, EH&S
Rich Lee, Dentistry
Barbara Lovseth, SOM
Suzanne Mason, Hall Health
Michael Merrill, EH&S
Cindy Moore, Health Services, ExOfficio
Phil Numoto, EH&S, ExOfficio
Nikki Peters, HS Administration, ExOfficio
Mamadou Sambou, UWMC
Eshy Shaharazad, HS Libraty, ExOfficio
Chuck Treser, Public Health
Melinda Young, WNRPC

Absent: **Lisa Anderson, Hall Health**
Laura Campbell, Comp Med
Ruth Del Rosario, Pharmacy
Robert Hamilton, HMC
Patricia Hedtke, Pharmacy
Rene Lucas, Public Health
Carlene Karr-May, Comp Med
Kathy Maher, HMC
Joyce Tsuji, Nursing

1. OARS II (Joseph Kwok):

Joseph Kwok gave us an update on the OARS II system, which will be officially launched January 1, 2009. If a report has not been completed by a supervisor, email notifications will be sent 5 days after the report is filed, and again 7 days after the target due date on the report. This will ensure that supervisors complete all the reports filed by their personnel. The new OARS II system allows you to add information to a report even after it's been filed. Officially, EH&S keeps OARS records for 5 years. They will likely be available for online review for 1 year.

OARS II training webpage: oarstrain.ehs.washington.edu. This site will allow you to experiment with the new OARS II system.

2. Health Sciences Update (Bob Ennes):

Bob Ennes reported that in certain lab areas of the remodeled G/H Wings, new laminate countertops were damaged by water; equipment leaked and water went into the seams in-between the caulking of the laminate. The Research and Biological Safety Office is looking into what might be done to repair these countertops so that they meet standards.

Some equipment is to be allowed in the remodded G/H Wing hallways. Bob Ennes group is putting together a set of guidelines. All equipment in the hallways will have to be approved by Bob Ennes and his staff. H-wing will be the testing ground; items must be locked and secured to walls for seismic safety. This also has to be approved by the Fire Department.

3. Elections to Group 4 (Nikki Peters):

If your department needs to elect a Group 4 member outside of the normal 2 year cycle, the first step is to check with the former runners-up to see if they would be able to step in. If it has been a year, the department must do a full election, which includes a 2 week call for nominations and a 2 week election process. Rules for elections can be found on the EH&S website. Nikki Peters is the Elections Coordinator.

Please note that Dr. Daniel Chan, Dentistry, is replacing Dr. Beikler on our committee for the time being.

4. U-Wide H&S Committee Update (Barbara Lovseth):

Ongoing debate: a group of students wants to keep the nuclear reactor building on campus as a "historic landmark" but the UW wants to demolish it.

5. Incident/Accident Committee Reports:

- a. UWMC (Ann Aumann): 53 incidents in October and 34 incidents in November.- majority of incidents are lift-related.
- c. HMC: Kathy Maher was ill and not able to present.
- b. Non-UWMC/HMC (Rita Bellanca): 3 incidents in September, 18 incidents in October and 5 incidents in November: Doors around Dentistry were discussed. Bob Ennes will take a look to see which doors could use windows. Someone else suggested posting signs but signs are not always effective.

Question: If a person is injured elsewhere but works within the Group 4 area, where does the I/A report go? Answer: To Group 4 and probably to the area in which the employee was injured, as determined by Joseph Kwok.

Other:

About 20% of the UW has complied with Asbestos Training. EH&S is developing a supervisor training module which they hope to have available in January. They will be contacting us regarding participating in a beta test of the training. Employees should be keeping track of their own training records/completion certificates.