

Minutes

University of Washington, Tacoma
Health and Safety Committee
Meeting of April 8, 2004

Hugh Smith called the meeting to order.

Introductions

March minutes were reviewed and approved with one name change.

Old Business

Floor Wardens/Evac sites

Darren is still working on completing. Sub-committee addressing this issue has met once and will have more information at next meeting.

Signage

New signs have not yet been posted. Item was tabled until next meeting.

Campus-wide committee update

No update this meeting. Campus-wide meeting is following week.

Pet packages/alternatives

Lisa Tice asked about guide dogs and where we could direct students with support animals. A suggestion for designating a grassy area for pets was proposed. In addition, a suggestion for providing “doggy bags” for disposal of pet packages was offered. Hugh felt it was unlikely that the University would be able to supply disposal bags. Lia offered to bring in plastic grocery bags. Naarah offered to help with providing bags as well.

New Business

Earthquake Drill

Kim Wheeler asked that Hugh announce an earthquake drill on April 22. Lia suggested using the time to discuss how prepared each department is for an emergency. Does faculty know what to do? Are they responsible for their students? Hugh informed members that buildings have been reinforced, but the façade is just that. It could fall making it safer to remain in the building. Lia reminded members about the EH&S site that sells supplies. Also reminded members to develop emergency plans for the family. Linda reminded programs to be prepared. Hugh suggested knowing alternative exits. Lia said practice and thinking about it is good training.

Speeding Issues near CP & MAT

Lisa Tice suggested installing speed bumps in order to reduce speeding problems. There is some ADA discussion for students with depth perception issues. As far as laying the asphalt, it does not require a lot of time or money.

MAT Construction

Lisa Tice asked whether the construction on MAT will affect access. Construction is addressing lighting and ADA access and should not affect access according to Hugh.

Thefts

Hugh mentioned that there has been some thefts on campus. This was a reminder to lock up valuables and personal items, as well as offices. Lia reminded members that the University does not reimburse for personal items (i.e. palm pilots, laptops, etc.) damaged or stolen on campus.

ADA safety issues around campus

Lisa and Crystal suggested painting a line on main stairs for students with depth perception issues. This was discussed with Connie. Lisa was going to work on a grant, and Connie would provide an estimate for work. There had been previous attempts to paint stairs, but the paint would not stay or bled into concrete. Stairs in Carwein Auditorium are a hazard in the dark. Lighting strips are not working. Several options are currently being considered to resolve issue.

Car Accident

A car driving down 19th lost breaks and hit shearing off concrete posts and concrete seating on upper campus planter. It landed on the tracks mid-way down the stairs. No students, faculty, or staff were injured. It occurred about five minutes before classes were released in the evening. City is opposing an structure that would prevent a re-occurrence of such an event.

Lia suggested drafting a formal letter from the committee to higher-ups. Lisa offered to draft the letter to Sandy and Steve. The draft will be circulated by email with Carolyn hand delivering for signatures of all committee members. Final draft should be sent before next meeting. Dave advised sending only to Sandy since we are an advisory committee for her.

Lisa Tice suggested encouraging supervisors to draft letters with department signatures suggesting a solid solution to this safety issue.

Attendees:

Hugh Smith, Carla Van Rossum, Gabriela Crosby, Carolyn Maxson, Noreen Sleese, Crystal Perrine, Lisa Tice, Naarah McDonald, Tim Kapler, Lia Wetzstein, Linda Kachinsky, Don Higgins, David Leonard