

UWT Health & Safety Meeting
Minutes
April 9, 2009

Members in attendance: Joe Chynoweth, Karin Dalesky, Kim Davenport, Tim Kapler, Dave Leonard, Carolyn Maxson, Naarah McDonald, Michael McMillan, Valerie Mediate-Urevig, Bruce Metzger, Stephen Rondeau, Jennifer Sundheim, Carson Wright

J. Chynoweth called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Agenda was adopted.

Minutes from February and March meetings were approved.

Report from UW-wide committee

M. McMillan provided a report from the UW-wide committee meeting:

- M. McMillan and S. Costanti provided a report on Group 8 activities.
- Discussion continued from the last meeting about how to track completion of required trainings. There is debate surrounding what is the responsibility of EH&S versus what is the responsibility of individual departments.

J. Chynoweth thanked M. McMillan and S. Costanti for their continued commitment in attending the meetings in Seattle.

Accident/Incident Reports

The committee reviewed two reports received for the month of March 2009.

2009-03-022

- Broken chair caused injury to employee while seated at desk. Supervisor corrective action: a new, ergonomic chair has been ordered.
- J. Chynoweth shared that the possibility of manufacturer defect was being investigated; the chair was still under warranty.
- V. Mediate-Urevig asked whether weight tolerance is considered when ordering chairs; J. Chynoweth replied that stronger chairs with higher weight tolerance are available, and can be ordered when necessary.
- No further committee comment.

2009-03-077:

- Employee hit hand on cabinet while filing. Supervisor corrective action: file drawer overloaded, so some files have been removed to make drawer lighter.
- Consensus among committee members that it is not clear how the corrective action resolves the problem.
- N. McDonald suggested that J. Chynoweth follow up for clarification, and check whether the cabinet needs any type of repair. J. Chynoweth agreed to follow up and report back at the next meeting.

Student Incidents

C. Wright shared incidents from the 60-day log:

- Trip on stairs, medical aid summoned, no corrective action. L. Wetzstein shared that the incident happened near a blue phone, so a bystander was able to easily call for help.
- Chair failure affecting a SOTA student. There were no witnesses, so it is not clear exactly what happened. Facilities examined every classroom chair on campus following this incident.
- Two occurrences of seizures (one individual) in the Library. J. Sundheim shared discussions taking place in the Library about how to provide staff (particularly student workers) with basic safety training.
 - D. Leonard commented that Library staff probably does need more preparation for this type of incident because of their high level of traffic which includes the general public. He stressed his willingness to visit any department to assess hazards and determine if training is necessary.
 - Formal first-aid training is a 4-hour class; a basic awareness training could be offered to a larger group in a 1-hour session.
 - J. Chynoweth encouraged people to contact D. Leonard to request training. Handouts/flyers covering basic safety issues are available on the EH&S website.

Round Table

J. Chynoweth asked whether planned fire drills could be scheduled for end of class meeting times, rather than beginning or middle, for less disruption to instruction. C. Wright expressed that this is difficult, because of need to hold drills in several different buildings, and some variation in class schedules; however, he would pass the comment along to S. Wagshul-Golden for consideration.

D. Leonard asked whether the recent fire drills could be discussed at the next meeting. He also provided an update on the so-called 'stinky bricks' situation in MAT, calling attention to Ysabel Trinidad's recent e-mail to the campus. The entire project should be complete in about five months.

L. Wetzstein passed along a request from the IAS faculty for J. Chynoweth to attend an upcoming IAS faculty meeting to discuss the faculty responsibility document.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Davenport