

**Health and Safety Committee Minutes  
March 10, 2016  
1 PM to 2:30 PM, CP206C**

<b>Employee Elected Positions</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Present (X)</b>
<b>Academic Affairs</b>	Education	Donna Braboy	-
	Nursing	Susan Johnson	-
	Social Work	Gabriela Crosby	X
	Library	Hannah Wilson, Co-Chair	-
	Teaching & Learning Center	Carolyn Maxson	-
	IAS	Emily Cili-Turner	-
	Milgard School of Business	Erica Howard	X
	Academic Affairs, Global Honors, Urban Studies & Chancellor's Office	Silvia Neely	X
<b>Administrative Services</b>	Institute of Technology	Robert Landowski	-
	Finance & Administration At-Large	Galen Guffy	X
	Campus Safety & Security	Robert Whitfield	-
	Facilities Services	Don Lee	-
<b>Advancement</b>	Advancement	Alex Volkman, Co-Chair	X
<b>Center for Urban Waters</b>	Center for Urban Waters	Alex Gipe	-
<b>Enrollment Services</b>	Enrollment Services	Linda Spence-Noyer	X
<b>Equity and Diversity</b>	Equity and Diversity	Sara Contreras	X
<b>Instructional Technology</b>	MEDEX	Vanessa Bester	-
<b>Student Affairs</b>	Student Affairs	Megan Fuhlman,	X
<b>Ex-Officio - Committee Support</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	
<b>UWT Environmental Health &amp; Safety</b>	Director of UWT EH&S	Dave Leonard	X
<b>Facilities Services</b>	Director of Facilities Services	Stanley Joshua	-
<b>Campus Safety &amp; Security</b>	Director of Campus Safety & Security	Susan Wagshul-Golden	-
<b>SUBJECT: Laboratory Safety</b>	Instructional Supervisor- Environmental Science/IAS	Michelle Miller	-
<b>Ex-Officio - Committee Support</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	
<b>UWT Environmental Health &amp; Safety</b>	Committee Secretary	Galen Guffy	X

**Meeting called to order:** 1:05 PM. February Minutes reviewed and approved as written. Agenda adopted.

**OARS REPORTS:** Alex Volkman

The committee reviewed UW Tacoma OARS reports from November 2015 through February 2016:

2015-11-027 URBAN WATERS-T

11/9/2015

The undergrad research aid [REDACTED] was mounting soil columns to a rack when her had slipped and hit a column causing her knuckle to be cut and swollen.

Possible recommendations to prevent this from happening again would be to work in pairs to reduce the amount of force needed to install the column in the rack.

2015-12-024	BUSINESS-T		12/8/2015	was walking down the Court 17 parking garage (west side) stairway from the third floor when she slipped on the stairs and fell down landing on her back. She noticed that the stairs were completely drenched with rain water and wet leaves.	Cleaning stairways frequently after extreme rain and windstorms to prevent future accidents.
2015-12-067	INTERDISCIPLINARY A&S-T	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	12/29/2015	While en route to speak at a conference in New Mexico, my connecting flight was cancelled. The airline provided a free hotel room so that passengers could return to the airport for rebooked flights in the morning. The shuttle bus run by the Airline's hotel (Ramada) had a broken runner step, so passengers were either leaping into the van or getting assisted into it. The driver was very apologetic and explained that the runner step had been broken for some time and that the hotel had refused to get it fixed. The driver attempted to assist me into the van, while others were pulling my arm and torso into the van. I heard and felt a snap and it was my quadriceps muscle - it tore. I couldn't walk without assistance to my hotel room & was in extreme pain. I ended up canceling my talk at the conference, and returned to Seattle via wheel chair in the airports the next morning. It took me over four months to recover from this injury and I'm still occasionally troubled by pain. I saw our doctor two days later, and then an orthopedist who took Xrays. I saw a physical therapist for several months and eventually had an MRI that indicated the possibility that a bone fragment came loose during the injury - hence the continuing and intermittent discomfort.	
2016-01-016	FINANCE ADMIN-T	WORKER		I was walking across 17th in crosswalk heading north. I saw a red card speeding from the Tacoma Convention Center on Broadway heading South, veering to make a right turn onto 17th. I stopped in the crosswalk to make sure the driver could see me. He stopped, I began walking and the driver suddenly accelerated. I braced myself for impact but the driver was able to stop a few inches from my fingertips. I was allowed to get to the curb and the driver sped off.	Discuss the situation with the Convention Center Management and ask for their plan to educate and establish safe driving standards for the valet service drivers. The Valet service is contracted for by the Convention Center.
2016-02-028	UW TACOMA		2/8/2016	While returning from taking out the trash. The employee opened the door and hit himself in the shin with the door.	Employee needs to pay attention to their surroundings
2016-02-066	FINANCE ADMIN-T	SECURITY OFFICER	2/21/2016	Walking in buildings south entrance, slipped and falling to concrete ground. bending all of my toes on left foot up putting strain on them, also striking my left elbow and knee. Floor was not wet but shoes were do to resent rain.	Employee should be cautious when entering into buildings when shoes are wet. I will place a work order to Facilities Services to review area.

### Round Table Discussion: New Business

- Sarah Contreras: concern over access to WCG Atrium restroom. Chairs are too close to the doors and people sit in them with their legs sticking out potentially blocking the restroom entrance. Dave explained that the AC outlets are too close to the bathroom and people sit there in order to charge their computers/devices. He has spoken to Ross Johnson, Campus Space Manager who reported that he plans to reconfigure the area, and in the interim the committee suggested there should be signs requesting people not block the restroom entrances.
- Alex Volkman: concern over the lack of crosswalk at Market and 17<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the UWT Y. Seems semi-dangerous. Discussed the possibility of asking the City of Tacoma to put in a crosswalk.
- Linda Spence-Noyer: a.) concern over pedestrian safety as someone was hit by a car on 21st street b.) the utility manhole covers in the Cragle parking lot on Dolly Roberson way are very slick and people have slipped and fallen while walking over them – In the past there has been an adhesive grit spray to add traction to the manhole covers c.) concern over visibility of drivers exiting the Lot 31 parking lot and entering oncoming traffic, very difficult to see who is coming and whether one can be seen by

oncoming cars d.) there is a water leak by the double glass doors at the Mattress Faculty leading out to the small landing balcony on the ground level. The leak appears to originate from the lanai above the landing going past electrical wiring. The water level from this leak has gotten high enough on occasion to enter the building.

- Galen Guffy: Noticed a large discarded bean bag chair blocking the sidewalk on Court C outside Court 17 apartments. Dave advised that when anyone sees anything like this on campus to file a Facilities work order on line as soon as possible.
- Erica Howard: concern over potential landslide hazard on slope above WT 44 and the Student Health Center. There is dirt and debris falling down slope to the sidewalk and people have expressed reluctance to park underneath it. Dave has conferred with a soils engineer of GeoEngineers about this matter – The engineer says that the slope will continue to slough off but there will be no catastrophic erosion failures. GeoEngineers is to provide a report of the assessment and recommended actions in the near future.
- Megan Fullman: The Tacoma Fire Department will be conducting a fire fighting training on an abandoned house on Fawcett Ave at 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **EH & S Report: Dave Leonard**

- A UWT area pedestrian safety group has met twice now. Dave, along with Auxiliary Service Manager, James Sinding and Campus Safety & Security Director, Susan Wagshul-Golden recently met with students who witnessed the pedestrian hit and run accident on 21<sup>st</sup> street. Construction on the Tacoma Paper & Stationary Building has begun. There will temporary dust and noise along with a fence and barrier line containing the project along Jefferson Avenue. For safety purposes, please follow marked pedestrian routes, including the need to walk on the other side of the street during construction.
- Walsh Gardner Air Quality complaint to the WA State Department of Labor and Industries. L & I requested a full report from Dave and Director of Facilities, Stanley Joshua which they sent. The complaint centered around black dust coming from the air vents in the Walsh Gardner building that consistently coats surfaces and associating it to some occupants having health concerns. Several action items to clean areas and improve air quality were identified. Facilities Services is currently planning to implement the actions.
- Soil and groundwater contamination assessment project at UW Tacoma. There are areas on campus where the soil and groundwater has been found to be contaminated due the fact that UW Tacoma is built on an area that has 125 year history of industrial use involving chemicals. UWT has a legal agreement with the WA State Dept of Ecology to investigate and come up with ways to address the pollution. This legal agreement is called an Agreed Order. A new Agreed Order is currently being made which will result in additional testing and actions. As a result, people will see drill rigs and people collecting samples on campus later this summer to study the issue so that recommendations can be made on how to remediate the situation.
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#### **U-Wide Safety Meeting at UW Seattle: Alex Volkman**

- The Committee discussed a Motor Vehicle Safety initiative concerning University owned vehicles used for campus business.

- SafeCampus is conducting Active Shooter trainings at UW Seattle and UW Bothell. They are in the process of simplifying their building drills.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 2:27 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Galen Guffy, Secretary

UW Tacoma Safety Committee