

January 12, 2017

To: Morgan Bliss, Chair CWU Safety Council

Thank you for your hard work on the CWU general safety policy. Biology was forwarded the draft document by Velma Henry in COTS. The Biological Sciences Safety Committee has reviewed the document and has two suggestions for your consideration.

1. Revise wording on “Special Committees” to reflect committees present at CWU, as we currently lack both an Institutional Biosafety Committee and a Radiation Safety Committee.

Special Committees

Faculty-chaired committees overseeing aspects of the CWU EH&S program impacting research activities (**Institutional Biosafety Committee, Radiation Safety Committee**, and Department Safety Committees) shall maintain their role of faculty governance and shall report to and be appointed by the Provost or designee. Additionally, the **Institutional Biosafety Committee and the Radiation Safety Committee review research proposals relative to their field of expertise**. These committees and other non-faculty chaired EH&S committees will be responsible for recommending policies related to their area of program oversight to the University Health and Safety Council and EH&S Manager.

2. As a committee we have discussed rewording the “Enforcement” section with a less harsh tone. We are a close community at CWU, and want to reassure both employees and students that disciplinary action will **not** be taken without due process. Our suggested rewording follows:

Enforcement

CWU expects compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Violation of regulatory requirements shall be considered grounds for disciplinary action as per CWU’s policy (<https://www.cwu.edu/hr/corrective-disciplinary-action>). Non-compliance involving serious and willful disregard of laws and regulations can be cause for termination of employment or suspension or expulsion for students.

Additionally, regulatory agencies have established increasingly strict occupational and environmental health and safety regulations, which may include civil penalties and individual criminal prosecution leading to possible imprisonment and substantial fines. **CWU will provide a framework to train and provide personnel with the appropriate scope of knowledge to carry out university duties.** CWU expects administration, faculty, staff, students, and those who use CWU property or resources maintain vigilance in complying with all applicable occupational and environmental health and safety regulations.

Thank you again for working towards providing CWU with this important safety policy. I hope our suggestions are helpful in preparing this document.

Best wishes,



Gabrielle Stryker, Chair Biological Sciences Safety Committee

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