

HEALTH & SAFETY COUNCIL

October 21, 2020, 3:00 PM

In Attendance: Jennifer Serne (Faculty Senate), Katie Litzenberger (Environmental Health & Safety), Mark Young (College Safety), Otto Bach (Classified Non-Rep), Jerald Dougherty (College Safety), Wendi Hembree (Operations), Kathy Johnson (Human Resources), Shane Scott (Facilities), Robert Cepeda (Emergency Management), Patrick Coffey (Exempt representative), Jeffrey Penick (Faculty Senate), and Jason Berthon-Koch (Emergency Management)

Called to order at 3:00 PM.

I. Action Items

a. Approval of minutes from September 16th, 2020

Otto Bach made the motion to approve the minutes. Jerald Dougherty seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

b. Review of Campus Incidents

Incident from August was posted late—someone hurt their back while trying to catch a 600lb fridge that fell off the cart while they were moving it. The task should be more than 2-person task. Suggestion/remediation is to take the time to gather proper resources prior to moving heavy objects (e.g. forklift/appliance dolly, facility move crew members). EHS follow-up to ensure the task is not routine work to prevent future injuries.

Incident with a person exiting 2nd-floor bathroom in SURC and while putting their face shield back on, they scratched the inside of their eye. Face shields should not be removed.

Incident with a coach throwing a ball overhead and felt shoulder pain. Not much corrective action since the doctor will need to assess if it's a repetitive motion strain.

Incident with a student being hit during hammer throw field event practice. Someone else was throwing and the student was in the pathway when hit, cut in the face and taken by ambulance to the hospital. Evaluating how to prevent staff/faculty/students who could inadvertently be in the pathway during this regular event.

Concern about the recent layoffs and correlation to more injuries. The trauma of dealing with this year's pandemic has likely had a negative impact on the level of cognitive thinking. EHS asks leaders to start discussions about accident prevention. Moving forward, student accidents reports will be in parallel to employee reports.

Follow-up on Labor & Industries investigation—Student incident of cutting their finger on the first day of work in dining services. L&I did not issue citation and said better training needs to happen. The case is settled and closed.

II. Discussion/Presentation Items

COVID Updates

a. Requesting Changes to Plans, Policies, and Procedures

The idea of a suggestion box was brought up with the task force to discuss with administration.

People continue to have questions/concerns/opinions they want to voice that are not sufficiently answered by the FAQ webpage. Recommendation to have a separate email address specific for COVID policy questions. The task force and administration are interested in input from faculty, staff, and students, but are overwhelmed managing the many tasks associated with COVID duties and additional communication responses alongside their normal duties. This issue will take time to resolve.

b. Contact Tracing Methods

Kittitas County is responsible for contact tracing of every positive case. Medical information remains private and protected by law. The county informs CWU when a student/staff is positive. CWU is not responsible for providing contact tracing and might be asked to assist by providing a roster of people in a class. CWU takes guidance from the Public Health department about secondary contacts—to maintain 6-foot distance, wear a face covering, wash your hands, watch for symptoms, and continue with life.

For faculty/staff who are not sure what to do if they heard of a secondary contact testing positive, they can always call Public Health for assistance in their unique circumstance. Each case proves different and there are many grey areas.

Three top questions:

How do we know if students are completing their daily check-in? This is *not* a legal obligation, but an attestation to inform the university.

What do we do when there is potential exposure to a student's off-campus workplace? It depends on the degree of contact with the student.

What do we do if we're teaching from classrooms not equipped for online and simultaneous in-person hybrid teaching? The type modality request for a hybrid solution should be run up through your Dean to the Provost. In theatre, flexible solutions are desired that are different for spaces that have permanent solutions for fixed space.

c. Face Covering Concerns

Concerns about seeing people on campus working together who are not wearing face coverings, particularly in construction areas. Contractors are not bound by CWU policy when within their fenced construction area. Workers at Dean Hall did not have a face covering while students were walking around. Per the Governor proclamation, it is okay to be outside 6-feet apart without a face covering.

d. Other—Safety Concern

During lift work at Dean Hall, someone walked out of the building under the lift while it was raised up. The area was not clearly blocked off. Suggest temporary fencing for future prevention. Safety concerns such as this can be reported directly to Shane Scott or use the online webform CWU Behavior of Concern, or contact L&I.

Concluded at 4:00 PM.

Next Virtual Meeting 11/18/20 at 3:00 pm.