

Agenda – October 27, 2020
Group 9 (College of Engineering) Health and Safety Committee

1. Attending

Michael Domar or Rachel Reichert, AA
Colleen Irvin, BioE
Sean Yeung or Michael Brett, CEE
Michael Pomfret, CEI
Kameron Harmon, ChemE
S. Honeydew or M. Glidden, CoE DO
Alex Lefort or Adrian dela Cruz, CSE
Mike Kane or Ary Prasetyowati, ECE

Andreea Minea or Erin McKeown, EH&S
Stacia Green, HCDE
Sheila Prusa or Neelu Rajvanshi, ISE
Dzung Tran or Bill Kuykendall, ME
John Young or M. Weaver, MoES/NanoES
Tatyana Galenko, MSE
Christine Kang, UAW 4121 (ASE)
N. Shane Patrick or Maria Huffman, WNF

2. Guest Speaker – Natalie Daranyi, EH&S Occupational Health and Safety Specialist

- Hazardous energy presentation
- Q&A

3. Previous Meeting Minutes

- Sep 2020 – approve? Corrections/additions?
- Minutes posted at <https://www.engr.washington.edu/mycoe/safety#> and safety boards.

4. Department Incident Reports (use “5 Why’s” analysis for one report)

- ME @ VA Puget Sound – rail fell and bruised toe while assembling walkway (Aug)
- CEE @ More – DNP combusted in glass column during ozonation experiment (Sep)

5. Group Business

- Occupant safety during building curtailment

6. UW-Wide Meeting

- September minutes attached
- October agenda attached. Highlights:
 - COVID-19 Update
 - Greek outbreak new cases declining. Any affected get tested and two weeks quarantine (many outside the house). PHKC leads contact tracing. Extending Husky testing program to all in UW community. Some technical hiccups with daily attestation texts blocked by providers.
 - With fewer eating spaces open on campus, students are unmasking to eat in places like SCC carrels that are not cleaned like eating spaces.
 - What’s New: in-person events guidance, updated face covering policy
 - If in Husky testing program and come to campus, do both attestations.
 - Biosafety guest Lesley Decker, EH&S
 - Oct is Biosafety Month. 2020 focus: update SOP’s & COVID work safety. New biosafety SOP template on website. See EH&S newsletter article.
 - COVID-19 Biological Research at UW: BSL3 where work w/ virus; BSL2+ where work w/ clinical specimens; BSL2 where work w/ fixed/inactive samples. 49 approved BUA’s. GS produce COVID-19 daily lit sit rpt.
 - Group Reports – (EH&S) Soon new program tracking use, purchase and disposal of naturally occurring uranium compound; start to include in RUA.

7. Member Updates

Next Meeting: November 24th at 2pm, via Zoom

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Health and Safety Committee for Group 9 (College of Engineering)

Meeting Date: September 29, 2020 (via Zoom)

Attended

Michael Domar, AA
Sean Yeung, CEE
Michael Pomfret, CEI
Kameron Harmon, ChemE
Sonia Honeydew, CoE DO
Alexander Lefort, CSE
Mike Kane, ECE
Andreea Minea, EH&S

Stacia Green, HCDE
Sheila Prusa, ISE
Dzung Tran, ME
John Young, MoIES/NanoES
Tatyana Galenko, MSE
Christine Kang, UAW 4121 (ASE)
N. Shane Patrick, WNF

Absent

Colleen Irvin, BioE
Erin McKeown, EH&S

Welcome

- Welcome Dzung (pronounced "young"), newly elected representative for the Mechanical Engineering department.

Previous Meeting Minutes

- August 2020 – approved.
- Previous meeting minutes are at: <https://www.engr.washington.edu/mycoe/safety#>. EH&S recommends each department/group post paper copies on their safety board and inform employees of the name of their rep; best practice is to post rep name by meeting notes.

Incident Reports

- ECE @ HSB – scraped ankle while removing lab shoe; no exposure (Jul). This is this lab's second PPE don/doff incident recently. Mike will ask Lab Manager whether "gown up" area is too small, the area should be reconfigured, or sufficient time is allotted for don/doff procedures. We like the recommendation to wear socks that cover ankles. This lab also had the hand cut on animal cage; perhaps they are rushing or stressed?

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- MSE @ Mueller – broke mercury thermometer during Chem Collection prep (Aug). We asked the “Five Why’s” for root cause analysis. The department was cleaning out six boxes of chemicals that had been stored a while. While preparing items for Chemical Collection Request a mercury thermometer erroneously placed out of sight (behind a box) on a table was knocked to the ground and broken. The department no longer maintained mercury cleanup kits because they thought they had already eliminated all mercury thermometers from their spaces. EH&S was able to provide a mercury spill kit promptly, the space was vacated for a few days and then EH&S performed an environmental test showing mercury levels were safe in the space. Other departments also randomly find old mercury thermometers during lab cleanouts, so we recommend all departments with wet labs maintain a mercury spill kit.
- ME @ VA Puget Sound – rail fell and bruised toe while assembling walkway (Aug). We will save report review for our October meeting.

Group Business

Discussion of any questions/concerns regarding COVID prevention preparations for Fall Quarter:

- Site-specific COVID prevention plans – No questions or concerns.
- Building readiness guidelines – No questions or concerns.
- Building curtailment plans – An upcoming communication from the Dean’s Office to Chairs, Administrators and Building Coordinators explains UW Facilities’ building statuses relating to HVAC curtailment and exterior door access, based on classes and other activities/occupation in each building. Facilities needs our help updating their data so they can best decide the status of each building. We reviewed the Sept 24 version of their list of building status plans for Fall Quarter, and provided feedback/corrections:
 - Sieg and EGA have no classes
 - Benson exterior doors open via key, not CAAMS
 - Gates exterior doors open via CAAMS, not key
 - More Hall occupants prefer not to curtail the building (they are pursuing that with Facilities)
 - Signs in the building indicate that Mueller does not have classes

UW-Wide Meeting

- August minutes in packet.
- September meeting agenda in packet. Highlights included:
 - COVID-19 Update – See new “[What’s New](#)” section on COVID website for updates, e.g. [face covering page](#), and [cleaning and disinfection protocol](#) including occupant responsibilities, [public restroom guidance](#), and [posters](#)

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- [and signage](#). COVID hotline 206-616-3344. Also, [Field work guidelines](#) and [COVID-19 Safety Training Report Tool](#). COVID testing of staff & students on campus by Seattle Flu Study; test is observed nasal swab, by appt at UW Club and Odegaard. Enrollment testing of all (11k/week in Sept), then weekly random sampling. EH&S website shows other testing options.
- 2019 UW Claim Services Report – # of claims down over last four years, and total time loss claims down over four years but up from last year. Most claims from hospitals. UW's rate is like similar institutions. Workers Comp is a big expense to UW. Focus on returning injured workers to workplace, for both physical and emotional health. To help injured workers, submit OARS reports promptly, stay in touch with the worker, find possible light duty work, welcome them back and accommodate where possible. L&I reimburses for accommodation – 50% of wages for up to 66 days, or \$10k (whichever comes first). UW received 1.8 million in reimbursements since June 2012. [Training](#) is available for supervisors and managers.
 - Group Reports – Facilities reports we expect to run the annual Great Shakeout earthquake drill on all three campuses around October 20th.
 - WNF – regarding the COVID testing by Seattle Flu Study, several users enrolled and experienced a lack of transparency regarding rejection based on home location. The beginning of the invitation encouraged *all* UW employees to enroll, but later asked whether the user was within a 20-minute commute to UW and asked their zip code. The form is vague about serving those within the Seattle, Bothell, and Tacoma areas – it's difficult to find the fine print. A separate issue occurred when coworkers in the study reported symptoms this morning to the study. The study guidance says you will get instructions from the testing program, and to stay home while you feel sick, until you get a test result. But the study never reached out to the coworkers to help them get tested. Upon calling the study, he learned they do not guarantee tests to everyone, so Shane recommends we go back to finding our own testing and that the Seattle Flu Study update their guidance to indicate that if you don't hear from them within a certain period of time (after reporting a potential case) you should reach out to your own health care provider.

Department Updates

- ChemE – UW Surplus is again operational. We moved out three labs over the summer.
- CEE – We had a minor contained fire. In an ozone experiment, a compound reacted more vigorously than expected. The fire was contained within glassware and was out within five seconds. There will be an OARS report for this group to review in the future. Also, regarding the crime hotspots identified by UWPD at the Building Coordinators' Forum, we are interested in the potential opportunity to install security cameras. Our department is currently active in the 3rd floor of More Hall but not active in Wilcox or Wilson Ceramics Lab.

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- CSE – We have four labs active onsite. We are preparing the Gates Center for classes, with hand sanitizer stations and one-way signage on the floor. Additionally, we are asking the UWF Fire Shop and EH&S whether we can use an accordion door to direct student traffic and limit the footprint of our public space.
- ECE – Regarding the possibility of surveillance security, the ECE building has been vandalized twice in the last month, the first graffiti political in tone and yesterday's graffiti mostly scribbling. (Unfortunately, the first round of graffiti had just been cleaned off.) We find that the benches outside our building entrance are a place for campers to congregate and leave trash (including biohazard), so we will inquire with Facilities about temporarily removing those benches during low occupancy. We are distributing lab kits over the next week. There should be no students in our building Fall Quarter.
- HCDE – We seem to have resolved with UW Facilities their misunderstanding that there were classes in Sieg Fall Quarter. Our department is sending our updates to Back to Work plans to Lucia in the Dean's Office.
- MSE – Tatyana will verify that there are no classes in Mueller.
- MoIES/NanoES – We had an alarm scare that triggered a hazmat response. It was a gas cabinet that came with the building, which we were decommissioning. That decommissioning process was completed last Wednesday.
- WNF – We at Fluke understand and sympathize with the challenge of false gas detection triggered by old equipment.

Next Meeting

- October 27th, 2020 at 2pm via Zoom. Our guest speaker will be Natalie Daranyi of EH&S, discussing hazardous power. Please solicit questions from your departments.



University of Washington Accident / Incident Report

Report Number: 2020-08-040

Contact EH&S at 206-543-7262

Person Reporting Incident

Last Name: [REDACTED]	First Name: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]	Email: [REDACTED]
Occupation/Position: [REDACTED]	Department: ENG: Mechanical Engineering-Ledoux Lab
Date Reported (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/08/24	Time of Reporting: 03:07 PM

Person Involved or Affected

Last Name: [REDACTED]	First Name: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]	Email: [REDACTED]
Occupation/Position: [REDACTED]	Department: ENG: Mechanical Engineering-Ledoux Lab

Incident Details

Date of Incident (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/08/20	Time of Incident: 1:30 PM	When Shift Begins: N/A
Campus: Seattle	Incident Location/Parking Lot:	
Room:	Other: 1660 S COLUMBIAN WAY, VA PUGET SOUND	

Incident Details:

While assembling structural parts for an elevated walkway for the Biplane Fluoroscopy Lab, a hinged section of 8020 rail flipped down from the assembly onto my right shoe, causing immediate bruising and swelling of that foot's big toe. I iced it regularly until the next morning, when I went to Occupational Health here at the VA. The doctor ordered x-rays and found the toe wasn't broken, so it seems no further measures are necessary at this time. Likely could have been prevented if toe guards/protective footwear had been required/available for moving equipment.

Attachment: **No**

Supervisor

Last Name: Ledoux	First Name: William
Phone: +1 206 768-5347	Email: wrledoux@uw.edu
Occupation/Position: AFFILIATE PROFESSOR	Department: Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine

Classification

Level 1:
Injury requiring first aid,

Type of Incident

Injury Description: **Bruise, Contusion, Pain, Irritation, Inflammation, Swelling,**

Body Parts Affected: **Feet, Ankles, Toes,**

Cause of Injury or Damage: **Struck or Pinched by Moving Object,**

Slip, Trip, Fall Details

Slip:
Trip:
Fall From Same Level:
Fall From Elevated Height:

Stairs:			
Contributing Factors			
Equipment: Improper Equipment,			
Environment:			
Policies / Procedures: Inadequate Planning, Preparation,			
Human Factors: PPE Not Used,			
Suggested Corrective Actions to Prevent Reoccurrence			
Provide PPE,			
Suggested corrective action by the affected party			
CLiMB employees should have access to foot PPE on-site for occasional situations like assembling or moving equipment, which are perhaps too rare to make steel-toed or composite-toed boots an everyday requirement for lab personnel.			
Supervisor's Comments			
Root Causes: (Please look at all the factors that may have contributed to the accident. Such factors may include equipment, environment, policies, procedures, and personnel.) Ultimately, this was a miscommunication between research staff and the injury could have been prevent with better communication, protective foot wear and the use of ropes.			
Recommendations/Preventive Measures: We will implement a rule that when working in the pit on that equipment, that toe guards and work gloves are to be worn, along with the existing requirement of closed-toed shoes. Also, we will secure the swinging panels with ropes to avoid them moving when moving the equipment around the laboratory. We will prioritize explicitly communication between research staff. Additional training will be provided by CLiMB PIs to relevant CLiMB staff about how the various pieces of equipment should be safely handled. We are in the process of writing up documentation for how to move equipment around the laboratory, and this information will be included.			
Corrective Actions Target Date (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/09/04		Corrective Actions Complete Date (yyyy/mm/dd):	
Other Comments:			
EHS Review			
Last Name: Konnur	First Name: Manisha	Phone Number: +1 206 221-1759	Email: mkonnur@uw.edu
Occupation/Position:		Department:	
Comments: Forwarded to Natalie Daranyi - MK			



University of Washington Accident / Incident Report

Report Number: 2020-09-029

Contact EH&S at 206-543-7262

Person Reporting Incident

Last Name: █████	First Name: █████
Phone: █████	Email: █████
Occupation/Position: █████	Department: ENG: Civil and Environmental Engineering-Kolodziej Lab JM Student
Date Reported (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/09/14	Time of Reporting: 10:50 PM

Person Involved or Affected

Last Name: █████	First Name: █████
Phone: █████	Email: █████
Occupation/Position: █████	Department: ENG: Civil and Environmental Engineering-Kolodziej Lab JM Student

Incident Details

Date of Incident (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/09/11	Time of Incident: 12:15 PM	When Shift Begins: N/A
Campus: Seattle	Incident Location/Parking Lot: MORE HALL	
Room: 324	Other:	

Incident Details:

During a gas phase ozonation experiment, the ozonation reactor, a glass column packed with ~ ~1 gram solid phase powder of N,N'-Di-2-naphthyl-p-phenylenediamine (DNP, CAS NO. 93-46-9), begins to sparkle ~30 s after initiation of the ozone flow. After short sparkling (~2 s), the chemical burnt quickly with visible flame that lasted for a few seconds (<5 seconds). The flame then extinguished as the 1 gram of chemical was consumed. The reactor column was burnt to black and the plastic column head was melted from the heat. The researcher stopped the ozone reactor immediately upon seeing the flame. No personnel injury was involved.

Attachment: **No**

Supervisor

Last Name: Kolodziej	First Name: Edward
Phone: +1 253 692-5659	Email: koloj@uw.edu
Occupation/Position: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	Department: UWT: School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences

Classification

Level 1:
Property damage only,

Type of Incident

Injury Description: **Property Damage Only,**

Body Parts Affected: **None,**

Cause of Injury or Damage: **Chemicals, Tools, Instruments,**

Slip, Trip, Fall Details

Slip:

Trip:

Fall From Same Level:

Fall From Elevated Height:			
Stairs:			
Contributing Factors			
Equipment:			
Environment: Chemicals,			
Policies / Procedures: Inadequate Planning, Preparation,			
Human Factors:			
Suggested Corrective Actions to Prevent Reoccurrence			
Undertake hazard assessment, Change/review work procedures,			
Suggested corrective action by the affected party			
<p>This chemical reacted much faster with ozone than we expected, and the reaction released enough heat to cause a couple seconds of flame as the residual mass oxidized. We had been working with related chemicals previously that were much slower reacting, so we were caught by surprise at the fast and highly exothermic reaction.</p> <p>To correct this situation, we need to prepare better by decreasing the ozone concentration and using even less mass in the ozone reactor. We also need to distribute the mass more broadly in the reactor system (e.g. dispersed on a glass plate) versus using the packed column design. This would have limited the amount of heat that can be released and prevent the system from reaching an ignition temperature which was exacerbated by the inability of the glass column to distribute reaction heat away from the chemical reactant. There is little way to predict reaction kinetics beforehand, so we need to evaluate new reactions very slowly and carefully, using less mass and dispersing it more widely in the system to keep reaction temperatures lower.</p>			
Supervisor's Comments			
<p>Root Causes: (Please look at all the factors that may have contributed to the accident. Such factors may include equipment, environment, policies, procedures, and personnel.)</p> <p>Fast reaction kinetics suprised us. Too much mass (1 g) in the column. packed column design concentrated heat generated all in one place, prevented system cooling from the air and glass column and allowing reaction temperatures to rise much too fast. We weren't careful and thoughtful enough about this being a possibility. Working with similar compounds that reacted much more slowly gave us a fast sense of security and safety about the gas phase ozone system and what might happen there.</p>			
<p>Recommendations/Preventive Measures: Disperse mass in the reactor more widely. Use lower mass of reactant. Use lower concentration of ozone. Very small scale preliminary trials.</p>			
Corrective Actions Target Date (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/09/14		Corrective Actions Complete Date (yyyy/mm/dd): 2020/09/21	
<p>Other Comments: The safety report and proposed next steps have been distributed to the research group. We also are making a safety poster about the gas phase ozone reaction that we observed, and posting it near the reactor to remind future users of this possibility.</p>			
EHS Review			
Last Name: Konnur	First Name: Manisha	Phone Number: +1 206 221-1759	Email: mkonnur@uw.edu
Occupation/Position:		Department:	
Comments: forwarded to Susan Wagshul-Golden - MK			

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

September 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. |

Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Labor Union Member*	
X	Ryan Hawkinson (1)		Mark Pekarek (2)	X	Ann Aumann, SEIU 925
X	Carmen Parisi (1)	X	Kurt Oglesby (3)		Paula Lukaszek, WFSE Local 1488
X	Erick Rostad (2)		Beth Hammermeister (4)	X	Christine Kang, UAW 4121
X	Tony Colinares (3)	X	Liz Kindred, Vice-chair (5)	X	Amanda Clouser, UAW 4121
X	Christine Aker (4)	X	David Zuckerman (10)		Vacant, ASUW
X	Michael Sage (5)				
X	Eric Camp (6)				
X	Tamara Leonard (6)				
X	Martin Arroyo (7)				
X	Alexa Russo (7)				
X	Wade Haddaway (8)				Faculty Senate Member*
X	Christopher Barrett (8)			X	Lesley Colby, Comparative Med
X	Sonia Honeydew, Chair (9)				
	Colleen Irvin (9)				
X	David Warren (10)				
Env Health & Safety Member**		Ex-Officio Member**		Ex-Officio Member**	
X	Katia Harb				Vacant, Capital Planning & Dev
X	Denise Bender	X	Chris Pennington, UWF		Felicia Foster, AGO
X	Erin McKeown	X	Tracey Mosier, UWF	X	Nancy Gwin, AGO
X	Andreea Minea	X	Rick Gleason, DEOHS	X	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD
X	Manisha Konnur		Steve Charvat, UWF EM		Vacant, Transportation Services
X	Jenna Gravley	X	Barry Morgan, UWF EM	X	Ken Nielsen, Risk Services

Quorum is 12 or more of voting members
X - attended meeting
*** voting members**
**** non-voting member**

Agenda

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Attendance/Quorum**
3. **Approval of August meeting minutes**
4. **COVID-19 Update**
5. **2019 UW Claim Services Report**
6. **Organizational Group Reports**
7. **Union Reports**
8. **Ex-Officio Reports**
9. **EH&S Updates**
10. **Good of the order**
11. **Adjourn**

Recorded by Manisha Konnur

This meeting was conducted on Zoom to adhere to physical distancing protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic per guidance from the Washington State Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

1. **Call to Order**

Sonia Honeydew called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. She announced the meeting was being recorded, asked that attendees mute themselves when not speaking, and described that votes will be conducted by asking those who oppose or abstain to indicate so.

2. **Attendance/Quorum**

Sonia conducted attendance and quorum was met.

3. **Approval of August meeting minutes**

August meeting minutes were approved.

4. **COVID-19 Update**

Katia Harb provided the following COVID-19 updates.

Katia discussed the EH&S COVID-19 resources page and the ['What's new'](#) section. She said this section is intended to help staff/students identify the latest guidelines and updated EH&S policies.

She mentioned the ['Face Covering Requirements and Frequently Asked Questions'](#) page as an example of something that was recently updated.

Katia said that Public Health guidance and University policy on cleaning and disinfection has evolved, therefore EH&S revised the ['Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol'](#) to include the



latest updates. She mentioned that the University expects staff/students to clean their workspace daily, especially the high-touch surfaces. Custodial units will do daily disinfection of common areas, but it is the department's and individual's responsibility to clean and disinfect their personal work areas. Katia indicated that last part of the 'Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol' clarifies disinfection and cleaning responsibilities.

Katia said that in order to prevent close contact with a potential COVID-19 positive individual, EH&S has recommended several measures like the mask requirement, social distancing, reducing density of students on campus, and the daily disinfection of work spaces. EH&S also follows up with the COVID-19 infected individual to evaluate the locations and areas where they spent more than 10 minutes. In most of the cases, the area is cleaned and disinfected due to University's daily disinfection policy. In some cases, where there is sensitive equipment, it is recommended the department/unit disinfect the areas using proper PPE and cleanser.

Katia also mentioned several other points, including:

- EH&S published '[Public Restroom guidance](#)' to address the occupancy and distancing in a public restroom.
- Creative Communications has updated '[Posters and signage](#)' to address COVID-19 messaging.
- Employee Health Center has a new phone number (206-616-3344) to report COVID-19 illness, or close contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- EH&S held office hours earlier in the day where approximately 50 people asked questions related to the implementation of COVID-19 Prevention Plans. Scott Nelson and Eleanor Wade from EH&S led the session. These sessions will be offered throughout the year, as needed.
- Katia also mentioned the '[COVID-19 Quarantine and Testing Risk Framework for Field Work](#)' and '[COVID-19 Safety Training Report Tool](#)'.

Katia announced that there will be a University wide COVID-19 testing program, which will be implemented by [Seattle Flu Study](#), in coordination with the University and EH&S. Staff and students will be encouraged to enroll into the program. The enrolled individuals will be asked to sign an informed consent. After initial testing, enrolled individuals may be selected for random sampling on a weekly basis. Katia said they are expecting to test roughly 11,000 individuals a week in September, then that many per month. It is a routine testing program and the individuals may be asymptomatic. EH&S will then follow up with the COVID-19 positive cases and ask them to self-isolate or quarantine accordingly. The goal of this program is to proactively add a safety layer to the University's COVID-19 Prevention Plan, and limit the transmission of COVID-19 on campus. This testing will help the UW identify potential clusters and outbreaks early. Katia said that EH&S continues to provide contact tracing support and plans to work with graduate students from the School of Public Health to conduct some of this work. The testing program is expected to launch next week.



Sonia Honeydew asked if there is an official announcement about building curtailments, as Building Coordinators are waiting news. Katia and Denise said that building curtailment plans are under review and have not been finalized.

Tony Colinares asked where the COVID-19 testing sites will be located. Katia said the former UW Club and the Odegaard Library will act as testing sites on the UW Seattle campus. In order to limit crowds, the individuals will be making appointments and collecting their own swabs under supervision by a member of the research team. For SLU and outside campuses, testing kits will be dropped off at those locations. Individuals will collect their own nasal swab samples and arrange for them to be returned to the Seattle Flu Study for testing in their CLIA certified laboratory.

Katia said EH&S is encouraging employees to enroll in the COVID-19 testing program, but if employees opt out of enrollment, they have other options for testing. If they have any symptoms or close contacts with a COVID-19 positive patient, the individuals can contact EH&S and get access to free testing through UWMC. EH&S has resources for other free testing. UW students can contact Hall Health Center to get tested.

5. 2019 UW Claim Services Report

Ken Nielsen gave a presentation on '2019 UW Claim Services Report'.

Ken Nielsen, Return to Work Specialist, introduced the Worker's Compensation Team at UW. Matt Weber is their Director, Pam Nathan is the Senior Return to Work Specialist, and Linda Chihara is the Program Coordinator. Ken said that the goal of the presentation is to update the committee on the workers compensation and claims information, focus on returning injured workers to the workplace, and providing insights into how one can help achieve better results.

Ken mentioned that the UW is insured through Department of Labor & Industries, and that they act as L&I's claim manager adjudicate. UW advises and provides L&I with the required information for cases. UW Claim Services are a resource to both UW employees and L&I.

Ken went over statistics on claims. In the last four years, the total number of claims has decreased. The total time loss in claims has gone up, but overall there has been a decreasing trend. 86% of all the paid claims can be broken down into 4 groups - Harborview (44%), UWMC (28%), UW Facilities (14%) and others (14%).

Ken talked about getting workers back to work after they've been injured under a workers compensation claim. An employee returning to work benefits everyone. He said it has been reported that the workers who return back to work post injury are healthier than those who have not returned. Ken talked about resources for injured workers. It is highly recommended that workers complete an incident report using OARS or the PSN system promptly. Workers should stay in communication with HR, their supervisor, and Claim Services. Supervisors should provide light duty opportunities to the injured worker within recommended restrictions, and welcome them back to work and accommodate them where possible. L&I reimburses UW for



accommodating medical restrictions. It's called the 'Stay at Work Reimbursement Program'. Claim services administers the program and reimburses directly to the department which provides the modifies/light duty. UW has received \$1.8 M total reimbursements since June 2012. Ken mentioned there is [specific training available](#) for supervisors and managers.

Ken further talked about how to avoid and mitigate accidents and injuries. It is recommended that workers take regular breaks, rotations, learn proper use of equipment and devices, evaluate tasks and engage in safety efforts. Poor housekeeping and wet floors are the cause of many slips and trips.

Ken indicated worker's compensation premiums are based on claims incurred over a three year period. UW paid approximately \$22 million last year in premiums which is an increase from last year. Ken reiterated that UW's focus on safety is important to reducing our claims and premiums.

6. Organizational Group Reports

HSC 1 –Ryan Hawkinson said that HSC-1 met this morning (September 9) and reviewed OARS reports. Andreea Minea from EH&S presented on Ergonomics. Ryan said that her presentation is a great resource to those working from home.

HSC 2 – Erik Rostad said that HSC-2 met last month, and reviewed their committee charter. He said that member absences and other delays caused by COVID-19, have made it difficult to finalize their charter. Erik said that their primary agenda for their next meeting (September 10) is to finalize their committee charter.

HSC 3 – Kurt Oglesby said that HSC-3 met on August 19. HSC-3 welcomed a new member, Steven Riggs from Hall Health Center. They discussed OARS reports and the U-Wide meeting. They also approved the meeting minutes. Andrea Minea from EH&S gave ergonomic tips for staff working from home.

HSC 4 – Christine Aker said that HSC-4 met on August 25 and reviewed OARS reports. They discussed the U-Wide meeting and updated their charter based on member changes. Christine reported that 10 of their 13 injury reports involved a student. They noticed that some of those students got in an accident in locations where the PI or their supervisor was not present at the site due to COVID-19, which led them to discuss if students should be working if their supervisors are not present. Christine said they also discussed their plan on managing and disinfecting shared equipment.

HSC 5 – Liz Kindred said that HSC-5 met on August 24. Pam Nathan, Claim Services, presented time loss data for HMC and UWMC . She indicated that UWMC had done better than HMC in the past year..



HSC 5 also reviewed accident incident reports. She indicated a large portion of the HMC incident reports were related to workplace violence and COVID-19. All hospital employees were reminded to report all COVID-19 related concerns via the PSN system, and that they have a dashboard related to COVID-19 concerns.

Liz said that they will be reporting their workplace violence rate to Medicaid as an incentive to obtain money back. She said there is an OSHA benchmark to compare workplace violence rates.

Liz added that they are preparing for the upcoming flu season.

HSC 6 – Eric Camp said that they met on August 20 and reviewed OARS report. Most of the folks working in the College of Arts and Sciences are working from home. They discussed the U-Wide meeting and restroom policies related to COVID-19.

HSC 7 – Martin Arroyo said that they met last month. Their safety topic of the month was ‘smoke-ready’. They looked at the WA state website and discussed the effects of particulate matter and ozone on the human body. They reviewed two OARS reports, and reviewed COVID-19 updates on the EH&S website, the shared restroom policy, and discussed various department re-opening plans. They also discussed air filtration in their buildings.

HSC 8 – Christopher Barrett said that HSC-8 met on August 13 and reviewed an OARS report. They discussed the U-Wide meeting, and Andreea Minea from EH&S gave an update on home ergonomics. Christopher mentioned that the Director of Facilities gave an update on Plexiglas and PPE distribution. He said their next meeting is September 10.

HSC 9 – Sonia Honeydew said that HSC-9 met on August 25. Brandon Kemperman from EH&S, John Wetzel from UWF, and Guarrin Sakagawa who manages the HVAC shop were guest speakers. They talked about aerosolized COVID-19 and HVAC concerns. Sonia said HSC 9 also discussed the U-Wide meeting and resources like SafeCampus, CareLink, and the Whole U. They will discuss OARS reports at their next committee meeting.

HSC 10 – David Warren said that they met on August 17 and reviewed OARS reports. They discussed the U-Wide meeting. David said that UW does not support the use of UVC for air sanitation outside of hospital facilities.

- 7. Faculty Senate Reports:** Lesly Colby said that faculty senate has not met this year. She also announced that she will be rotating off and that there will be a new faculty senate representative at the U-Wide meeting.
- 8. Union Reports:** Christine Kang, Amanda Clouser, and Ann Aumann were present at the meeting, but had no updates.
- 9. Ex-Officio Reports:**



UW Facilities: Tracey Mosier and Chris Pennington were present, but had no updates.

Emergency Management: Barry Morgan said that the Emergency Management Crisis Communications Team is working with building coordinators to finalize a date to test indoor alert systems in the buildings across campus. Planning for the Great Shake-Out Drill is underway, and the Crisis Communication Team will test their campus wide alert message system during this drill. All the students, faculty and staff should receive the message via text or email.

Approximately 160,000 masks have been sent out to students from all three campuses with the exception of students without an address or an international address.

Emergency Management is currently working on a personal preparedness course.

UWPD: Lt. Chris Jaross said UWPD has a full-time bike patrol that typically work Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm.

DEOHS: Rick Gleason reported that DEOHS is teaching their first in-person four-day OSHA training course with five students. It will be held in Seattle on Monday, September 14 on Roosevelt and 42nd. The training plan has been approved by the School of Public Health and EH&S.

UW Tacoma: Susan Wagshul-Golden was not present.

Attorney General's Office: Nancy Gwin had no updates.

Claims Services: Ken Nielsen has no updates.

10. L&I updates:

Erin McKeown reported that the UWMC- Eastside Specialty Clinic in Bellevue was inspected by Labor & Industries due to employee concerns related to COVID-19 mask usage, barriers at their front desk, and the six foot social distancing requirements. She said she is awaiting the results of the investigation.

EH&S updates:

Denise Bender announced that EH&S has hired a new COVID-19 nurse, Jill Tonge-Seymour and a Public Health Specialist, Meagan Gourley.

Denise also mentioned that EH&S has the following job vacancies,

- Biosafety Manager
- Biosafety Officer
- Biosafety Officer Temporary

Denise said that Natalie Daranyi is conducting FAQ sessions and updating the 'Confined Space Entry Program' manual. It should be updated by next meeting.

11. Good of the Order: Sonia thanked Lesly Colby for her contribution and service to the U-Wide meetings.

Erin McKeown suggested Natalie and Denise present on the updated 'Confined Space Entry Program' at the next meeting.

Tamara Leonard asked if UW has a contact tracing application for students and staff. Denise said that there is an application in the development stages, called 'Common Circle'. Erin wondered whether there have been any suspicious package deliveries at UW. Denise said that Zara Llewellyn sent a notice to all researchers regarding the FBI's information on suspicious package deliveries to researchers on the east coast. She said there have been no suspicious package deliveries to researchers at UW.

12. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 pm.

University-Wide (U-Wide) Health and Safety Committee Meeting Agenda

October 14, 2020
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Zoom- screen required

Agenda Item	Lead	Process	Time
Call to Order	Sonia Honeydew	Robert's Rules of Order	
Attendance/Quorum	Sonia Honeydew	Discussion	5 min
Approval of meeting minutes	Sonia Honeydew	Discussion	5 min
COVID-19 Update	Katia Harb	Discussion	10 min
UW Biological COVID-19 Research	Lesley Decker/Zara Llewellyn	Presentation	20 min
Organizational Group Reports*	Committee members	Discussion	20 min
Union Reports	Union representatives	Discussion	5 min
Ex-Officio Reports	Ex-Officio members	Discussion	10 min
EH&S Updates L&I Update Committee changes	Erin	Discussion	10 min
General updates	Katia or Denise		
Good of the Order	Sonia Honeydew	Discussion	5 min
Adjourn	Sonia Honeydew	Robert's Rules of Order	

*Organizational Group Reports include topics covered at their most recent meeting

Please send ideas for agenda items to the co-chairs Sonia Honeydew and Liz Kindred at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled meetings.