

Agenda – October 25th, 2023
Group 9 (College of Engineering) Health and Safety Committee

1. Attending

Sean Krewson or Niyousha Rahimi, AA
 Colleen Irvin or Robbie Wong, BioE
 Jonathan Emard or Virginia Engel, CEE
 Michael Pomfret, CEI
 Ben Rutz or Ben Hornberg, ChemE
 Tatyana Galenko or Michael Glidden, DO
 Alexander Lefort or Selest Nashef, CSE
 Tai Chen or Kyle Dickison, ECE

Sonia Honeydew or Erin McKeown, EH&S
 Sarah Coppola or Stacia Green, HCDE
 Sheila Prusa or Kelly Foong, ISE
 Bill Kuykendall, ME
 John Young MoES/NanoES
 Hanson Fong, MSE
 N. Shane Patrick or Maria Huffman, WNF

2. Previous Meeting Minutes (5 Minutes)

- September 2023 – approve? Corrections/additions?
- Minutes posted at <https://www.engr.washington.edu/mycoe/safety#> and safety boards.

3. Department Incident Reports (25 minutes; use “5 Why’s” analysis for one report)

- All OARS reports may also be found on Tableau while on the UW network via this link:
<https://bitools.uw.edu/#/site/Transitional/projects/573>.

OARS #	Supervisor's Dept	Incident Location	Incident Summary
2023-07-023	ENG: Computer Science & Eng	Bill & Melinda Gates Center for CSE	Employee tested positive for COVID and suspects workplace transmission at staff meeting.
2023-07-110	ENG: Chemical Engineering – Holmberg Lab	Molecular Engineering Building	While weighing newly synthesized CuFeS ₂ , grad student employee noticed burning smell (potential for material ignition).
2023-08-029	ENG: Computer Science & Eng	Gates Center for CSE	Employee tested positive for COVID and suspects workplace transmission.
2023-08-057	ENG: Mechanical Engineering – Olanrewaju Lab	Nano Engineering Building	Employee used box cutter to remove 3D-printed part from build plate, and as part released they cut their wrist.
2023-09-011	Bioengineering	W.H. Foege Bioeng	Employee's fingers were jammed in a mechanical press
2023-09-016	Deans Office	Maple Building	Student employee burned fingertips on preheated 3D printer during repair demo
2023-09-027	Mechanical Engineering	Nanoengineering Building	Unpaid undergraduate in class was touring a lab when they fainted and hit and cut their head on a table.
2023-09-033	Computer Science & Eng – Gebben	Allen Center for CSE	Employee injured back lifting a new monitor onto a cart.
2023-09-044	Computer Science & Engineering	Allen Center for CSE	Employee and two colleagues trapped in elevator for 20 minutes.
2023-09-058	Bioengineering	W.H. Foege Bioeng	Employee picked magnetic clip out of container and a rusted razor blade stuck to clip cut their fingertip.
2023-09-094	Bioengineering	W.H. Foege Bioeng	Undergrad employee was mixing mouse samples with a syringe and stuck their thumb.
2023-09-099	Collaboration Core – WCET Staff	Bowman Building	A non-UW user extinguished a small fire in a fume hood.

4. Group Business (10 minutes)

- Updates on Health & Safety Committee Elections.
- We will be reviewing the UW Accident Prevention Plan next meeting.
- Thoughts about potential speakers to invite to next meeting?

5. UW-Wide Meeting (5 minutes)

- September meeting minutes attached.
- October agenda attached. Meeting highlights will be presented by Alex Lefort:
 - Sally Clark of Campus Community Safety presented on Outreach and the Unhoused:
 - UW now has a contract with an employee of REACH to support UW's struggles with people living with homelessness: Samia Murphy (he/him).
 - Important to note: if dealing with someone violent, UWPD should be contacted, NOT Samia.
 - In order to connect with Samia, call UWPD non-emergency line and ask to be transferred.
 - More information will be available about this position and how to connect with Samia online shortly.
 - Be aware that when trying to connect with Samia, it is possible that he will not immediately be available due to responding to another call or coordinating services.
 - Lesley Decker & Haris Malik presented on National Biosafety Month:
 - Can contact Biosafety about how to properly surplus biological lab equipment.
 - This year's theme is: Written procedures and SOPs
 - A good SOP has: Background info on procedure, includes step-by-step instructions, how to train someone, notes on learning from the past, effective technique, and may include documenting those trained.
 - Certain SOPs may also be regulatory requirements
 - Biosafety SOP templates available on EH&S site.
 - Tips for making SOPs: Treat as living document and avoid "always done it this way" mindset; Solicit feedback from others who may see from another perspective; Use clear, concise, plain language to ensure content is accessible.
 - Great info from question during presentation: Sounds like Lab Services still accepts SHARPS, but don't accept them as "already auto-claved," meaning they will auto-clave everything that comes in.
 - Eleanor Wade gave COVID-19 Updates:
 - Current community level for King County is low, though we are seeing a slight spike in cases.
 - Also present is a slighter spike in hospitalizations.
 - All of Washington is in community level low currently.
 - COVID-19, Flu, and RSV are all below Emergency Department Transmission Alert Thresholds.
 - Two large key references for these thresholds: Percent of weekly emergency department/ER visits with COVID-19 and respiratory virus lab tests.
 - Highlights from All-Campus message:
 - Respiratory illness season coming.

- Advised prevention strategies: Stay home when sick, stay up to date on vaccines, test for COVID-19 when symptoms/exposure, face coverings are optional, masks and tests available for free on campus.
- Current requirements for the UW are available on the table at the top of the page for COVID-19 Safety.
- Masks are optional in general, though strongly recommended after exposure and/or isolation; UW Health Care requirements are in flux; EH&S expects to update the UW Face Covering Policy to align with changes made by UW Medicine in other health-care settings (i.e. Dentistry, etc)
- Masks will continue to be available on all campuses throughout the academic year.
- Vaccinations: UW requirements for Fall 2023 – UW employees and students are not required to be vaccinated for COVID-19, though there are exceptions for some medical environments.
- Where to get COVID-19 vaccinations?
 - Whole-U clinics will have both flu and updated COVID-19 vaccines (appointment only).
 - Hall Health hosting joint pop-up clinics with DOH primarily for students.
 - Can also get vaccines at pharmacies.
- COVID-19 Safety Training was updated in August
- Cleaning & disinfection protocols were updated
- Required & recommended signage was updated; Hosted on EH&S website and available via Creative Communications. Simplified required signage and these will be sent out to Building Coordinators shortly.
- Please continue to use/distribute these resources: Case & Exposure Guidance & Public Health Flowchart; Health & Safety Plan, etc. from COVID-19 Page.
- UW units should prioritize purchasing their own mask supplies for employees and students, but also promote locations around campus where masks may be available.
- Judy Cashman presented on Bloodborne Pathogens Program:
 - Judy is the lead on campus to ensure program is followed.
 - Objective is to ensure all persons on campus who may be exposed are able to remain safe when exposed to blood.
 - Requirements: Hep B vaccinations to be offered to all those who could be exposed to blood; Annual training on BBP; Exposure Control Plan built and followed.
 - EH&S reviews departmental BBP plans every 3 years.
 - Two different trainings provided: Research Personnel and Non-Research Personnel. Training must be done during paid hours.
 - Exposure Control Plan: There is both a UW-wide plan and, if needed, a site-specific Exposure Control Plan (see EH&S template)
- Departmental Updates:
 - Eleanor Wade of EH&S noted that they have concluded that over-the-counter meds do not belong in UW workplace first-aid kits due to the potential risks they also present; They do say that people are welcome to keep these materials in a personal first-aid kit.
 - Great Shake-Out Drill is on 10/19 at 10:19 AM

- It is also Global Ergonomics Month: EH&S encourages everyone to review the ergonomics safety page.
- EH&S Lab Safety Innovation Awards coming up; Please nominate yourself and/or others if you have a novel safety innovation that you've developed.

6. Member Updates (10 minutes)

Next Meeting: November 22nd, at 1:30 PM, via Zoom

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

Meeting Date: September 27th, 2023 (via Zoom)

Attended

Sean Krewson, AA

Colleen Irvin, BioE

Robbie Wong, BioE

Jonathan Emard, CEE

Michael Pomfret, CEI

Benjamin Hornburg, ChemE

Tatyana Berezyuk, CoE Deans Office

Michael Glidden, CoE Deans Office

Alexander Lefort, CSE

Kyle Dickison, ECE

Stacia Green, HCDE

Sheila Prusai, ISE

Bill Kuykendall, ME

John Young, MoES/NanoES

Carter Beamish, MSE

N. Shane Patrick, WNF

Absent

Sonia Honeydew, EH&S

Previous Meeting Minutes

- August 2023 – minutes approved as is.
- 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.

Incident Reports

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- Collaboration Core (#2023-05-055) – Shane noted the room where this incident occurred has an independent hazardous materials monitoring system that is hardwired to notify authorities automatically in worrisome events. The low-HF alarm triggered an unneeded fire response, when it should have only triggered a local alarm. When the space was checked, there was no indication of an HF leak. There is suspicion of a faulty censor. It may have also been caused by a hose near where the censor had dropped from its original spot. The hose is from a scrubbing machine nearby which may have let off small traces of burn-off. WNF has replaced the censor and haven't seen any further issues relating to this. It's believed this was a minor maintenance issue and everything failed into a safe state, but maybe too aggressively. This incident has been closed.
- CSE (#2023-07-023) – Alex is still attempting to have a supervisor fill out notes for this, as the designated supervisor is currently on leave from the University. This incident has been tabled.
- DO-IT Admin (#2023-07-106) – Michael Glidden noted that he still wants to wait for EH&S on this as well, but did also connect with Central HR, who agreed they were unsure as to why the DO-IT Admin are situated under the College of Engineering. Alex will ping EH&S to ensure there is representation next meeting. Michael stated that he otherwise sees this as a closed matter. The last time he was in the HUB and looking around, he saw no further evidence of tripping hazards. This incident has been closed provided Michael Glidden is able to connect with EH&S on the designation of DO-IT Admin.
- ChemE (#2023-07-110) – Benjamin thought this was under the purview of John, to which John thought otherwise. Michael Glidden confirmed that this is generally under the department of the person involved (ChemE), but that he would like both of them to communicate to better assist in resolving this incident. This incident is tabled to next meeting awaiting further information.
- CSE (#2023-08-029) – Alex has not had the chance to reach out to the group yet and noted an absence of supervisor notes on the report. This incident has been tabled to next meeting.
- ME (#2023-08-040) – Bill noted that this was an oversight of the person conducting the procedure. There are specific SOP procedures that call out exactly what to do and what should be avoided that were flouted. The person in question has been reminded. This incident has been closed.
- BioE (#2023-08-042) – Alex asked for clarification about the designation of "JM Student." Shane noted that this stands for "Job Management" and that is designation for positions that have a supervisory organization for those management positions. Colleen noted that the employee stated his thumb was fine about an hour after the report and there were no further follow-ups. Alex asked Colleen to connect with the supervisor to fill out the comments. This incident has been closed.

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- ME (#2023-08-057) – Bill stated that students will often grab the nearest tool when attempting to dislodge prints and that it should be called out in SOPs to only use a plastic spatula. Bill will follow up with the supervisor to grab comments. John is also reminding all PIs to let John know if an incident happens in the MoES/NanoES building so that he can coordinate more promptly with other representatives. This incident has been tabled.
- Dean's Office – Computing Services (#2023-08-121) – Michael stated that the description was a fair representation of what had happened and that this was primarily due to a potentially slippery surface. The supervisor is providing appropriate solutions to the affected to ensure that this does not occur again. This incident has been closed.

Group Business

- Health & Safety Committee Elections: Requests for nominations have gone out! They will close Oct. 2nd.
- Updates from EH&S: Vaccines and WA Department of Health Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard:
 - EH&S recommends that everyone make use of the UW Flu Vaccination Clinics that will be occurring around campus. People must sign up for them this time.
 - EH&S also recommends people check out the DoH Respiratory Illness Data Dashboard at: <https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/diseases-and-chronic-conditions/communicable-disease-surveillance-data/respiratory-illness-data-dashboard%23CurrentStatus>

UW-Wide Meeting

- Alex asked if anyone had any questions/comments on notes from the U-Wide:
 - August meeting minutes attached.
 - September agenda attached. Meeting highlights will be presented by Alex Lefort:
 - Presentation by Jon Carroll on portable air cleaners (PACs) and preparing for wildfire smoke:
 - If you have any questions on more about wildfire smoke, connect with EH&S.
 - ACCD endorsed guidance which went into effect June 12th, 2023.
 - UW Facilities will continue to centrally maintain PACs in academic areas.
 - Outside of these areas, the units will be collected by UW Facilities starting Sept. 1st.

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- PACs may be retained by the unit, but the maintenance will be the unit's responsibility.
- The filters may be bought via UW Facilities.
- The units are not complicated to keep up, but there are steps that need to be taken for the filters to work effectively.
- Units requesting to keep their PACs, please submit work order when filters need to be changed and provide budget number.
- There is currently no guidance specific to the new strains of Coronavirus coming about.
- There are also questions on whether the units should remain in preparation for wildfire smoke, as well. Waiting on further guidance.
- UW Facilities does still need to document all PACs as assets, so do be sure to let UW Facilities know if you want to retain your machines.
- Those PACs that are remaining in place for academics will have their filters changed out before the beginning of the year.
- Customer Care will be reaching out to building coordinators with this info.
- Please note: PACs can assist in eliminating the harmful particulates from wildfire smoke, but cannot remove the smell. Please keep in mind that the smell does not necessarily mean that the particulates are still present.
- To assist PACs' effectiveness, ensure keeping all exterior windows shut and doors closed as much as possible.
- If you have any further questions on PACs, please contact Jon Carroll: carroll1@uw.edu.
- For indoor air quality concerns, please also contact EH&S at ehsdept@uw.edu.
- Slides available upon request.
- If a COVID case involved a minor, be sure to also connect with the Office of the Youth Protection Coordinator.
- Watch out for wasps and hornets this time of year. Baking soda helps if stung.
- People living with homelessness are starting to move into buildings with the cooler weather.
- Physical buttons for use with the Safe Zone App were found; Connect with UWPD. If interested, further details on how they were are available.
- EH&S Reports:
 - Accident Prevention Plan and Supplemental Accident Prevention Plan templates are complete and uploaded – SAPP is quite a bit smaller now and EH&S recommends units take a look at this revised plan.
 - The CDC visited for a surprise assessment and commented on strong UW programs.
 - PETE and RAT teams held drills for radioactive material removal.
 - 2023 Graduate Safety Seminar will be held shortly.
 - EH&S rabies information for field research has been updated.
 - Final rule on wildfire smoke information not released yet; hoping to release by end of summer.
 - Cranes, hoist, and rigging info has all been updated.
- L&I Updates:
 - Noncompliance for eyewash filed due to exposure to chemical. The lab in question did not have an eyewash, an eyewash program, or otherwise when these safety requirements were needed for the given chemical in use.

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Department Updates

- HCDE – Echoing sentiments from the last time: Lack of transparency and accountability in workplace violence case from nearly a year ago continues to be an issue.
- Good of the Order – Shane noted that it would be nice to hear something from UW Admin with respect to COVID case increases. It's good to hear about the vaccination offerings, but it would also be nice to hear about what the general course of the University is and if we are on track. Alex will make note to relay these points at the next U-Wide meeting. Michael Glidden has also stated he will be sharing info with EH&S as an employee, not as CoE, as well. There are some state colleges that are just treating these cases as colds now, with less-strict guidelines right now. It would be great to hear guidance from the University. Shane noted that they have additionally had a positive exposure incident from an acymptomatic vendor coming in. They're bracing for what might come of this now and are frustrated by the lack of control in their spaces. Colleen noted that the Flow Chart was updated 9/21 that states "follow EH&S guidance policy," but does not relay any new information. Several members agree that the June updates were too long ago and are awaiting guidance.

Adjournment

- Adjourned at 2:12 PM.

Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be October 25th, 2023 at 1:30 PM via Zoom.

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

October 11, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Zoom (screen required)

Zoom phone shortcuts: to mute self *6; to raise hand *9

Agenda Item	Lead	Process	Time
Attendance/Quorum (13)	Sonia Honeydew	Verify quorum per Zoom gallery count	3 min
Call to Order and Welcome	Carmen Parisi	Robert's Rules of Order	2 min
Approval of Meeting Minutes	Carmen Parisi	Discussion	5 min
Outreach and the Unhoused	Sally Clark, Campus Community Safety	Presentation	5 min
National Biosafety Month & Bloodborne Pathogens	Haris Malik, Judy Cashman - EH&S	Presentation	20 min
COVID-19 Update	Alexa Yadama	Presentation	10 min
Organizational Group Reports*	Organizational HSC members	Discussion	15 min
Union & Senate Reports	Union & Senate members	Discussion	5 min
Ex Officio Reports	Ex Officio members	Discussion	10 min
EH&S Updates General L&I HSC Elections	Jimmy Spencer, Erin McKeown	Discussion	10 min
Good of the Order	Carmen Parisi	Discussion	5 min
Adjourn	Carmen Parisi	Robert's Rules of Order	

*Organizational Group Reports comprise only novel topics and updates needed by U-Wide.

Please send ideas for agenda items to Carmen Parisi and Christine Aker at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled meeting.

U-WIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

9/13/2023 Meeting Minutes | 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

	Elected Member*		Appointed Member*		Proxy*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hawkinson (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Oglesby (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sulgi Lotze (1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Parisi, Chair (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Manley (5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brett Magnuson (2)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nigel Horton (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Abian (7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Martin Arroyo (7)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Norm Kwasinski (2)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Colleen Irvin (9)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tony Colinares (3)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrea Chateaubriand (10)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Aker (4)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Desi Schatz (4)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Herber (5)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paula Lukaszek, WFSE 1488
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah O'Hara (6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Lundgren, SEIU 925
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Harrington (6)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Antonio Vasquez, UAW 4121
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alaron Lewis (7)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Costanti (8)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donna Braboy (8)			<input type="checkbox"/>	Faculty Senate – TBD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alexander Lefort (9)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	= attended meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	GPSS – Gabby Rivera
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Coppola (9)	*	= voting members		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Warren (10)	13	= voting members for quorum		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jon Wittouck (10)				
	Ex Officio Member		Ex Officio Member		Env. Health & Safety Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tracey Mosier, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marty Cohen, DEOHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Katia Harb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Pennington, UWF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trista Treumper, UWHR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eleanor Wade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Johnson, UWF TS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jo Hill, AGO	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jimmy Spencer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kelley Biastock, UWEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nielsen, Claim Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bob Calnan (for Tracy Harvey)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lt. Chris Jaross, UWPD	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Wagshul-Golden, UWT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin McKeown
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brett Konzek, UWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sonia Honeydew
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lorilyn A. H. Ignao
	Guests				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Carroll, UW Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

1. Attendance/Quorum

Sonia Honeydew announced the group reached quorum.

2. Call to Order and Welcome

Carmen Parisi welcomed the committee to the hybrid meeting and shared a land acknowledgement.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carmen asked for a review of the August 2023 meeting minutes and asked if there were any changes. Sarah O'Hara motioned to approve the minutes as is. Laura Harrington seconded. The motion passed; the committee approved the August 2023 meeting minutes without changes.

4. Organizational Group Reports

Carmen asked the chairs to share novel topics, interesting trends, or other updates from their last committee meeting.

HSC-1

Ryan Hawkinson: While reviewing reports, the committee found a COVID case that involved a minor from a summer program and requested that everyone remember to include the Youth Coordinator whenever minors are involved. Do complete OARS reports for minors.

HSC-2

Nigel and Norm: nothing to report.

HSC-3

Kurt Oglesby: nothing to report.

HSC-4

Christine Aker: nothing to report, just a large number of OARS reports to review.

HSC-5

David Manley: Ken Nielsen presented on worker's compensation statistics. We're anticipating COVID and flu season, now a "tridemic" with RSV. Next meeting we'll be focused on the flu.

HSC-6:

Sarah O'Hara: nothing to report.

HSC-7

Alaron Lewis: nothing to report.

HSC-8

Donna Braboy: nothing to report.

HSC-9

Alexander Lefort: HCDE wanted to reiterate concerns about transparency and violence in the workplace related to an incident from a few months ago.

HSC-10

David Warren: Watch out for hornets and wasps; baking soda can help with stings. Make a paste with water and apply directly. It helps because the sting is acidic.

5. Union & Senate Reports

GPSS

Not present.

WFSE 1488

Paula Lukaszek: as temperatures cool, more campers are bringing drug activities into buildings.

SEIU 925

Not present.

UAW 4121

Not present.

Faculty Senate

Not present.

6. Ex Officio Reports

UW Facilities

Chris Pennington: Nothing to report.

Transportation Services

Eric Johnson: Nothing to report.

Emergency Management

Kelley Biastock: new Emergency Management Director and a new member shared brief introduction with committee. Nothing to report.

UWPD

Lt. Chris Jaross: nothing new to report.

DEOHS

Marty Cohen: found SafeZone app and will be working with Chris Jaross and someone from SafeZone to test it, will share findings with DEOHS faculty, staff, and students -- they have been concerned about safety in various locations, students in particular while doing field work.

UWHR

Trista Truemper: nothing to report.

AGO

Jo Hill: nothing to report.

Claim Services

Ken Nielsen: nothing to report.

UW Bothell

Brett Konzek: UW Chancellor safety walk taking place this Friday, now an annual event. This year will be a daytime walk. Episodic waste collection event today and tomorrow will allow us to get rid of expired hand sanitizer.

UW Tacoma

Not present.

7. EH&S Updates

General

- a) The UW workplace [Accident Prevention Plan \(APP\) document and the Supplemental Accident Prevention Plan \(Supplemental APP\) template](#) have been updated and published on the EH&S website. A log of changes for the APP is available there as well.
- b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) were on campus August 16 – 17 for an unannounced [Select Agent Program](#) verification inspection. The CDC commented on the strong UW Program including strong records management, well maintained facilities, and professionalism of program personnel.

- c) The UW [Pre-Entry Assessment Team](#) (PEAT) and Research Assessment Team (RAT) conducted a drill at vacant Haggett Hall on September 7th.
- d) EH&S coordinated the removal of a radioactive source as part of the Department of Energy's (DOE) [Off-Site Source Recovery Program](#) (OSRP) on September 10th. The OSRP recovers unwanted or no longer used radioactive sources that may pose a potential risk to national security, health, and safety. This project involved coordination between many governmental agencies and UW entities, including UW Facilities, Emergency Management, UWPD, UW Medicine, HSB building management, AAG, DOE, Idaho National Lab, Washington State Department of Health, emergency responders, and others. The source was loaded into a large shipping container in the area between the Ocean Sciences building and HSB K-Wing. Access was restricted in the area during the removal. At no time was the source removed from the original device shield. Radiation levels were continuously monitored to verify that they remained below background levels.
- e) The 2023 [Graduate Student Safety Seminar](#) will be hosted by EH&S on September 25th. This year's guest speakers are Shar Samy, from DEOHS, and National Medal of Science honoree Mary-Claire King, from the Medical Genetics department. Wes Cochran, Alex Hagen, Tracy Harvey, and Esther Pelham from EH&S will also be presenting at the seminar.
- f) EH&S has updated the [rabies information for field work](#) in areas where rabies is endemic.
- g) The [University COVID training](#) was updated on 9/1/2023 and has been posted on the EH&S training site. Taking the updated training is not required, but it is highly recommended.
- h) WA Labor and Industries (L&I) has not yet released its final rule on [Wildfire Smoke](#). They still plan to release it in "late summer." Once the final rule is released, EH&S will update the annual training and program documents to reflect it and advise the UW community.
- i) The [Cranes, Hoists and Rigging Safety webpage](#) and [program manual](#) have been published on our website. You will find Word templates to create a department/unit-specific:
 - i. [Supplemental Crane, Hoist and Rigging Program](#)
 - ii. [Crane/Hoist and Rigging Critical Lift Plan](#)
 - iii. [Overhead Cranes/Hoists Inspection Checklist](#)
 - iv. [Crane Operator Assessment Form](#)

L&I

Labor & Industries issued a Citation and Notice to the UW Facilities Building Services Department including one serious violation for not having a compliant eyewash when there was a potential for exposure to a serious eye irritant used in a janitorial cleaning machine. The department discontinued use of the chemical product and paid \$1,400.00. The other two violations were general with no monetary penalty and included improper container labeling and ineffective information and training about the need for appropriate access to an eyewash when handling an eye irritant.

L&I closed the compliance inspection at Harborview Medical Center with no violations. This inspection was related to a specific room in West Hospital and concerns related to indoor air quality, lighting, electrical safety, and office chairs.

HSC Elections

Update skipped to make time for speaker. HSC's address election status at organizational HSC meetings. EH&S approves the decision of some HSCs to delay voting until personnel are back on campus at the start of Autumn quarter, if elections are still completed by December 1st.

8. Portable Air Cleaners and Preparing for Wildfire Smoke

John Carroll of UW Facilities (UWF) presented "Portable Air Cleaners (PACs) and Preparing for Wildfire Smoke." UWF and EHS worked together to determine what areas warranted use of PACs. After data logging of air exchange rates, over 2,000 units were deployed around campus.

The [Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases](#) (ACCD) convened in June 2023 to discuss decreasing COVID-19 concerns. They decided UWF will maintain the PACs in formal classrooms and instructional spaces such as theaters and performing arts spaces, and other areas that lack mechanical ventilation. Starting September 1st, UWF is removing units that do not fall under any of these categories. If departments request that such units remain in the space, the maintenance costs will be the direct responsibility of the department. Filter changes cost about \$160/unit and must be scheduled twice yearly via UWF work order, or performed properly by the department.

A question was raised regarding wildfire smoke. If PACs are a recommended mitigation, why would they be removed? This is based on ACCD recommendations, and it is safe to do so. UWF is attempting to move these units before the school year begins, when it will be more crowded. Facilities staff have been given the directive that when in doubt, leave the unit where it is. If a department is advised that they will oversee future maintenance and agree to that, then the unit can be left. PACs will not be sent to surplus but stored for later use.

Building coordinators asked if filters for those remaining in place will be replaced before the school year begins. John answered yes, UWF is proceeding to do so building by building. They are currently creating a schedule for filter replacement.

A committee member asked whether the teams collecting PACs can connect with building coordinators. UWF is attempting to do so and appreciates feedback on the best way to reach Building Coordinators. UWF is challenged by the fact that some of these units, though assigned asset numbers, have been moved to other rooms. Contact John Carroll at carroll1@uw.edu or the UWF Customer Care Team with inquiries.

UWB asked if they are included in these PAC unit plans. Tony Guerrero is the contact person for these questions for Bothell. Bothell is ahead of schedule on this project.

UWF has reduced the threat of wildfire smoke entering buildings by upgrading to MERV 13 filters in building HVAC systems. During a wildfire smoke event, the percentage of outside air brought into buildings will be reduced to increase filter life. MERV-13 filters do not reduce smoke *smell* but they do reduce PM2.5 *particulate* in the indoor air. To assist, personnel are asked to keep windows closed during a smoke event, even on warm days. If your space does not have a PAC, during a smoke event you may request one from UWF's supply.

EH&S recommends that departments develop building-specific wildfire smoke procedures as part of departmental business continuity plans. Recommended actions include closing windows, making sure external doors are closed, relocating PACs, wearing N95 masks, and wiping surfaces. For assistance regarding [indoor air quality](#), contact ehsdept@uw.edu.

9. Adjourn

Sarah O'Hara motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ryan Hawkinson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:43pm.