

CAHNRS College-Level Safety Committee Agenda

April 14, 2020

Attendees: Dixie Kearney, Kat Odell, Shawn Ringo, Ian Leslie, Yvette Anguiano, David Gang, Michael Chapman, Jim Kropf, Julia Christian, Alanna Ellis, Saber Glass, Dan Gorton, Jerry Moreland, Jonathan Lomber, Mike Costa

1. Introductions

- a. Alanna Ellis, representing Academic Programs, AMDT, Human Development, Johnson Hall Grad Center, and the School of Economic Sciences

Welcome, Alanna!

2. Departmental Emergency Response/Action Plan

- a. [WSU Office of Emergency Management](https://oem.wsu.edu/documents/2018/09/departmental-erp-template.docx)
<https://oem.wsu.edu/documents/2018/09/departmental-erp-template.docx>
- b. Encourage your units to use this template and send rough drafts to the department chair/director for approval and communication to all in the unit.

Related to the Department Emergency Response/Action Plan template, the committee discussed keeping personal information private and limiting the people that had access to their home phone numbers and cell phone numbers. For CAHNRS Operations, as an example, only the leadership team has access to the list with the understanding that it be kept in confidence.

3. Incidents/Injuries

- a. Dept. of Horticulture - Unloading vehicle and moving burlap bags (20-50 lbs each) and felt pain in lower right abdomen. (Have a cart available, get help lifting heavy items, take a break/take your time, be sure to lift appropriately.)
- b. Prosser, IAREC - As the media began to boil, it was lifted from the hotplate, steam escaped from around the lid causing a burn to the right thumb through the protective glove. A committee member reached out after the meeting and had the following comments: (The boiling of (a flask or bottle of) media on a hotplate seems like a very dangerous practice because it could boil over and shoot upward in the restricted neck of the glass container. Also, if it goes unattended and boils dry, the container might “explode”. The safe way to boil small sample tubes is in a boiling water bath. Larger bottles of media should either be autoclaved or microwaved, not boiled on a hotplate.
- c. Animal Sciences – Employee walked directly behind a horse in the alleyway of the barn while attempting to help a student leading another horse and was kicked in the leg. (Horses are unpredictable and a lot of injuries can occur when handling them – don’t walk behind horses.)

A committee member shared that they had a near miss reported where three flammable gas cylinders were left unsecured in a lab. This is very dangerous. Here is the link to the CAHNRS Accident Prevention Plan chapter on Compressed Gas Cylinders <https://operations.cahnrs.wsu.edu/compressed-gas-cylinders/> and attached to this email is a video the committee member forwarded as an example.

This is a particularly tough time of year for injuries as people are working in the heat, working outside for longer periods of time, using tools, climbing things, etc. Be sure to remind others to lift carefully, take their time, ask for help if needed, and watch out for one another. A big reminder that we shouldn't assume someone knows how to work safely – being safety minded when bringing new or returning employees onboard is critical.

A committee member asked about wearing masks to work. Some people are wearing masks and others are not, resulting in some concern over what wearing a mask means, is the person sick, are they at risk of getting sick, etc. Facilities Services on the Pullman campus has outfitted their employees that have on-campus assignments with cloth masks and sent a communication to the Facility Liaisons. The AVP of Facilities Services explained that “The masks are not considered PPE, they are for respiratory etiquette to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.”

4. Safety Training

- a. Training for extension volunteers – General Workplace Safety, Heat Stress Prevention, and Driving Safety
 1. General Workplace Safety
https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_80LHgRK2fij4HGZ
 2. Heat Stress Prevention
https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cTvHWN4W0IMcfi
 3. Risk Management Safe Driver Training
https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1OkN8EYxBs1QxTL

Last meeting we discussed safety training for some of our volunteers. The Skillsoft training is not accessible to the volunteers but there are a few that are openly available that you can take a look at and see if it would be helpful. See the links above.

- b. College level safety training - Heat Stress safety training from SkillSoft – watch together (Watched on our own since Zoom is difficult to share viewing a video with sound.)

Washington's Outdoor Heat Exposure rule applies from May 1 through September 30 each year during high-heat conditions. The standard requires all employers with employees working outdoors to address outdoor heat exposure in their written accident prevention program (APP), provide drinking water, monitor employees for heat stress, and provide training to employees and supervisors.

5. Adjourn

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

- Safety Reports/Updates
- Safety Training Updates
- Seasonal safety topics