CAHNRS College-Level Safety Committee Agenda
May 18, 2020

Attendees: Dixie Kearney, Kat Odell, Shawn Ringo, Ian Leslie, Yvette Anguiano, Michael Chapman, Jonathan Lomber, Mike Costa, Jim Kropf, Dan Gorton, David Gang, Alanna Ellis, Teresa VanderPol, Jerry Moreland
Absent: Julia Christian, Bill McCrea, Richard Partain

1. **Introductions**

Gave everyone an opportunity to introduce themselves to Alanna.

Open up to discussion or comments. Jim mentioned that it has been really quiet for our Master Gardeners, because everyone is working at home. Dan said a big part of their day is sanitizing and cleaning with all of the COVID updates. Big job. RECs are having a weekly call to share ideas of how they can make the process go more smoothly. Team work.

2. **Departmental Emergency Response/Action Plan**
   b. How is this coming along?

Some work has been done, some needs to be done. Jonathan suggested that CAHNRS Operations send out a request to Department Admins with a deadline, due to pushback. Current situation shows that it is important to have this in place when it is needed.

3. **Incidents/Injuries**

Discussion of some ideas for better safety.

- **Animal Sciences – Dairy** - Slip and fall in the milking parlor holding pen which has a concrete floor. Employee injured left side, shoulder, arm and hip. (Department may want to look into getting rubber boots with traction, if they do not already have them.)
- **Animal Sciences – Bear Center** - Employee was preparing to feed apples to bears, placing them on the floor outside the den to unlock the door, and upon squatting down to retrieve the apples and standing back up, struck the top of head on the bottom of the upper den door. The upper half of the door had swung back above their head while they had bent down to retrieve the apples off the floor. (Department may want to look into installing or repairing a latch so that the upper half of the door does not swing down when opened.)
- **Animal Sciences – Cattle Feeding Lab** – Employee was helping move cattle back to pens. One cow decided she wanted to go back to where she had been. She turned around in a narrow alleyway and forced her way past the employee, causing the employee to fall into the fence. (Animals can be unpredictable and
temperamental. I did come across some agricultural training specifically addressing cattle handling, horse handling, etc., that are short and may be helpful. The good news is that they do not require a log in and may be accessed any time.) [https://ag-safety.extension.org/animal-safety-video-resources/]

- **Animal Sciences – Dairy** – Employee was moving loose straw in a cart to a heifer pen. One of the cart tires got stuck and the employee lifted the cart, injuring their back. (For people that have lifting, pushing, pulling and other ergonomic challenges at work, viewing the online Ergonomics training may be helpful. Here is the link to the HRS Skillsoft site. [https://hrs.wsu.edu/training/] Log into your online learning account, click “WSU Safety Courses” on the left hand menu, then “WSU Online Safety Courses”, then “Back Safety and Injury Prevention.”)

- **WSU Extension – SNAP Ed** – Working in the school garden and kneeling to weed. Employee twisted and injured their knee. (Department may want to invest in foam knee pads or related personal protective equipment (PPE) for the kneeling that people working in the gardens.)

- **Prosser IAREC** – Employee was standing outdoors on a breezy day in a research field waiting to meet with a grower when their eye started to water. When they got home they noticed that it was bleeding.

- **Food Science – Creamery** – Employee was shoveling and then felt light-headed and needed to sit down. Their breathing became shallow and seemed to be hyperventilating. (It is a good idea to work in pairs or have a method of communication when performing manual labor. Take a break as needed to minimize overexertion.)

- **Prosser IAREC** - While driving in the vineyard, the right front tire fell into an unmarked drain. It was about an 18 inch drop. The impact caused the employee immediate pain to the right shoulder. (Make sure to mark the drain so others do not have the same experience. Marking trouble spots at the beginning of each season before vegetation gets too tall is a good idea.)

- **Wenatchee TFREC – Horticulture** – Employee finished working in one plot and was moving to the new row. Employee was in a hurry and moving fast when they walked into an iron wire, receiving a cut above their right eye. (Take the time to slow down a bit when switching tasks to check out what is around you.)

4. **CAHNRS Accident Prevention Plan Review and Edit**
   a. I will be sending out the Laboratory Safety and Ladder Safety draft APPs with the meeting notes.

Please review and email me any questions or edits no later than June 1, 2020. These will be added to the other APP chapters for all of CAHNRS to use in their employee safety training.

5. **Safety Training**
   a. WSU Environmental Health and Safety informs us that the Washington Department of Labor and Industries requires COVID-19 education for essential personnel working during the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order. COVID-19 Education will
continue to be required for personnel returning to work in the early phases as restrictions the State lifts restrictions. The trainings below, available through Human Resource Services Learning and Organizational Development website https://hrs.wsu.edu/training/ help to satisfy that requirement. Have employees log into their training account. Pass this along to people in your representative areas.

These trainings are required for all essential personnel and those coming back in the reopening.

Shawn shared some additional COVID resources from EHS. They will be attached to these notes: flyer, web page links. Please encourage those in your representative areas to review this information as often as needed and adhere to these best practices as we progress through return-to-work phases.

Distancing and Disinfection Plan

General Workplace Requirements (Summary)

General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for the Workplace

Disinfecting Common Surfaces and Electronics

6. Adjourn

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING’S AGENDA

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