

## CAHNRS College-Level Safety Committee Notes

April 11, 2023

**Attendees:** Jessica Pestana Wiest, K@ Odell, Dixie Kearney, Joshua Goicoechea, Shawna Ringo, Mike Costa, Ben Swick, Callee Beebe, Victor Marx, Holly Neibergs, Jonathan Lomber, Jennifer Kiser, Todd Murray, Kiwamu Tanaka, Jerry Moreland, Michael Chapman, Teresa VanderPol

1. Quick Discussion on Percipio and a few issues with the platform.
2. National Distracted Driving and Work Zone Awareness Month:
  - Numerous online trainings help better inform employees and supervisors how to mitigate hazards in these areas. Make an effort to schedule a time to review and recommend these to those in your work groups. <https://hrs.wsu.edu/training/>
3. Incidents/Injuries since the last meeting:
  - Mount Vernon REC - The visitor was assisting in installing posts in a field using a post pounder. While operating the post pounder with another person, the post began to angle downward, and when the post pounder was lifted, the employee struck themselves just above the forehead. The employee needed sutures and staples for the laceration.
  - WSU Meats Lab – Employee used the industrial bacon slicer to cut bacon for the Student Swine Co-op. Pushing pork belly through the slicer was moving too fast, and the thumb moved too low during the cut. Cut thumb and fingernail on the slicer blade.
  - Human Development - Employee was walking on the sidewalk in front of Spark building. Slipped on ice on the sidewalk, and used their left arm to catch themselves. Fell and caught themselves with a hand. Per ER visit, the elbow is fractured. ([Investing in some slip-on ice cleats may help in the winter months if you are walking outdoors regularly.](#))
  - Animal Sciences - Employee was walking to the French Admin Building when their foot caught on the groove and/or the rough concrete, causing them to fall. The employee was transported to the emergency room in an ambulance. The right wrist was shattered, and the employee reported neck pain.
  - Ag and Natural Resources – Employee was walking to their car and tripped while walking on the sidewalk. They went to the ER, where a doctor confirmed their arm was broken.
  - Energy Program - Employee tripped outside on a gate resetting a breaker box. They punctured their left palm on a sharp piece of metal, requiring sutures and staples. ([Wearing gloves for outdoor tasks in unfamiliar areas may help deter possible injuries.](#))
  - Horticulture – Employee was melting media when it was boiling. They took the bottle to stir it and homogenize it, using gloves. The bottle slid and got broken on the bench, spilling the melting media on their belly. ([If PPE, such as a lab coat, was not worn or not closed, doing so could have mitigated the incident.](#))

- Food Science - Employee was exiting a lab with a fire door (the kind that swings shut automatically). As they moved thru the doorway, they caught their left middle finger on the door as it was swinging shut. It hyper-extended their middle finger.
- Plant Growth - Employee was picking up lighting fixtures when their thumb was pinched between two fixtures picked up with the same hand. Their thumb was bruised.
- Animal Sciences - Employee was trying to lock up heifers at the heifer barn to give vaccination shots. After a little while of walking behind calm heifers, one of them kicked the employee on the front/side of the right knee. Was able to treat by icing it.
- Children's Center – Employee was changing a diaper at the diaper changing station when the hamper underneath the table itself came loose and fell on their toe and rammed into their knee. No treatment needed.
- Prosser REC – Employee was driving when the vehicle left the roadway, hit a ditch bank, and rolled over upside down. Employee was secured inside the vehicle by the seatbelt in an upside down position. Muscle pain on back of head/neck area.
- CAHNRS Operations – Employee was walking on the sidewalk next to the Alumni Center. The sidewalk had been brushed off, but no ice melt, or salt, or gravel was on the sidewalk, so it was solid ice. The employee's feet came out from under them, and they landed on both of their knees and then fell on their back. Bandages and swelling on their knees. ([Investing in some slip-on ice cleats may help in the winter months when walking outdoors.](#))

The committee discussed the incidents and how they addressed them within their safety committees or groups. Slips, trips, and falls are still the most common type of incidents we have in the College. Encouraging employees to take their time and think through what they are doing goes a long way to mitigating these types of injuries. Making sure to use adequate PPE every time it is needed is also very important.

#### 4. Outdoor Heat Exposure

- Proposed Outdoor Heat Exposure Rules
  - i. On March 21, 2023, the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) filed proposed rules to update the Outdoor Heat Exposures rules under WAC 296-62-094 and 286-307-097. These proposed changes address minimum requirements to prevent heat-related illness and reduce traumatic injuries for outdoor workers associated with heat exposure.

[https://lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/search?group-translations=true&index=Forms\\_Pubs&pg=1&limit=20&query=F417-300-000](https://lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/search?group-translations=true&index=Forms_Pubs&pg=1&limit=20&query=F417-300-000)

- Be Heat Smart!
  - i. Working outdoors in the heat can become hazardous days, or even weeks, before May 1, when Washington State's Outdoor Heat Exposure rule kicks in.

- ii. Employers are encouraged to start heat safety planning, training, and other preparations in early spring or sooner to ensure better preparedness.

<https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-training-materials/workshops-events/beheatsmart#requirements>

## 5. Employee Well-Being

Percipio has training on Employee Well-Being

There are channels for Mental, Physical, and Financial Well-Being.

<https://wsu.percipio.com/search?q=employee%20well-being%20support%3A%20a%20workplace%20resource>

## 6. Training –

<https://policies.wsu.edu/prf/sppm-contents/>

- Online WSU training today is an SPPM Treasure Hunt
  - What does SPPM stand for? ([Safety Policies and Procedures Manual](#))
  - What Chapter of the SPPM talks addresses Laboratory Safety? ([Chapter 4](#))
  - How often should safety self-inspections be performed? ([Chapter 2.50 - Safety inspections are to be conducted at least annually. However, high-hazard areas, i.e., workshops and laboratories, should be inspected more frequently.](#))
  - What does PPE stand for? ([Chapter 2.60 - Personal Protective Equipment](#))
  - What required postings are needed for a safety bulletin board? ([Chapter 2.14](#))
    - [Poster - Notice to Employees—If a Job Injury Occurs](#)
    - [Poster - Job Safety and Health Protection](#)
    - [Poster - Your Rights as a Non-Agricultural Worker](#)
    - [Poster - Your Rights as an Agricultural Worker](#)
  - What training is required annually when the temperature increases? ([Chapter 2.18 – Heat Stress or Outdoor Heat Exposure](#))
  - Where can you find information on laboratory signage? ([Chapter 4.33 and the WSU Environmental Health and Safety website](#))
  - What does APP stand for? ([Chapter 2.10 – Accident Prevention Program/Plan](#))
  - Where can you find the CAHNRS APP? ([On the CAHNRS Operations Safety web page https://operations.cahnrs.wsu.edu/cahnrs-app/](#) )
- What are six types of combustible materials described in the SPPM and what is the Chapter? ([Chapter 2.10 - https://operations.cahnrs.wsu.edu/cahnrs-app/](#))

Human Resources Development facilitates a one-hour live class of “Get to Know Percipio” weekly. I highly recommend that all CAHNRS employees attend the course as commonly asked questions are answered during the session.

- [REGISTER FOR GET TO KNOW PERCIPIO](#)

- Contact **HRS LOD email:** [hrstraining@wsu.edu](mailto:hrstraining@wsu.edu) for all emails related to training/LOD.
- Access the following resources for the answers to most training/Percipio (WSU LMS) questions:
  - [Skillsoft Percipio FAQs](#)
  - [Percipio Knowledge Base for Learners](#)
  - [Percipio Compliance Knowledge Base for Learners](#)

### Adjourn

### TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

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