

Health & Safety Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2009

Kathy Green called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members present: Bauler, Fletcher, Mirchich, Twaite, Elbert, Huber, Schultz (for Guess), Asher, Swanson, Hoffman, Shoars, Callaghan, Young, and Reece

Student representatives are pending.

WELCOME -

Several general reminders were given by Chair Green:

- Terms were established in January, 2009.
 - o Terms begin/end in January.
 - o Nominations for Chair, Co-Chair, Recorder will occur in October with those positions beginning the following January.
- Callaghan will report on Workers' Comp. in November and March.
- One correction made to April, 2008, minutes

OLD BUSINESS -

Safety Webpage - Green spoke with Guess about the progress. Hoffman reported other information from the UNI Safety Website committee as well. Ultimate goal is for many links to occur linking many other safety/health and very concise information.

University Employee Alcohol and Drug Policy - Callaghan reported that this is still being reviewed by policy committee and still sitting with revision work. Consensus was that timely information is needed for communication of drug/alcohol policies to all faculty/staff.

Safety concerns - Reece reported on issues.

- Dome cement repaired.
- PLS concerns
 - o Post-storm problems: Wires, pole, and broken glass -addressed
- Commons East Stairs -
 - o SE of walkthrough - stairs have been boarded up since spring
 - o No movement on this project reported by Shoars. Project on agenda for building repair funding.
 - o Question posed - is there another safe exit from that side of the building? That is large enough? Shoars will follow up with Darrell.
 - o Reece will determine if this is simply inconvenient or a real safety issue.

- Area outside 23rd Street Market –
 - o slippery when wet – bricks to be replaced by concrete
 - o Shoars will contact Meyermann and will communicate with the follow up information.
 - o Now on agenda for building repair funding – as not sufficient funding to complete from last budget year.
- WRC –
 - o pool chairlift – under repair
 - o work orders in for shower and bulletin board in table tennis area

NEW BUSINESS -

E-Mail / UNionline – Twait reminded the group of the importance of communicating to students, asking the students for any safety concerns they may be aware of around campus. Green will address that.

H1N1 - Shelley O’Connell – Student Health Clinic Director presented an update (This actually occurred first) on the following issues -

- one confirmed HINI flu on campus – a student who is now back in class
 - o press release just released
- flue shots – encourage students to get shots – now only needing ONE shot, not necessarily the booster in addition
- do have a flu webpage
- seasonal vaccinations start in one week – flu dates communicated to parents through e-mail from Health Clinic
- A test for H1N1 is given when students meet criteria established by CDC
 - o Once we have 3 positive cases, we can no longer test (same for all health care providers)
- Line is blurry when distinguishing between allergy symptoms and influenza symptoms
- Question from Huber: sanitizing of the computer labs?
- Answer from Reece: Sanaguard - new product for putting on hands once in the morning – kills virus –
- Solution: Reece will send out further information on Sanaguard – available through campus or at WalMart (larger size)

Fire Alarm in Lang Hall last night (9/16/09) – It was brought to the committee’s attention that potential for health and safety problem occur when fire alarms are sounded. Specifically, the following were addressed:

- need for attention to appropriate actions when fire alarms sound
- faculty and students BOTH need to know what to do
- students “used to it” – desensitized to alarms
- lack of leadership on student and faculty parts considered alarming

- syllabi mandate information sent via letter from Green to VP Schellhart asking for signage, website communication, in addition to syllabi requirement. Disability committee was also sending to VP Hogan. Waiting for response. (LETTER attached to minutes)
- Twait and/or Hoffman will discuss with VP Arthur and possibly Academic Affairs Council.

Continuity of Operations Plans – A discussion took place with regard to departmental work on these plans. Proactive creativity can help in future situations. Specifically, the following issues were discussed:

- Departmental work appreciated. These plans anticipate any number of dangers, at many levels of severity. Preparations needed for all case scenarios.
- Currently following CDC guidelines for determining when faculty can/could return to work if exhibiting flu like symptoms. No requirements for faculty to stay home – but strong encouragements can be given by department leaders.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Swanson (recorder)