

## **SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**March 20, 2014**

**Barnhart Room in Carson Hall**

**Attendees:** Adam Jones, Deaton Love, Deb Pack, Debra George, Diana Sobczynski, Doug Brooke, Gwynn Daniels, Hannah Vasey-Vehrs, Lynn Alvarez, Manuel Balesteri, Michelle Wygle, David Flock, Briana Orr, Gina Griffiths, and Paula Ellison.

The February 20, 2014 minutes were approved.

Gina Griffiths was invited to our meeting to present information on bicycle safety. Gina is a speech pathologist and taught a course on cognitive rehabilitation in the winter. She is working on a service prevention project on helmet use. She shared a bike safety brochure created by her students, survey results on how people are influenced to wear a helmet, and two public service announcements. Family and friends provide the biggest influence on helmet use.

Briana Orr, EMU Bike Program Coordinator, was also invited to attend our meeting. She said the fleet bikes come with lights, a lock and a helmet; however, less than 50% of the students use the helmet. She showed the group a UO "I love my duck brain" helmet that was created as part of an outreach program. They are available for purchase through local businesses and will be giving some of them away.

The group discussed possible ways to promote helmet use on campus:

- Offer incoming students a voucher towards the purchase of a helmet.
- Focus on the fact that wearing or not wearing a helmet is a choice so make a smart choice.
- Include the brochure in the freshman orientation packet.
- EHS offered to put bike safety information on their website.
- Place posters in public places like the EMU and make it personal. Fear-driven messages may promote a fear of bicycling, not a fear of head trauma, however.
- We should also provide education for non-bike riders (how to look out for bicyclists).
- Add a "cool factor" like someone college-aged who is recognizable wearing a helmet in advertising or PSA's.
- Offer students information on different kinds of transportation.

Gina's next step will be to survey students on why they are not wearing helmets.

### **Accident and Injury Report**

The committee reviewed the accident and injury report for February.

Hannah said there was a bit of an increase in incidents in December, January and February.

Doug discussed his safety concerns about finding feces, needles, broken glass and people camping under bridges on UO property.

Adam will talk with the Lights Out Crew about the importance of wearing safety glasses when changing compact fluorescent lights.

### **Old Business**

Deaton shared the "Frozen Pavement Response Plan" for the Alumni Center. The following concerns were raised:

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- Gwynn and Deaton are concerned that we don't have sufficient resources to maintain these areas. Changes need to be made to the surface of the sidewalk. A medium to heavy broom finish is the campus standard.
- Hannah added that the pavement is also slippery when wet from rain.
- Adam added that injuries are expensive and one bad injury would pay to change the texture of the concrete.
- Deaton said Devon Shea is looking into whether the concrete was laid correctly in the beginning. Did the architect request this kind of finish?

Hannah and Gwynn will discuss this with Deb Donning.

### **New Business**

Gwynn's agenda item "Collective bargaining unit items related to SAC" will be tabled until our next meeting.

The next Safety Advisory Committee meeting is **April 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Barnhart Room in Carson.**

Submitted by Michelle Cottrell