

UO Safety Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 17, 2024

Attendees (“X” indicates meeting attendance):

Name	DEPT		Name	DEPT		Name	DEPT	
Charles Dougherty	Athletics		Justin Zunker	EHS	X	Trisha Lijana	RISK	
Krista Osburn	Athletics		Brittany Jayne	ELR	X	Lisa Taylor	RISK	
Devon Shea	Athletics		Celia Marie Nittmann	ELR	X	Gary Malone	SEIU	
Jeffrey Billington	CoD	X	Mike Barr	EMU		Chris McLaughlin	SEIU	
Phil Chesbro	CPFM		David Flock	EMU		Theodora Ko Thompson	SEIU	X
Kevin Farthing	CPFM		Wade Young-Jelinek	EMU		Ruby Thompson	SEIU	
Michael Philly	CPFM		Steven Harris	FS*		Alonzo Costilla	Teamsters	
Julie Quelch	EC Cares	X	Christina Cauley	GTFF	X	David Catherwood	Teamsters	
Kersey Bars	EHS	X	Errol Kaylor	GTFF		Rhonda Reed	TS	X
Ben Bythell	EHS	X	Leslie Selcer	GTFF		Shawn Kahl	UA**	X
Laurie Graham	EHS	X	Lynn Alvarez	Housing		Kate Mills	UA	X
Haily Griffith	EHS	X	J R Frankfurt	Housing		Dean Walton	UA	X
Jenny Kane	EHS		Adrian Sampedro Cruz	OA*** Council	X	Debra McLaughlin	UHS	X
Nicole Nesser	EHS	X	Kyle Harshbarger	OHAZ		Ashley Dougherty	UOPD	
Seth Sponcey	EHS	X	Al Dias	PE & REC		Carl Peaster	UOPD	
Steve Stuckmeyer	EHS		Cody Weaver	PE & REC	X			
Laura Taggart-Murphy	EHS	X	Tiffany Lee	RISK	X			

*Fleet Services

**University Advancement

***Officers of Administration

Chairperson

Guests

INJURY REPORT

INCIDENT 1: Haily gave a shout out to Athletics for reporting incidents

INCIDENT 2: Nicole asked if incident 2 occurred at CPFM or in a lab. Laurie and Tiffany confirmed that the incident is lab related.

INCIDENT 9: Theo asked what “ROP” means. Haily explained that ROP stands for reduced oxygen packaging and is used to seal foods, like soups and sauces, which are made in bulk. The green crates mentioned in the incident report are designed to carry ROP. Michelle is following up. Theo asked if people know how much the bag weighs and advocated that there should be a sign that tells people no more than “X” number of bags. Haily explained that Food Service is prescriptive about the weight and/or number of items moved.

INCIDENT 14: Laura asked about the process for removal of litter and if there are tools and gloves available, which Haily confirmed that tools and PPE is available. Kersey told Laura that she would make sure this incident was discussed at the Safety Through Employee Participation (STEP) Committee, which is primarily Facilities Services employees. Christina asked if poison oak is removed from campus, which Haily is uncertain and will be emailing the Landscape Manager.

INCIDENT 17: Kate wonders if it would be possible to follow up and see if there is a nest nearby. Haily shared that there is a pest control program. When somebody is sent to evaluate the nest, they try and identify the type of insect to determine the next step. Wasps, bees, yellow jackets, hornets, among others tend to get more aggressive this time of year.

INCIDENT 18: Cody asked for more information. Kersey explained that she followed up with this incident. The ceiling slopes downward, before dropping a few inches, and then leveling out. There is a sign in place reminding people of the hazard, so the recommendation of backing away before standing up is appropriate. Kersey sent foam corner tape to EC Cares to install on the edge. It will not prevent an injury but may reduce the severity of one.

REVIEW MINUTES

The September 2024 meeting minutes were approved

OLD BUSINESS

LITHIUM BATTERY FIRES: Dean asked if there have been any fires on campus related to lithium batteries and if there has been any discussion on a “Bring in your Dead Batteries” Day. Ben responded that the UO Fire Marshal have been looking into this issue for the batteries and bikes.

UPDATE (05/16): Haily shared with the committee that we are working on a safety sheet for lithium batteries.

UPDATE (09/19): Kersey shared that EHS has created a Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Sheet and put the [link](#) in the chat.

HELMETS AND E-SCOOTERS: This is an ongoing concern and will remain on the meeting minutes.

UPDATE (12/21): Eugene and Superpedestrian’s contract is dissolving, so the Superpedestrian scooters will be removed from campus.

UPDATE (01/18): Haily reminded the committee members that if they are using a scooter for a work-related purpose and on work time, that they need to wear a helmet.

UPDATE (02/15): Rhonda shared that Transportation Services has the equipment ready and are working on installing cages at the Millrace Garage and EMU for people to charge their e-Scooters. Krista asked if they will be the only cages on campus and Rhonda explained that those are the only two locations that are actively in progress but imagines that there will be monitoring of campus to see where the needs are highest. Dean asked if you could charge e-Bikes and Rhonda believes that the chargers will work

with e-Bikes, but the intent is e-Scooters. Dean asked what the number of personal transportation devices the cages can hold, and Rhonda is uncertain. Ruby shared that people are upset about the bikes and scooters that are charging at Jaqua. Haily reminded the committee that there was recently a fire in a residence hall because of a lithium battery, so she is excited about the progress of the charging cages.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SAC: Ruby shared with the committee that Safety and Risk Services has awarded \$1500 to the Safety Advisory Committee to use for any safety related item. This award is for the 2025 fiscal year. Some examples that the money can be used for are bringing in a speaker, hosting a training, renting a room to provide a space for campus to meet with their safety team/safety committee, etc. The \$1500 does not have to be spent on one item, it can be used for multiple things. Kersey will post a link in the chat to a Microsoft form for all members of the committee to submit ideas for what SAC can use the money for. We are asking that SAC create a subcommittee of 3-5 people to review the submissions and present the ones they believe to be the most impactful for SAC to vote on. The goal is to have the ideas chosen by the subcommittee to be presented at the September meeting.

UPDATE (07/18): Ruby reminded the committee to submit their ideas for the financial support for SAC and asked if there was any additional interested in participating on the subcommittee. Haily explained to the committee that the subcommittee, which includes Ruby and Rhonda, will review the ideas to select the most impactful and present them to at the September meeting.

UPDATE (08/15): The form will be closing on Friday, August 16 at 5:00 p.m., so please submit your ideas before then. If you are not comfortable submitting your ideas through the form, then you can email them to Ruby or Rhonda, as they will be the ones reviewing the ideas.

UPDATE (09/19): Dean mentioned the foam from the building inspection at Alder House and wondered if it was something we could add to the 1500. Haily shared the foam, explained the purpose, and added that this is something currently supported through the Occupational Health and Safety budget, but it is something that can be discuss with the subcommittee.

UPDATE (10/17): The safety committee voted to approve the ideas that subcommittee proposed. There were 11 votes in favor and three votes against. There will be money left over, so please continue to submit ideas.

SAFETY CONCERNS: Haily shared with the committee that EHS is always available to help and encourages people to reach out with their questions and concerns. Employees have the right to call OSHA with their concerns, which did happen. OSHA was called regarding materials that were being stored in a metal storage container and we are under investigation. At this time, Haily does not have additional information.

INCIDENT 28 AND 29: Dean and Theo wanted more information about these injuries. Dean asked about the size of the stacks. Haily shared that Michelle has been assigned to this follow up and that EHS asked similar questions. Theo wanted to know if this was one or two people.

Tiffany confirmed that it was two people completing the same task. Christina asked if there is webbing or reinforcement. Haily explained that they are not attached, since they are designed to move around. Haily referenced the STURDY Act, which looks at consumer product safety and is designed for housing units and focuses on the design of the furniture to prevent it from tipping or falling over. Christina said that this reads as rules around use, not storage, and that stacking seems to be the issue. Haily agreed that this is about how the items are being used and moved.

UPDATE (10/17): On behalf of Michelle, Haily shared an update regarding the follow up for this incident. The contracts that students sign with Housing is clear that students are not supposed to move/manipulate furniture. The dressers are not meant to, and should not be stacked, but they were stacked by students and UO employees had to move them.

INCREASED TRAFFIC ON CAMPUS: Justin shared move in starts on Thursday, September 26 and classes will be starting on Monday, September 30, so there will be additional vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Haily added that Thursday, September 26 will have the largest number of students moving on to campus.

NOTE: This was an information share and will be removed from the minutes.

FACIAL COVERINGS AND N95S: Haily shared a reminder to the rest of the committee that there are no required protocols for facial coverings and UO supports employees wearing them. Also, facial coverings are not provided by SRS and individual departments can purchase their own supply. An N95 is a respirator and there are regulatory requirements for their use, even for voluntary users.

NOTE: This was an information share and will be removed from the minutes

HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM: Kersey shared a reminder that part of the Hearing Conservation Program is that employees who are enrolled complete the annual training, which there is one session remaining in September.

NOTE: This was an information share and will be removed from the minutes

FLOODING PROTOCOL: Dean asked if there was information or protocol that we provide to people about flooding. Haily shared that the Incident Management Team (IMT) has protocols for catastrophic floodings but is not sure if there is safety information for when we have a heavy rain fall that results in flooding. Haily extended an ask to the other members of the committee to think about the things that are likely to happen during a heavy rainfall.

BITES/STINGS ON CSB GROUNDS: Julie shared that they have been getting bites and stings to the children at CSB. She has reached out to CPFM and wants to know about UO protocol and/or best practices. Haily shared that there is an integrated pest management team and wonders if it would be possible for them to meet with the person who manages the building.

SPEED PROJECTION SIGN: Dean wonders if it would be possible to have a sign that shows how fast bikes are going on campus. A concern was raised that it may cause some to view it as a

challenge and encourage them to go faster. Haily likes the idea, since there has been an injury involving an e-Bike and a pedestrian at a different university. In response to the injury, that campus created only walk zone. Christina suggested signs to remind people to use bells and notify pedestrians when approaching and reminders to ride in designated lane. Justin added signs about walking all e-scooters/scooters and e-bikes/bikes on sidewalks. Shawn asked what speed that is considered a safe speed, and Haily does not know. Haily added that Transportation Services has given a presentation to the committee before. Wade added that the e-scooters that were previously on campus were designed to behave a certain way (speed limits, distance from campus limits, etc.) and were bound by those guidelines and wonders if it is possible to bring back that partnership with Superpedestrian to flood the area with the behaviors that we want. Superpedestrian has gone out of business, which is what caused the partnership to end. Occupational Health and Safety will be reaching out to our partners in Transportation Services to see what options are available.

UPDATE (10/17): Haily shared that at a different university there have been injuries that are associated with e-scooters and that she has seen multiple people run a stop sign early in the morning. She reminded the rest of the committee that we cannot control other people's behavior, but we – as safety committee members – can share information to improve safety awareness.

NEW BUSINESS

November Safety Training:

November Safety Training (In Person):

*****In-person training is being scheduled. Please message Justin Zunker (izunker@uoregon.edu) to be added to the monthly safety training email list for updates!*****

Safety for Low-Risk Jobs

Date & Time (TBD)

1715 Franklin Building, EOC, Rm 271

Lead Awareness

Date & Time (TBD)

1715 Franklin Building, EOC, Rm 271

October Safety Sheets (For Department Use):

Week 1: [Space Heaters](#)

Week 2: [\(GHS\) Global Harmonizing System](#)
[\(GHS\) Global Harmonizing System \(Spanish\)](#)

Week 3: [Suspicious Object or Package](#)
[Suspicious Object or Package \(Spanish\)](#)

Week 4: [Cold and Flu](#)

[Cold and Flu \(Spanish\)](#)

Please review the [UO Wildfire Smoke](#) and [UO Working and Heat Stress](#) web pages as summer and wildfire season continues.

WF Smoke and Heat Stress seasons, in OSHA, goes to the end of October.

Justin shared that there is a session of the Slip, Trip, Falls that is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 17.

NEW GRADUATE EMPLOYEE TRAINING: Christina asked how the new GE trainings went. Laurie shared that it was the biggest training ever with more departments involved compared. There were 100-150 students who attended over 5 different sessions.

SAFETY SHOUT OUTS:

Debra gave a shout out to Rebecca for being the main coordinator for the UHS Safety Fair for their annual training. There was a lot of positive feedback, with some sharing that it has been their best return to work.

Justin gave a shout out to Cody Weaver for work that went into keeping people safe during the construction at SRC over the summer.

Kersey gave a shout out to College of Design, Jeffrey Billington, and Lyndsey Billington for working with EHS and submitting their materials for respirator use.

Shawn gave a safety shout out to Occupational Health and Safety Team for the work that they do and reminded that we are all members of the Safety Advisory Committee.

WINTER WEATHER: Dean was in Bend and noticed that there is snow on the ground in Santiam Pass and advises that people begin their winter preparations.

NON-STAFF USE OF LADDER: Shawn asked for more information about non-employee use of ladders. We do not want a non-UO employee using a UO-supplied ladder, because UO becomes liable for incidents/injury or if there is damage to the ladder. Haily explained that there are not restrictions on people using ladders, but they need to be trained and advised to review the space use contract and see if there is anything about ladder use in the contract. Haily will be chatting with Risk and Liability about this. Shawn added that Ford Alumni has become a common place for High School Prom, so there is the potential for minors using ladders too. Haily responded that we can and should treat this like every contractor on campus. For example, asking, “Are you going to use ladders and who are your qualified ladder users and the training records”. We want to prevent injury, and our responsibility may be university employees, but we can and should have these conversations.