



## UO Safety Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: February 16, 2023

**Attendees:**

Haily Griffith		Theodora Ko Thompson	Jeffrey Billington
Julie Quelch		Laurie Graham	Kyle Harshbarger
Kersey Bars		Annette Estevez	Michael Philly
Ruby Thompson		Debra McLaughin	Cody Weaver
David Flock		Brittany Jayne	
Dean Walton		Kevin Farthing	

### INJURY REPORT

**Q10/11:** Both incidents involve an employee collapsing during animal surgery. Members asked if they were the same or similar instances. Annette remarked that they were separate. Laurie explained that they followed up with Audrey and it is difficult to pinpoint the exact cause for a couple of reasons.

- 1) there was a modification to the protocol
- 2) that you never know how somebody will react the first time they perform surgery (of if they've prepared properly, by eating before hand) and experienced people usually prepare for these types of instances (having chairs nearby)
- 3) the new surgery space is in Knight Campus and away from the typical animal care spaces

**Q9:** Involved a person cutting their hand while they were sharpening a rusty snowboard edge. David asked if they were wearing cut-resistant gloves. Haily noted that cut-resistant gloves can reduce the severity of an injury, but they are not preventative.

**Q14:** An incident where a person fell after being struck by a gate. Haily remarked that Justin has followed up with Jesse in the Health Center and that the gate is there to prevent people from going into the basement during an emergency since it is labeled as "not an exit". Dean asked if the gate closed too forcefully and what type of spring it used. Haily said that there was no spring, but there were likely other issues involved, like rushing, since the gate did not actually strike the person. Justin is meeting with Jesse again on 2/17. Debra asked if Justin is looking at both gates. Haily said that she was not aware of the second gate, so she will send a note to Justin about it.

**Q17:** A person had a Kubota run over their foot after they turned it on. Julie remarked that is a mechanism breakdown, because we should not be able to start a vehicle that's already in gear. Haily responded by saying that she talked with the mobile equipment shop and that it is not a Kubota, but a 1996 Turo that does not have the safety mechanism to prevent it from being turned on while in gear. Due to age and the missing safety mechanism that is it being pulled out of use. Dean mentioned that having one piece of equipment that doesn't have safety mechanisms is really dangerous, because people will assume that it does, and it should be removed. Kevin responded that it was a two-part failure: having equipment that lacked the safety feature and not ensuring that people were properly trained on the equipment.



**Q1:** A person stepped on a floor sink and the cover fell into the sink, causing them to fall over. David confirmed that it was a sink and not a floor drain. Laurie responded by saying that it was a sink that did not have a retrofitted cover and that TSA (department on campus that can do fabrication) created a custom cover for it.

**Q28:** While trying to catch a box that fell, a campus partner injured themselves. Since UO has a lot of shelf related injuries, EHS has created a “Shelf Safety Sheet”, which Ruby discusses later. Please see “**Shelf Safety Sheet**” in the “**NEW BUSINESS**” section for more information.

Haily commented that it is beneficial to report all injuries, because it helps EHS to identify the trends.

### REVIEW MINUTES

The meeting minutes from January 2023 have been approved.

**NOTE:** People remarked that it would be helpful to have the meeting minutes attached to the monthly invite or in a Teams channel. There is an existing Teams Channel that Kersey will be updating, reattaching the minutes to the email with the SAC report and attaching them to the monthly invite.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ruby asked for questions/comments, but there was no discussion about old business.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Shelf Safety Sheet

We have a lot of shelf-related injuries on campus and Justin created a safety sheet explain how to prevent/mitigate those injuries. The two main types of injury we have on campus are strain/sprain and struck by A copy of the sheet will be sent out with the minutes and posted to the website. Michelle Gillette and Haily would like to work with Housing to reorganize their shelving.

**NOTE:** We want the shelves on campus to be installed by the professionals, so they do not collapse any injure anybody.

#### Step Stool Safety

We have injuries on campus that are associated with people overreaching when they need a little extra height to get something off a shelf, so Kersey created a Step Stool Safety sheet to help campus partners prevent those injuries. Haily mentioned that we would like to work with the library to try to get them to not use the rolling step stools anymore. Annette commented that the rolling step stools are common in lab spaces too. A copy of the step stool safety sheet will be sent out with the minutes.

**NOTE:** If you need a stool for your work area, please use an industrial grade step stool.

Both Safety Sheets are in progress of being translated into Spanish.

#### Signs Flow Chart/Selection Chart

Kersey and Haily worked together to create a chart to help people determine which sign to use for which situation. The chart contained links where a template of the sign could be opened, so our campus partners could



type and print them out or print them out and write on them. The goal is to be more consistent and standardize the Notice, Caution, and Danger signs used on campus. Once this is finalized it will be posted on the website.

### **Building Inspection:**

The first quarterly building inspection will be at Millrace 3 on Thursday, February 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m..

### **EHS is Hiring Two Positions**

Fire Life Safety Professional - [LINK](#); Closes March 12

Hazardous Materials Manager and Chemical Safety Officer - [LINK](#); Closes February 27

### **Scissor Lift Update**

There has been an update to our scissor lift policy; we no longer have to wear fall protection when operating a scissor lift or Aerial Work Platform. Fall protection is still required in aerial lifts (aka boom lifts). A memo was sent to everybody who has taken the aerial lift training. If you did not receive the memo, or would like a copy, then please reach out to Kersey.

### **Emergency Plans Flip Chart:**

Julie mentioned that the EC-Cares Safety Committee is revising their emergency plans and wants to know if there is a flip chart template. Haily recommended reaching out to [uoem@uoregon.edu](mailto:uoem@uoregon.edu). There used to be a flip chart, but changed to posters, and now the poster template is being revised.

### **Earthquake Ratings**

Julie wanted to know how to access the earthquake rating for buildings. Haily responded by saying that it was a difficult question to answer, since the majority of buildings Julie uses are not campus buildings, but recommended reaching out to Campus Construction for the UO buildings and UO EM ([uoem@uoregon.edu](mailto:uoem@uoregon.edu)) for the non-UO buildings/ Dean commented that the State of Oregon released a report 10 years ago for their buildings and since Julie has asked about tsunamis before that she might want to talk to OIMB. Haily can introduce Julie to somebody at OIMB.

### **Emergency Contact Numbers:**

Julie asked if anybody had an existing system for emergency contact number for employees and Haily recommended reaching out to UO EM to see if they had any ideas.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 16**