

# Campus Safety, Health, and Security Committee Agenda

**Date:** July 18, 2024

<b>Members Attending:</b>	<b>Scott Tomren</b>	<b>Kelly Gabel</b>
	<b>Phil Boal</b>	<b>Steve Bisch</b>
	<b>Alex Cohn</b>	<b>Tracy Manella</b>
	<b>Niamh O’Leary</b>	<b>Vanessa Rodriguez</b>
	<b>Tim Larreau</b>	<b>Matt Larson</b>
	<b>Aftab Ahamed</b>	<b>Evelyn Martinez-Ostrom</b>
		<b>Madelyn Calderon</b>

**Guests:** None

## Agenda Items:

### 1. Introduction

No revisions were made to the previous meeting minutes. Minutes are posted on the Safety Committee website at <https://tricities.wsu.edu/safety/safetycommittee>.

### 2. Review of Inspection Reports

No inspection reports were completed since the prior meeting.

Scott noted that the template for department safety plans has been updated with additional details on emergency response and expanded to include more task-specific safety programs. Many of these will apply to only a few units on campus. This template is available online, and must be used for future updates to department plans.

### 3. Review of Accident/Investigation reports

No recent incidents from Tri-Cities were available. The committee reviewed two incidents from the broader WSU system – one involving a student working with an autoclave and spilling hot water, one involving a near miss accident where students using a lathe with unsecured tools, resulting in a broken window when a tool was thrown across the shop. The committee discussed the need to ensure that proper clothing is worn in labs, specifically covering bare skin that may be exposed to spilled materials, and also the need to ensure that equipment is properly locked out when being worked on, and ensuring proper supervision of students.

Scott noted that there have been two vehicle versus bicycle accidents on or near campus in the last couple of weeks. Several people noted that bicyclists are continuing to ride through campus parking lots and sidewalks, following the detour that was in place earlier in the year due to the washout of the city path. Madelyn also noted that the Ironman event in September will be routed through campus, so we may see additional traffic as people train for that event. Drivers in the parking lot need to be more alert to bicyclists and pedestrians.

### 4. Issues/Questions/Concerns previously discussed/unresolved

Updates were provided on previous discussions as follows:

**a. Unlevel sidewalks**

Scott & Andy met with a contractor to get pricing for sidewalk repairs across campus. Once a price is received, the issues will be prioritized for repair

**b. HVAC shutdowns**

The East building HVAC system is still on schedule to be shut down during the first week to two weeks of August. Employees in this area should plan to work from home or from another location on campus for the duration. Phil said they're planning to remove food and other items from their space, and asked if there was a need for other preparations. Scott indicated that most office items should be stable and not need further attention. **\*\*NOTE:** It was learned after the conclusion of the meeting that Facilities will provide additional guidance regarding preparing spaces, including removal of all food and personal care items such as deodorant, gym clothes, etc.\*\*

**c. Building access – unsecure doors**

Some doors on campus continue to fail to latch automatically. In some places, this appears to be due to mechanical issues (ADA devices or bent hinges), in others it is components that are expanding in the heat and interfering with the door movement. Maintenance requests have been submitted for some of these, but people accessing the building after hours are still asked to give the door a final push/pull to ensure they are secure.

**d. Ladder Training**

There is a ladder training available in Percipio for anyone who needs to take it.

**5. New Issues/Questions/Concerns**

The following new items were discussed:

- Evelyn noted that ASWSUTC will again be hosting a voter hub for the general election on November 4 & 5. This will also be First Gen week. Based on the political climate, the Benton County Auditor's office has suggested that security should be available while the voter hub is open. Campus security will be on duty during this time, and we can likely arrange to have multiple officers available. Scott will coordinate with Richland Police to make sure they are aware of the event. We will monitor the general climate as well as the local/campus environment before the event and determine whether additional arrangements need to be made.
- Evelyn mentioned the arrival of spiders on campus, and noted that last week some of the webs and debris from building washing was being brushed off the CIC patio, and asked if this could be done regularly, especially ahead of events like orientation. Scott said spider spraying has been ongoing, and may be due in the next few weeks, but with our proximity to the river and the insects that come from it, the spiders are going to be a continuing issue.
- Evelyn noted that during orientation last week, particularly in the line for the food truck, some attendees and parents looked like they were struggling with the heat. Alex agreed. Discussion followed about the potential to move the food truck to a shaded location, to add shade tents, water misters, or other alternatives. It was agreed that this is an item that should be added to the planning discussions based on the forecast ahead of the next orientation on August 9.
- Aftab mentioned issues with fume hood exhaust flow in the BSEL labs. Facilities indicated that a component has failed and the exhaust is running below capacity, they have been waiting on delivery of parts for repair.
- Aftab asked if blockages in the hoods (gloves and debris sucked into the outlets) could be to blame, and if the inspections would clean those items out. Scott indicated that since the issue is the system, rather than being localized, blockages are probably not the primary issue. Inspections determine whether the hoods are

within recommended flow velocities, they will typically not look for the cause of issues, those are items that need to be addressed by Facilities.

No additional topics, meeting adjourned at 10:50