

Campus Safety, Health, and Security Committee Agenda

Date: August 15, 2024

Members Attending:	Scott Tomren	Tracy Manella
	Phil Boal	Vanessa Rodriguez
	Alex Cohn	Joel Anaya
	Tim Larreau	Tanya Cheeke
	Aftab Ahamed	Tami McDonald

Guests: None

Agenda Items:

1. Introduction

Several attendees did not recall seeing the July meeting minutes. Scott will re-send to the full committee. 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.

3. Review of Accident/Investigation reports

No recent incidents from Tri-Cities were available. The committee reviewed two incidents from the broader WSU system relating to reported fumes in a building, and multiple employees reported physical symptoms due to exposure. This was due to a volatile sealant being used in a parking garage attached to the building. While this has relatively narrow application on the Tri-Cities campus, it was discussed that there's a need to review products that will be used in areas that may affect interior work areas to ensure that exposure concerns are addressed.

4. Issues/Questions/Concerns previously discussed/unresolved

Updates were provided on previous discussions as follows:

a. Unlevel sidewalks

No new information since last meeting. Uncertain whether estimate for repairs has been received from contractor.

b. HVAC shutdowns

The East building HVAC system is ongoing, today is scheduled to be the last day of shutdown. Indoor temperature is in the upper 80s, but is tolerable.

c. Spiders

Senske was on campus spraying on Saturday, so the spiders should die back temporarily.

d. Heat during orientation on Aug 12

No issues were reported, weather was cooler than during the July session

e. Fume hoods

Aftab previously reported that fume hoods in BSEL were not reaching the minimum airflow requirement. Facilities removed a large quantity of debris from the exhaust

house in BSEL (gloves, Kimwipes, paper, etc.), and after that removal the hoods were actually pulling above the upper limit, requiring adjustment. Users need to ensure that they control loose articles that can be pulled into the hoods to minimize blockages

5. New Issues/Questions/Concerns

The following new items were discussed:

- Tanya noted that on several occasions last year, the doors to the Collaboration Hall 102 classroom were locked during the day. Room 202 is also affected. There is some unknown software bug in these doors that is making them lose track of time and lock randomly. If room users call security when this occurs, the doors can be reset and they will unlock. A note to this effect is on the podium in both rooms.
- Joel noted that he has been working on the campus welcome event for Monday Aug 19, and discussing heat and smoke concerns with Scott. No issues currently. This led to discussion about smoke levels, and Scott showed the committee the online interface for the particulate monitor on the roof of Collaboration Hall. This will be the device used to make protection determinations for campus, using the orange line on the graph. The graph is publicly accessible at <https://airquality.wsu.edu/>. Monitors are also located in Pullman, Prosser, and Othello, and can be accessed using the same link.
- Aftab reported that the air conditioning at the Einstein building was not functional for the last 3 weeks and temperatures were up to 105-106 degrees in the building, and that he had difficulty getting updates on the status from Facilities. He also asked at what point the department, Facilities, or EHS will direct that no work can be done. Scott indicated that there is no specific rule addressing indoor temperature, but protections for outdoor work begin at 80 degrees. For indoor work, the primary decision will lie with the faculty supervisor or PI to determine when work must be halted. Some kinds of work may be able to continue at higher temperatures if the proper precautions are in place, however if there is work with chemicals (especially volatiles) or other conditions that are made worse by high temperatures, EHS may direct that work be halted.
- There was a brief discussion of fire alarms and whether there will be drills once students are on campus. Scott confirmed that there will be fire drills, and that all building occupants will be expected to evacuate.

No additional topics, meeting adjourned at 10:30