Southern Oregon University

Occupational Safety Advisory Committee (OSAC)

Minutes

Meeting Date and Time: 8/21/19 11:00 am – 12:10 pm Chaired by: Michele Barlow

Members in Attendance:

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| Russell Deen | Bethany Lindbloom | Ryan Schnobrich |
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Old Business: (Last meeting 7/2/19)

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| * Asbestos Removal – SHWC, Taylor Hall. Policy/Procedures, concerns, safeguards. Following appropriate safety protocols, SHWC should be completed today (7/2) and Taylor by the end of the week.
* EHS working on 4 new policies – Wildfire Smoke, Indoor Air Quality Hazards, Biohazardous Material Incident Management, Science Building Pregnancy Safety
* Warmer weather – Important for those working outdoors to remain hydrated, wear sunblock and protective clothing. Know the signs of heat stroke – High body temperature, absence of sweating, with hot red or flushed dry skin, rapid pulse, difficulty breathing, confusion/agitation/disorientation. Signs of heat exhaustion – Pale, cool, clammy skin, profuse sweating, dizziness/lightheadedness.
* Various construction projects going on. Keep an eye out for any hazards (Stair replacement near Churchill (in the round about, SHWC renovation, Taylor Hall renovation etc)
* Concerns in Ed/Psyche about smell. Snake behavioral experiment, storage of feeder/breeder mice/snakes in area and surrounding classrooms. Safety committee toured area and found concerns to be valid. EHS will address with person overseeing project and recommend removal or relocation of snakes/mice to a controlled lab environment.
* Commencement – 1st aid station was staffed this year by Ashland Cert team instead of SHWC. There were some issues about aspirin being given out, and location of 1st aid station, and ambulance. Next year OSAC committee will be involved in this process and will make recommendations for improvement of this. Recommendation by Ryan Schnobrich to reach out to Mercy Flight explorer post / Ed Sutton for this function as they provide this free in our region.
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New Business:

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| * Smoke back in the Rogue Valley from the fires. FMP will be monitoring Exterior/Interior air quality in the buildings and have N95 and N100 face masks available for employees and those working outdoors are encouraged to wear masks if the air quality index rises about 200. SOU has invited the community to share our healthy spaces such as the indoor walking/jogging track during certain days and times. Employee’s working in buildings with poor air quality may request accommodation to work in another building or other alternate accommodation (as medically supported) by going through HR. Air quality readings are available on the EHS webpage. (No readings needed after 7/30/19 since smoke in area has cleared and air quality levels are good)
* Injured deer report – The gravely injured deer reported via email on 7/30/19 turned out to be an overstatement. The fawn had a limp and left under it’s own power with its mother (even hopping a fence). Ashland PD did not have to dispatch the animal. No concerns in this case about predatory animals (mountain lion) having caused injury to the animal. It was most likely hit by a car and then wandered onto campus.
* Fire Drill Churchill Hall -8/1/19. No incidents reported, building occupants followed evacuation procedures in a timely manner.
* Fire Drill Central Hall 8/1/19. No incidents reported.
* Reports of a Bear in Lithia Park. Just worth noting since this is only 2.5 miles away from campus.
* More cougar sightings over the past 3 weeks around Ashland and campus.
* CPS offering Civilian Response to Active Shooter or C.R.A.S.E. Training to all departments/groups on campus. Training takes approximately 1-2 hours and covers situational awareness and the principles of Avoid, Deny, Defend.
* OLLI starting on constructions projects that will involve asbestos (floor glue) southside of building continuing through Spring 2020.
* SHWC moving to Suzanne Holmes next week for one week while SHWC is painted.
* Lots of department/center moves within the SU over the next several weeks. Watch for an increase in injury reports. Employee’s should take personal items home so that they don’t get broken or misplaced. Communication to staff by supervisors on this issue. PPEO (gloves/eye protection being provided)
* No Smoking signs have been installed on disc golf course as well as in Rocha Canyon due to neighbor complaints and burning logs that people were using to put out their cigarettes in.
* Higher Education center in Medford had an AED stolen on Saturday. Was found later on the Bear Creek Greenway damaged.
* Bleachers at softball field being assessed for safety issues as they are wooden and require upkeep
* Fire drills may be required in single family and family housing under the Annual Safety report. UO/OSU have included carbon monoxide detectors on their Annual Safety report.
* Break-ins within the local area. People looking for abandoned empty houses to squat in. CPS is keeping an eye on unoccupied university owned property.
* Working to get goats to weed abatement in Rocha Canyon. Hope to begin this in March 2020.
* Looking to add Fire Extinguisher training for all employees with new compliance vendor beginning fall term.
* HR will provide EHS a list of new employees each month for safety training.
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Incident Reports: Employees

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| * 7/6/19 – Student employee hit elbow on trash compactor while loading a bag of trash. No treatment sought.
* 7/12/19 – Employee went to sit in a chair with wheels and the chair rolled causing her to fall and hit her head on the computer table. No treatment sought.
* 7/14/19 – Employee playing kickball at summer camp, hurt back and tailbone. No treatment sought.
* 7/17/19 –Student employee stung by a bee while pressure washing concrete entryway. No treatment sought.
* 7/15/19 – Student employee using t-post driver struck her head causing a laceration. Treatment was sought and a claim was opened
* 7/18/19 – Student employee working outdoors was sunburned. No treatment sought at this time.
* 7/25/19 – Student employee pinched their hand between the chair armrests and the counter top. No treatment was sought.
* 7/24/19 – Student employee strained muscle in their back carrying a vacuum up/down stairs. No treatment sought.
* 7/31/19 – Student employee cut finger on a closet mirror while pushing a mattress onto a bed frame in housing. No treatment sought.
* 7/31/19 – Employee accidentally sat on his key ring and a two-pronged key punctured his buttock. No treatment sought.
* 7/31/19 – Employee strained left arm and shoulder while lifting trash bags. Treatment sought, claimed opened.
* 7/30/19 – Employee fell while carrying boxes. Treatment will be sought, claim opened.
* 8/5/19 – Student employee scraped right thumb while cleaning a shower. No treatment sought
* 8/5/19 – Student employee felt pain in ankle while carrying a vacuum upstairs. Treatment sought, claim filed.
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Incident Reports: Students

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| * 7/28/19 – Student experienced a nose bleed at SRC. Unknown cause
* 8/7/19 – Student dislocated right knee while climbing on the rock wall. Self care and ice.
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