

CAHNRS SAFETY MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2009
Hulbert 409; 11:10 a.m.

Attended by: Sheila Brooks	Ag Research Center
Bruce Davitt	Natural Resource Sciences
Dori Lohrey-Birch	Entomology
Lisa Knowles	Hort/LA
William Luna	USDA/ARS
Jon Mathison	CSS
Dan Dreesmann	Plant Growth Facilities
Rich Villa	Animal Science
Mike Costa	IBC
Karen Hansen	USDA
Ed Havey	EH&S
Andy Jackson	Puyallup R&E Center
Gwen Stahnke	Puyallup R&E Center

Lisa Knowles, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:10.

The May 12, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

Current Issues:

1. Ed Havey, Occupational Health and Safety Manager, from Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) addressed the committee on control of workplace hazards with emphasis on personal protection equipment (PPE). EH&S helps departments to evaluate hazards for PPE in 3 ways. 1) Attention to Hierarchy, that is the most potentially hazardous such as fume hoods, or other volatile areas, 2) Administrative Control such as job rotations and exposure to things like noise exposure, and 3) Effective use of the right PPE for the situation and that it be used every time.

These standards have been handed down from OSHA; however each state may have their own regulations based upon the standards from OSHA. The requirements are that all hazards are assessed and documented as to what kind of PPE should be required. EH&S is a good source for help with evaluations, particularly for hearing protection, respiratory protection, and chemical exposure. It is required that each employee be trained with the PPE and the training documented. Most PPE is the department's responsibility to supply

although certain personal items, such as prescription safety glasses may become the employee's responsibility. If a department is contacted by Labor and Industry (L&I) for an inspection, please notify EH&S immediately. EH&S is equipped to be the liaison for WSU, and will know the best representation of WSU rights, or further documentation that may be necessary. L&I inspections happen from either a regular schedule, an accident that requires hospitalization, or if a death occurs.

WSU has recently been fined for a couple of incidents. They involved non CAHNRS departments, one requiring hospitalization, and the other was reported by an employee. WSU is viewed as one employer, so if one department is fined and later another department is fined, even though it is a first for each department the fine amount goes up as WSU is the employer. Fines can be anywhere from \$100-\$7,000 depending on the infraction. The L&I policies on fine amounts are on their web site. Each department is liable to pay their own fines, which may or may not be exacerbated by a previous infraction from a different department from WSU. These fines are measured in 3 year cycles. For USDA the research units are liable to pay the fines.

Ed Havey provided some handouts to help evaluate the hazardous areas, and what to suggest for PPE. Please see the attachments which will soon be on the EH&S web site. EH&S offers their help for PPE in the following specialized areas: hearing protection and respiratory protection. For an employee to wear the respiratory protection, meaning a full respirator, the person must be medically approved. The department is responsible to pay for the medical clearance of the employee. For the voluntary wearing of dust masks no medical clearance is necessary.

If you have any questions on hazard areas or PPE please contact Ed Havey at: 509-335-5311.

2. University Health and Safety committee update:
 - a. Two SPPM's were under consideration, S30.60 Elevated Work Safety, due to an L&I sighting on some roofers without fall protection, and S30.75 Outdoor heat stress. The Horticulture and Landscape Architecture department requested 3 legged ladders used in fruit tree harvest be considered into the elevated work safety SPPM. There has been an injury in the past and this type of equipment had not been listed in the current draft 3 of the SPPM. It is now being taken into consideration. The later SPPM on outdoor heat stress contains new guidelines on training. EH&S has developed a new template on their web site.
 - b. Campus Addresses: There were concerns regarding security issues, however no one feels they are valid. The next step for possibly publishing the street addresses is left to Rich Heath. The addresses were developed to help the Pullman fire department after they dissolved the campus fire

department. These addresses may help those on campus calling in for 911 calls, or parents and other visitors to find their way around.

- c. Most of us have heard many updates on the H1N1 flu virus. However another reminder is to be sure our Pandemic plans are in order, telephone numbers and personnel updated.
- d. Go kits are no longer being stocked by Central Stores. This means the pre-packed bags themselves are not available; however the individual items and a few empty GO Kit bags are available to be purchased. You can purchase the individual items to design the Go Kit as per your needs at Central Stores. Other resources for Go Kits of all kinds for emergency, disaster, or family kits are available off of the Red Cross web site and at Costco.

The other agenda items will be addressed at our Oct. 13, 2009 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.