

**CAS Safety Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes**

March 17, 2016 1:30 – 3:00
Strand 168

In Attendance: Mike S, Dan Curry, Jim Ervin, Kevin Buch, Carrie Burkholder, Jennifer Cohen – distance: Tim Weinke, Carol Cole

I. Call to Order, Introductions

II. Updates, announcements, any new agenda items?

a. Lab Safety Compliance – update

Carrie noted that the major issue was record cleanup, as well as possible communication issues between faculty and EH&S. Carrie will follow up with Tim W. by sending him his records. She said that, for Hatfield, COMES and MMI were both 100% in compliance, and F&W was doing well.

b. Child Labor Laws and hazardous work

Information on chain saw use spurred this question. The University has a NAICS code of “general industry” rather than “ag”; therefore, we are required to follow “general industry” regulations. There had been confusion that we follow ag rules and could allow those as young as 14 who completed a Tractor Safety Course training to use farm equipment.

c. EPA fine

The fines were based on hazardous waste and poor storage practices. One CAS unit was cited, and the fine was pushed back to that unit. Mike noted that PIs have failed to label or store chemicals properly.

The Weniger Waste Audit, which was recently sent out, illustrated many of the issues. Mike said that EPA looks for expired chemicals. The problem with this perspective is that some chemicals can be used for other purposes beyond the expiration date so are kept in the labs. However, EPA focuses solely on the expiration date – if it’s expired, it needs to be gone. Additional issues occur with haz waste in open waste containers, which is viewed as “treatment”. OSU is not a treatment facility therefore containers need to be closed.

There are no expiration dates in the chemical inventory system; Mike said the units themselves should track the expiration dates.

III. Review UHSC meeting and accident reports – Burkholder/Sreniawski

a. Accident reports January, February

UHSC discussion was sufficient on recent CAS accidents. There was brief discussion about fire extinguishers. EH&S/OSU “owns” those that are in the halls (and has been moving them out of the labs as they have been finding them). Personnel are not expected to use those in the halls, so do not need the fire extinguisher training. (unless they intend to use them in the event of fire.) If an extinguisher is in a lab, the PI “owns” it, and lab (PI and/or staff?) need to be proficient with it and manage the maintenance.

IV. Action item follow-up / Old business

a. Canvas training site and compliance tracking

Carrie reported that Canvas seems to be user friendly. At this time it's not set up to allow non-OSU logins, but that's in the works. There may be a way to sign on through third-party authentication (Facebook or gmail). This training system will first be tested by the Corvallis farm units. At some point after that, it will be open to other units.

Jim mentioned a need for Worker Protection Standard (WPS) certification for his group, I believe it was for annual recertification for pesticide training.

b. IS Project Managers working with Research Office

Information Services is hiring Project Managers who can work on campus IT projects. One project would be electronic research administration tracking software for IRB and IACUC. This would replace the current tracking system, which uses Word documents, and would ultimately provide a single portal for research compliance.

V. New Business

a. Gilmore Hall Facilities work order

Ceiling tiles in the grad office were glued to the ceiling and have been falling at random times. Facilities and EH&S have been contacted. Facilities has determined it will deal with them as they fall. There is broken glass in windows, and frames are hanging. These windows are overhanging the parking lot, and some have already fallen. Unsafe conditions have been documented. Action is up to Facilities.

b. Workers' Compensation losses FY05-FY14 – review data

Mike Bamberger provided data on costs of accidents. The time loss costs are borne by the department. Increased insurance costs (?are?) absorbed by the University (?). It's possible that in the future, our unit rates could be based on our unit risk. Mike suggested we look at where the costs are. Twists and sprains entail higher costs, longer recovery times. Better training in ergonomics and use of appropriately installed equipment (e.g., hay baler) could help in keeping injuries and costs down.

c. HMSC resource brochure and webpage

This was a collaborative project that originated in HMSC's Safety Awareness Forum. Designed to serve as a handout for new students, faculty and staff, and a reference for those who'd been here a lot longer. Most referenced features currently are the list of acronyms and the campus map. The website itself can be updated daily, if needed. The brochure is expected to go "final" before spring semester. The website is a work in progress. <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/hmscquickref/>