CAS Safety Advisory Committee

Minutes

October 11, 2023, 10:30 – 12:00 pm – ZOOM (link below)

In Attendance: Boerman, Bohnert, Burkholder, Graber, Gunn, Heineman, Loschl, Storms

1. Welcome, check in, updates:
   a. Discussion about working in smoke. We had an employee contact ELR with concerns about working in smoke. The employee felt heard and supported but was looking for other resources.
   b. Takeaway: We must follow smoke rules but also need to track employee concerns and offer alternatives, if they exist.

2. Safety update from CAS administrators’ meeting:
   b. Referenced new accident reporting system coming to OSU. It is behind schedule but once it is here, we should have better data presented to colleges and units.
   c. Wildfire action plans. CAS requires wildfire action plans for those units that may be affected by wildfire. They will be collected in Box at the college-level.
   d. Fire doors. People prop fire doors open for ventilation in the summer but this is a danger and does not meet compliance. There are solutions that can be purchased and installed. These devices auto-close these doors if an alarm sounds.

3. Review response to serious vehicle accident during fieldwork:
   a. A fieldworker coming home was in a serious vehicle accident although no one was injured.
   b. There was extensive damage to equipment that was owned personally by the employee. Generally, the university does not cover personnel equipment.
   c. Because the accident was the fault of the other driver, the employee ended up being reimbursed for their equipment.
   d. Need to educate our units on this point so that there is no confusion. Equipment should be provided and written into grants.

4. Requirements for ATV safety training:
   a. CAS currently requires that ATV users have the Oregon ATV Safety Card and then be able to demonstrate their competence to a seasoned user.
   b. EH&S is considering developing a module but the committee agreed that this shouldn’t be enough. We should also have a demonstration requirement.
   c. Continue with our current policy and then review the EH&S module.