

San Jose State University
College of Science Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday May 13, 2024 at 1:00 P.M.

ISB 132 / Zoom

Membership: Christopher Smallwood, Philip Dirlam, Craig Clements, William Andreopoulos, Yan Zhang, Sonia Singhal, Nate Bogie, Randy Kirchner, Victor Maraschin, Jocelyn Douglas, Skye Kelty, Miri VanHoven (CS, PD, CC, WA, YZ, SS, NB, RK, VM, JD, SK, MVH)

Call to Order: 1:06 pm

- Members present: CS, PD, SS, RK, VM, SK, JD,
- Members absent: CC, WA, YZ, NB, MVH

Minutes:

- Minutes for 3/11/2024 need to be approved.
 - Move to approve: SS, 2nd CS
 - Approved? So Approved

Announcements:

- Welcome Maria Piccone - New Bio Safety Officer

Old/Recurring Business:

- DH Flooding Recovery Updates? Anything new that the Committee needs to be made aware of?
 - Most of the floor restoration is complete, small area waiting to be completed when dry.
- Any follow-ups on items introduced from EH&S?
 - (Skye?) SOP process? Etc.?
 - SOPs are being integrated into RSS and are currently the updated system is being piloted/tested by some faculty. Complete roll out will be over the summer (voluntary participation) and be required in Fall 2024.
 - Question/concern from Phil: Some of the hazardous materials requirements seem pretty restrictive (Do I need a cart to carry a small jar of ethanol?)
 - Skye: The hard boundaries on this pertain to elevators and staircases.

New Business:

- RSS Lab Hazard Assessment. How is it going? Any information or directives for the Committee?
 - This is required by the Chancellor's Office and each faculty needs to be proactive about addressing the report items given in the assessment.

- Safety Audit Lead time request (from Nate Bogie, who couldn't attend the meeting today): Recently the Geology Dept. is going through a pretty extensive departmental safety audit, I believe this might have been triggered by the discovery of some pretty nasty stuff (HF) in a lab where it is not normally used. There have been many issues found in many labs, and this is an opportunity to clean out old things and chemicals that have been in labs for decades, since before many of us came to SJSU. The only issue is that the initiation of this audit came right around spring break and we were told to fix the problems very quickly, within a month. Fixing things has been a very slow process, as many of the tasks necessary require FD&O work orders and time from our faculty and students at a time in the semester when things were getting very busy. Many of our labs were inspected around the winter, when we had time, and very few of the myriad issues that were brought up in the current audit were noticed or noted in the winter when we had time to address them. Anyway, the safety team and our dept. staff are doing a great job working with us to address things, but it has been a pretty stressful time to do work on all of this.

I guess what we ask is that if there is going to be major overhauls of lab setup or things that require work orders it would be nice to have a little more lead time and/or for it to happen early in the semester, or extend out the timelines for addressing things some so it at least overlaps with some time when things are slower like a summer or winter break.

- SK: This is an EH&S directed project. It came in response to a serious violation that amounted to theft of notably hazardous material. The original timelines that were set were given to respect faculty duty days. Extensions were offered and provided as needed but there were severe violations that required some hard deadlines and a short timeline for certain items.
- This will be followed up when NB or another departmental representative is present.
- Note on Safety Inspections from JD: The lab safety inspection reports that are generated by the Safety Staff result from the inspections which take place once per semester. The items on these reports need to be cleared but it should be noted that the action can be indicated as "In Progress" and this is helpful for staff to note that it has been acknowledged and is being addressed.
- Skye: We are almost done getting an accurate chemical inventory. Randy's team working on the CoS stockroom in Duncan Hall (Chemistry). At this point inventories are maybe from 5 years ago. Big project over the summer will be to get accurate inventories. So some research labs may be followed up with.
 - Phil: Please let the chemists know if you are going to start clearing stuff out of the Science building. It was really sad.
 - Skye: EHS director is putting together a presentation. They did a pretty thorough job last time, so I don't expect much more to be taken.
 - Phil: Pretty big effect on classes last time. Senior design synthesis projects. (But some was really scary).
 - Randy: if there is ever anything you want, you can always order it.

Adjournment: 1:43pm