

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH, OCEAN and ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES**

**EOAS/ESB LOCAL SAFETY TEAM
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 10th, 2020

**Zoom Room
9:30am – 10:30am**

Present: Roger Beckie (Chair), Kate Blackburn (Dean's Office), Anne-Martine Doucet (Graduate Student Representative), Denise Feighan (PIMS), Brian Hunt, Bethany Ladd, Kevin Lin (Data Science), Tim Morgan, Kimberly Tietjen (Secretary), Marc Bustin, Rich Friedman, Mike Leblanc, Paul Nakagawa (Advisor, Safety Programs, UBC Safety and Risk Services), Dustin Szeto (First Aid Advisor, UBC Safety & Risk Services), Ross McCulloch

Regrets: Peggy Ng (Statistics), Marghaleray Amini

Action Items:

- **Meeting called to order:** 9:32 AM

Adoption of previous Safety Committee Meeting Minutes:

Approved: Denise Feighan
Seconded: Bethany Ladd

Adoption of January Safety Committee Meeting Minutes:

Approved: Tim Morgan
Seconded: Bethany Ladd

1. ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTS:

- CO2 Leak in Greg Dipple's Lab (Reports are on the Owncloud folder)
 - TM advised that a visiting student was doing an experiment involving CO2 in Greg's lab on the 4th floor of ESB. When she was taking some samples and opened up to get some samples a O2 sensor went off. She shut down and left the lab. After discussing with Tim, Greg made the decision to go in, turn off the unit, and get out. The unit was not installed by the building. We need to find out if that sensor is needed and if so, install it properly. There are questions about why that experiment was on top of a bench and not under a fumehood, etc.
 - ML went through the incident with Greg the next day. The experiment is not looking at O2 levels dropping but at other gases rising and it would be more appropriate to have a CO2 sensor. The experiment is going to be moved out of that room. If WSBC looks at the report, they are not going to be happy that Greg went into the room and put himself at risk.
 - TM advised that the PI has to provide additional information in regard to the experiment and how it was being operated.
 - MB commented that this is a matter of lack of training as the student didn't know what to do. TM agreed that there is supposed to be a written SOP and protocol in place before a hazardous experiment is in place.
 - RB concluded that takeaways include determining what sensors are required, risk assessments need to be clear to all PI's in EOAS in terms of starting a new experiment, there is a question of training, and future action needs to be added to the report.

2. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- Items arising from the January 2020 Safety Meeting Minutes
 - TM advised that Philippe would be amenable to covering the cost of installing additional AED's, depending on how much they cost and where they need to go. TM to move forward on that.
 - TM advised that the need for a audial or visual fire alarm in the rock-crushing room has been resolved.
- Review of Laboratory & Office Safety Inspections
 - ML advised that the biggest problems were unclear lines of responsibility in mixed labs. Biggest problems were unclear lines of responsibility for mixed labs. People didn't know who was supposed to do the monthly checklists, who's responsible for pile of chemicals in the corner, etc. Clear demarcation necessary where different groups responsibilities for different things. There needs to be more clarity to make sure that nothing falls through the cracks because you think the other guy is doing it. All the rest was small stuff.
 - RF commented that Dave Daquioag helped with inspections while Marg was away, and that EOS-M didn't have any large problems either. ML & RF agree that deficiencies were minor and don't need to be discussed here.
 - Next steps per TM: The committee needs to send each individual PI a list of what the deficiencies are and make sure that they're done. Have to give a report to the JOHSC the deficiency, who's responsible, priority level, target date for completion. Then we have to use that to follow up with the labs to make sure they're done. Anything related to lab is the PI, facilities is Tim, process would be admin support for the committee based on a set of criteria that we've already established.
- Review of Field Safety Protocols and Training – Guests Paul Nakagawa, Advisor, Safety Programs, and Dustin Szeto, First Aid Advisor, both from UBC Safety & Risk Services
 - RB advised that the documents sent to us by the guests have all been loaded onto the Owncloud folder
 - DS recommended looking at [WSBC's Schedule 3A](#) for reference of what they look at in a risk assessment. The risk assessment can be found [here](#). WSBC doesn't require wilderness first aid but it is highly recommended.
 - RB questioned the liability of the PI if they give instructions that are unsafe. PN advised that generally if it is an unpaid student, the student is liable, but if they are paid then the institution is liable. WSBC can issue orders and citations with the PI. If it was determined that you were negligent, then there could be criminal charges. That would have to be proven and go through a court of law but that's where the documentation comes into play.
 - DS advised to include students at the field schools in the number of people, as we have a duty of care for them even though they are not paid.
 - DS advised that SRS currently does not offer first aid courses. He recommends Trauma Tech and St. John's Ambulance. TM and RB agreed that the Oliver Field School is the priority and that the levels of First Aid required by WSBC and surface transport time from each activity to the local hospital would have to be taken into account.
 - PN commented that the Safety Committee would be useful for vetting risk levels where subjectivity differs between people.
- Subject to discuss for next month's meeting: What is the best way to imbue the safety culture?

3. **NEW BUSINESS:** RB recommended the next meeting include working on a communication piece to PI's about the obligation to do risk assessments and written SOP's.