Safety Committee Minutes: Wednesday, October 27, 1:00 PM Zoom

Attendees: Larry Harisis, Elizabeth Howe, Heidi Hillhouse, Dave Hyten, Kyle Broderick, Nathan Palmer, TJ McAndrew, Kay McClure-Kelly, Mike Livingston, Martha Rowe, Alfonso de Lara Aldalur

1) Department updates of information on Safety Committee meetings - Mike Livingston

   The committee discussed the dispersion of information discussed during the meetings. Currently the minutes are posted to the A&H safety webpage. Pertinent info will be dispersed after minutes posted and during staff meetings.

2) Chemical waste, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, and aerosol container disposal - Mike

   Mike reminded the committee members to remind those personnel they interact with to be aware of the disposal sites available in the PLSH loading dock area.

3) Laboratory virtual manual - Larry Harisis

   Larry instructed the committee on the process of compiling a virtual laboratory manual. This will enable lab users to be assured they have the required training provided by EHS and it serves as the chemical hygiene plan for that particular lab. It can be accessed at this site https://scsapps.unl.edu/VirtualManual/

4) Reporting unsafe conditions and practices - Mike Livingston

   Mike indicated that to promote a culture of safety in the Department one must be aware of the different avenues for reporting unsafe behaviors or practices. Mike shared that most reports are personally made to him, along with a few reports a year submitted to the Department’s safety website anonymous suggestion box. EHS also has a near miss and close call reporting tab on their website.

5) CUSC update. Carbon monoxide, winter safety EHS - Betsy Howe

   Betsy shared the EHS listserv with the group. The Listserv can be subscribed to at https://listserv.unl.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=ehsinfo&A=1. Betsy also shared new graphics from CUSC that will be available soon for digital signage displays

6) EHS SOP Autoclave operation - Martha Rowe

   Martha Rowe presented some information on autoclave use in our department. The longer run time was discussed regarding those materials with biosafety concerns. Kyle B. indicated sterilizers in Plant Pathology have 60-minute cycles.

7) Upcoming training sessions: AED/CPR, new lab user

   Mike indicated he had contacted the company that provides the training and wanted to wait for the harvest season to come to an end before scheduling this session which usually happens
prior to winter break. Plant Pathology and other research center personnel are usual attendees. December 15, 11:00 150 Keim is tentative date.

8) Covid-19 Department page.

Input was sought on the A&H Covid-19 webpage. Betsy indicated EHS no longer provided Covid-19 trainings.

9) New Business

Kyle inquired about the smoke smell that occurred on Friday October 22. TJ indicate a muffle furnace was utilized without engaging the adjacent exhaust hood causing the smoke to disperse within the 3rd and 4th floor of PLSH.

10) Next meeting time Tuesday, January 26, 1:00 pm.

Topic: Safety Committee Meeting
Time: Jan 26, 2022 01:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
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Meeting ID: 947 3108 2523
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