

**Chancellor's University Safety Committee Meeting**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**January 16, 2006 3:00 p.m.**  
**Osborne Athletic Complex**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson John Ingram.

**Present:** Mark Shepherd (EHS), Yoko Smith (EHS), Elizabeth (Betsy) Howe (EHS), Jeff Lamp on behalf of Jim Jackson (BSM), John Ingram (Athletics), Eileen Bergt (Landscape Services), Judy Prochaska (Utilities-FMP), Robin Whisman (Campus Rec), Christine Cary (UNOPA), Jane Wemhoff (Dining Services), Mary Lutz (University Health Center), Coleen Huls (Telecom), Larry Schmid (Custodial Services), and Greg Maguire (Housing).

**Introductions:** John Ingram welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Meeting Location and Dates:** Betsy Howe reported on the University Police Conference Room and Chase Hall as possible meeting locations. The group decided to continue meeting at the Osborne Athletic Complex, with speakerphone capabilities so extension center representatives may attend remotely.

To facilitate Injury Incident reporting, given the data availability timetable, future quarterly meetings have been changed to the third Tuesday. Dates for the rest of 2007 are as follows: April 17, July 17, and October 16. These dates are posted on the Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) web site, CUSC information section: <http://ehs.unl.edu/committees/#cusc>

## **2007 INJURY/ILLNESS REPORT**

Yoko Smith reported on accidents by department, types of accidents, and type of employee for the months of October through December 2006. Yoko noted that 'struck by' and 'struck against' are not differentiated in the report. The categories 'struck by/against' and 'slip/trips/falls' remain the major source of injury incidents, in particular high dollar incidents.

- Five high dollar injury incidents were highlighted for review. Three of the four cases presented resulted from slips/trips/falls. Natural conditions, such as uneven ground, are fairly common causes of injuries for this quarter, especially at extension centers.
- The two major types of injury incident are still slips/trips/falls (27%), struck by/against (36%). This quarter repetitive injuries (13%) bypassed lift/pull/push (10%) as the third highest category of injuries.
- The percentage of student worker injuries is down this quarter.

A question was raised about UNL reporting versus OSHA reporting. Accident rate reporting for UNL includes all reported injury incidents, even if there is no medical care. OSHA looks at specific types of accidents (OSHA recordable) and lost-time accidents.

How percentage rates are determined was explained by Yoko Smith. Using the hours worked and number of employees, an OSHA recordable accident rate is determined after normalizing so injury incidents are compared as if there are 100 full-time employees.

## **SAFETY AUDITING**

Mark Shepherd spoke about the Chemical Laboratory Safety Audit Guidelines Safe Operating Procedure (SOP). The safety audit checklists used by EHS staff will fall within six categories: Laboratory, Facilities/Utilities/Maintenance, Shops, Agricultural, Kitchens, and Offices. These audit checklists are geared primarily to conditions. There are some aspects of behavior that might be picked up by the audit, but behavior is not the primary focus of the safety audits. There is also an environmental component to each safety audit checklist.

The Injury Illness and Prevention Program contains a requirement for departments to assess hazards in their own areas every six months to a year, depending on the type of activities in the department. Once a year EHS audits high hazard areas. The availability of the same checklists used by EHS auditors should make the task of departmental audits easier, whether such audits are conducted by supervisors, laboratory/area managers, safety committees, or others as designated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The group was reminded that every two years in the fall the CUSC has sponsored an Employee Safety Fair. Those in attendance decided the CUSC should sponsor such an event for 2007.

After some discussion the date selected was during UNL fall break, Tuesday, October 23, 2007. The event will again include training sessions all day, in addition to vendor displays. The location will remain City Campus Union. The time of the event will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

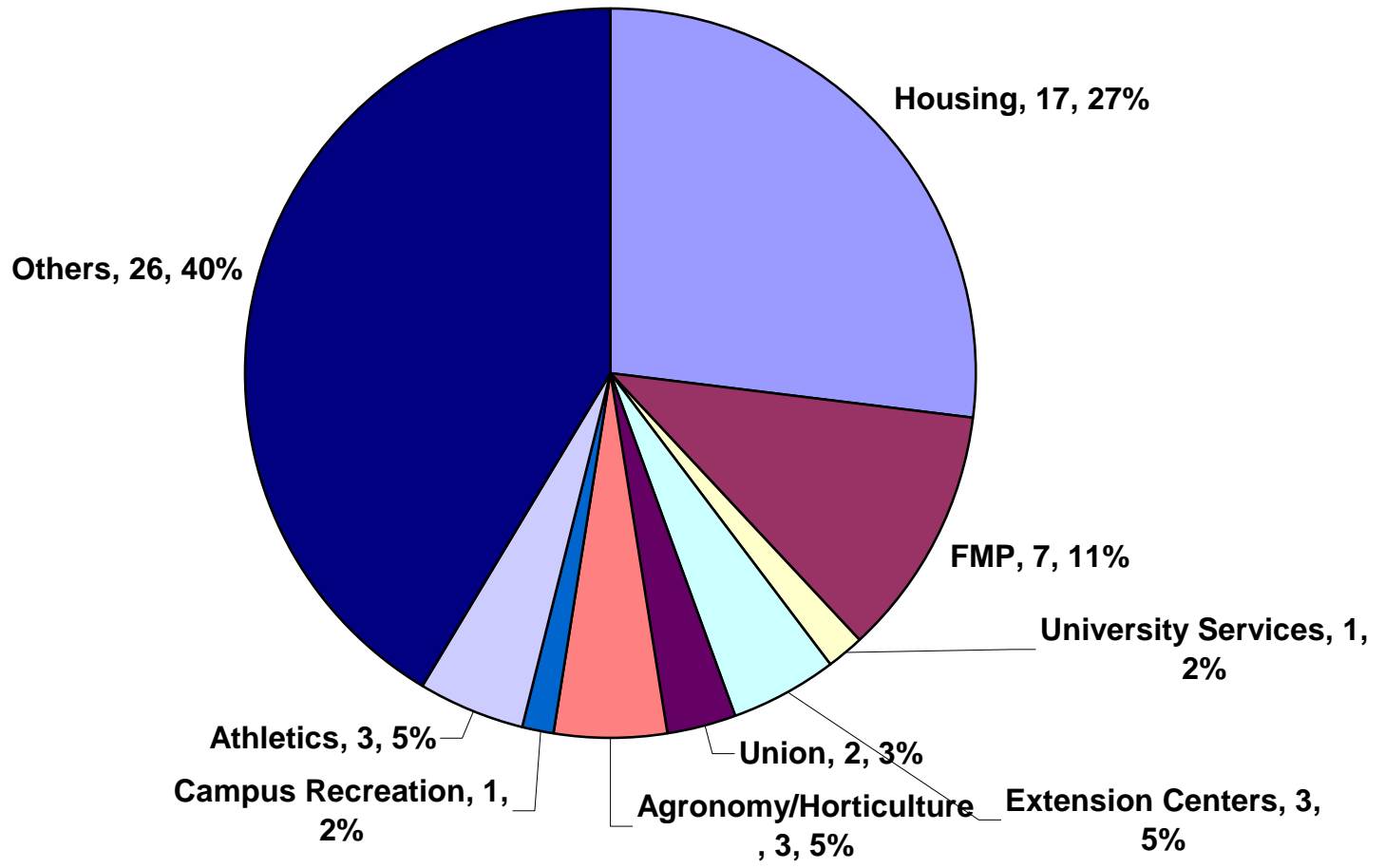
Betsy Howe will organize the 2007 CUSC Employee Safety Fair. Suggestions for training topics will be solicited from all CUSC members via separate email, to be distributed by February 1, 2007.

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

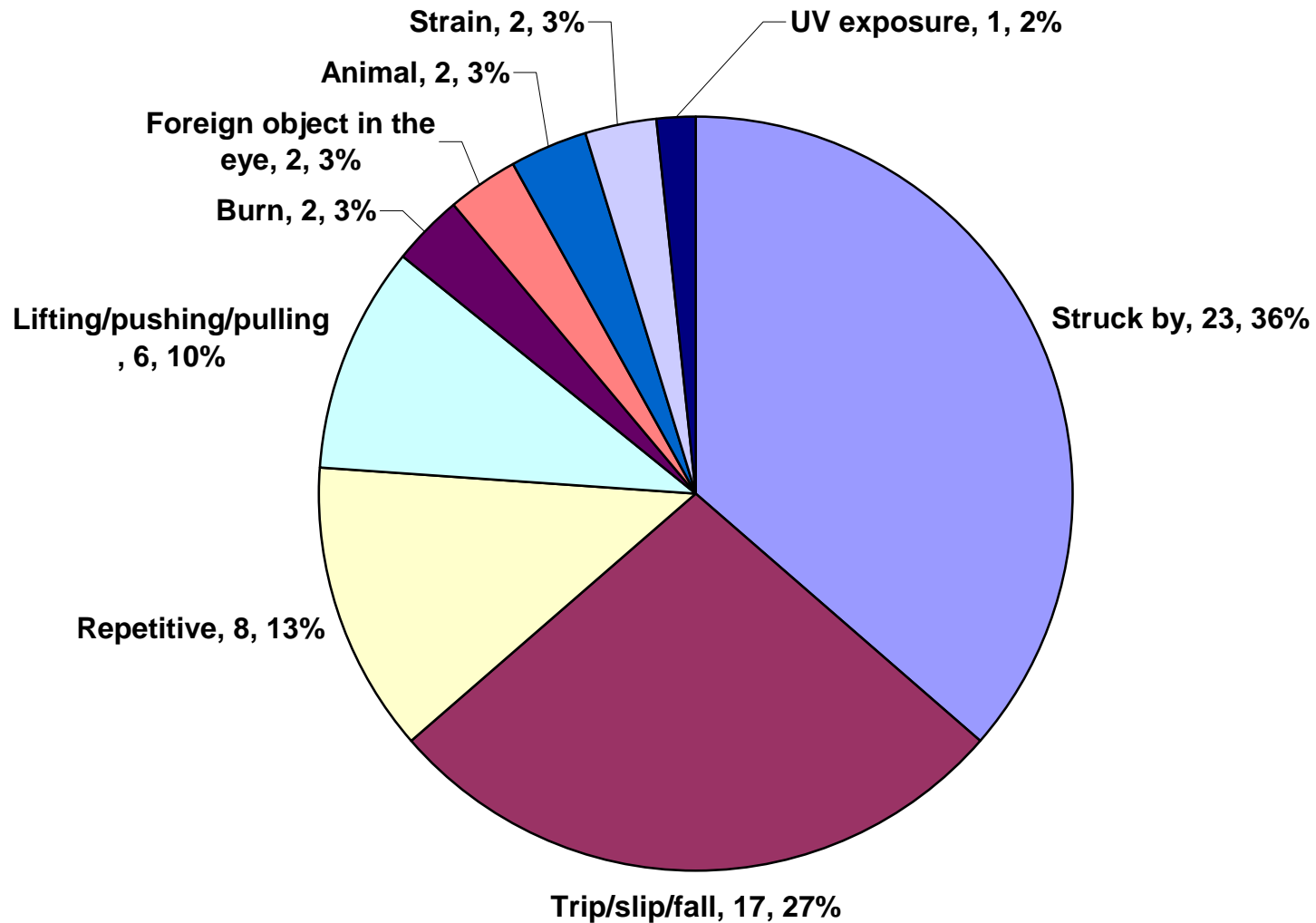
Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 17 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the Osborne Athletic Conference. The meeting was adjourned by chair, John Ingram.

# Incident by Department FY07 Second QTR

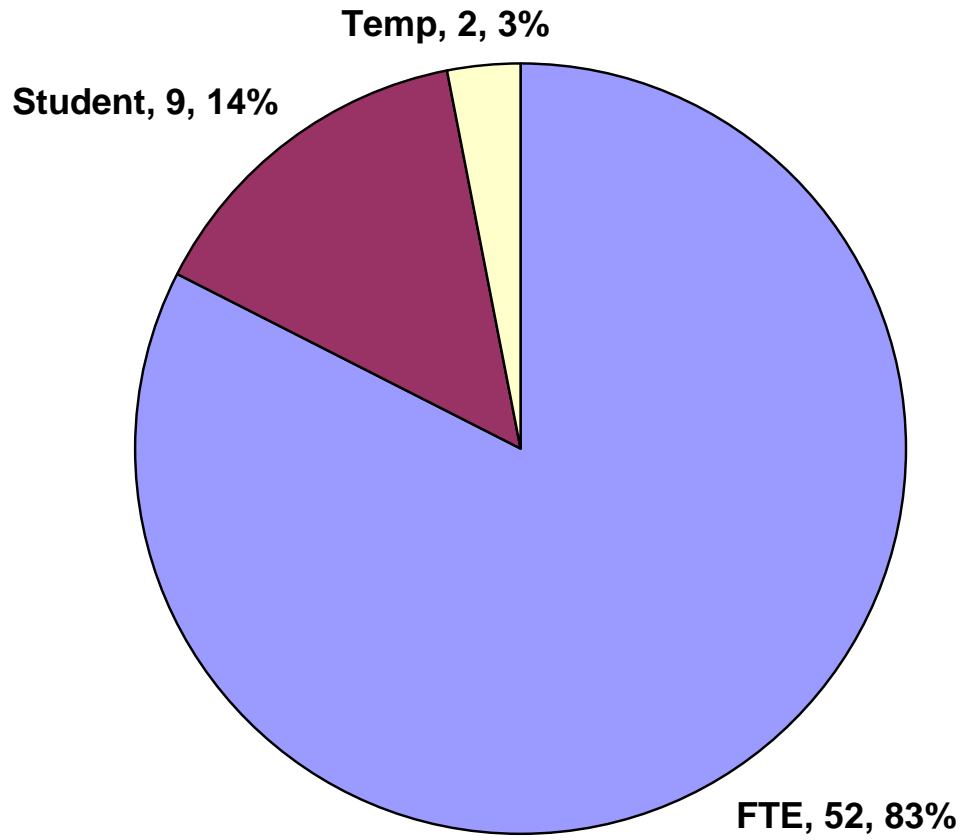
Other departments include: Admissions, Architectural Engineering, Biological Science, Biological Systems Engineering, Central Administration, Chemical Engineering, Fine and Performing Art, International Affairs, Libraries, Lied Center, Museum, Plant Science Initiative, Public Relations, School of Music, Theatre Arts & Dance, University Health Center, University Television, VBS



# Incidents by Causes FY07 Second QTR



# Types of Employment FY07 Second QTR



Department	Date of Occurrence	Description of Event	Root Cause Analysis	Countermeasure
Agronomy and Horticulture	10/3/06	Employee twisted their left knee when the employee dismounted a riding mower and stepped onto an uneven ground.	The employee was mowing a plot. The employee thought the turf might have been uneven. Something caught the employee's boots and the employee twisted their left knee.	EHS visited the incident site on November 10. There was no deficiency on the mower. It appeared the employee did not realize the ground was uneven. The employee stated they would be more careful.
Athletics	11/4/06	Employee fell on uneven surface outside the locker room at the football stadium. The employee bruised and lacerated different parts of the body.	There was uneven ground outside the locker room. The employee tripped on the ground.	The department filled the area after the incident. The department also plans to dig the area and raise it higher to correct the unevenness.
Athletics	10/2/06	Employee injured their lower back after wrestling with a student-athlete.	Employee was working with a student-athlete and got into an awkward position.	The employee stated they would try to avoid positions which will strain their back. The employee is also strengthening their back and improving their range of motion.
Panhandle REC	10/25/06	Employee stepped in a hole while counting weeds in the cornfield and fractured their right ankle.	The employee was counting weeds in the cornfield before the harvest. The employee could not see the hole because of tall corn plants. The employee was cutting through the field diagonally. The employee was walking fast.	The employee stated they would walk more slowly. EHS suggested using a walking stick but the employee has to carry a GPS unit and wade through the corn plants so they will not be able to use a walking stick.
ARDC	9/26/06	Employee was stung by bee and had a severe allergic reaction. The employee had to be hospitalized overnight.	Employee was driving a grain truck with windows open. The employee drove by bee research area and was stung by bee.	The supervisor discussed with the employee to be cautious and avoid possible bee encounter.

Summary of High Cost Incidents

**Incident Rate YTD (Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May, June, July, Aug. Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.)**

	Dept. Name	Hours Worked	# of Total Accidents	# of OSHA Recordable Accidents	# of Lost Time Accidents	Accident Rate (Includes all accidents)	OSHA Recordable Accident Rate	Lost Time Accident Rate*
1	Housing	1184592.36	75	20	8	12.66	3.38	1.35
2	Facilities Management	944136.96	39	17	8	8.26	3.60	1.69
3	University Services	347250.72	8	4	1	4.61	2.30	0.58
4	Animal Science	263740.56	4	1	1	3.03	0.76	0.76
5	Extension Centers	1186203.12	36	20	11	6.07	3.37	1.85
6	Student Union	218508.96	5	2	2	4.58	1.83	1.83
7	Agronomy /Horticulture	527821.20	5	4	0	1.89	1.52	0.00
8	Campus Recreation	194289.72	3	2	1	3.09	2.06	1.03
9	Athletics	674088.12	12	9	4	3.56	2.67	1.19
10	Other Units/Departments	11179306.20	93	45	11	1.66	0.81	0.20
	Total Hours Worked	16719937.92	280	124	47	3.35	1.48	0.56

\*Lost time accidents include lost work time accidents and accidents that caused workers to be on modified duties or to move to a different position.

Following are the rates for comparable industries in 2002. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics News)

OSHA does not keep records of all-accident rates.

Industry	Recordable case rate	Lost-time accident rate
Agricultural production - crops	6.2	3.5
Agricultural production - livestock	9	4.7
Construction: Special trade contractors	7.5	4.1
Eating and drinking places	4.6	1.6
Services to buildings	5.1	2.5
Colleges and universities	2.8	1.3