

Chancellor' University Safety Committee Meeting
Quarterly Meeting
October 12, 2004 3:00 p.m.
East Campus Union

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairperson Mark Schroeder.

Present: Eileen Bergt (Landscape Services), Nick Huser (EHS), Brenda Osthus (EHS), Yoko Smith (EHS), Lisa Tobiason (EHS), Sherry Savener (EHS), Bob Skates (WCREC), Charlotte Evans (Campus Police), Larry Schmid (Custodial-FM), Judy Prochaska (Utilities-FM), Greg Maguire (Housing), Chris Oelling (Campus Rec/Athletics) and Mark Schroeder (ARDC). Visitor - Lewis Sieber (ARDC).

Introductions: Mark Schroeder welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves to the group.

EHS Activity Report: Brenda Osthus provided the EHS Report.

Radiation Safety

- Assisting Engineering and Physics to add neutron source capabilities (replacement for Pu:Be sources that will be returned to Department of Energy.)
- Rad Committee Meeting scheduled for October 21, 2004 – one item for discussion decommissioning of Co-60 source.
- Focus areas – revision of training materials; sealed source disposal; sewer disposal.

Occupational and Bio Safety

- Welcome – Sherry Savener, 20+ years of EHS experience, a wonderful addition to our staff.
- Fond farewell to Nick Huser. Will be re-advertising the position soon. Anyone interested in serving on the search committee?
- Hearing Conservation Program – implementation going well – meeting with CC to fine tune OM support of the program.
- Working with Office of Research – IACUC – development and implementation of Animal User Medical Surveillance Program.
- MTPT project monitoring – causes Parkinson's disease in humans.
- Biosafety audits of BSL-2 in progress.
- BSL-3 lab out for bids.

Environmental Programs

- Fond farewell to Chad Beerenstrauch. EHS is in the process of hiring a new Hazardous Materials/Radiation Safety Technician.
- Welcome to Mark Clark, the new Special Waste Technician.
- Application submitted to NE Environmental Trust to support RI/FS activities at Mead- \$1.3 M for year 1. Consent Decree, Administrative Order on Consent, and Contract with Consultant to go before BoR in December.
- Completed application for reimbursement to NDEQ for TS site- \$99,000.
- New program document – Combustion Sources (generators).

- Livestock Waste Control Facilities – permit applications – Scottsbluff submitted and out on public notice; Concord Swine to be submitted in a week or so.
- JAVA building demolition support.
- Conducting focused campus audits (multi-media) in anticipation of EPA visit to EC.

Injury Report Review: Yoko Smith reported on accidents occurring by department and types of accidents for the months of March-September, 2004. UNL recorded 165 total accidents with 67 of these being OSHA recordable. UNL reported 26 lost time accidents during this period of time. Eighty-three percent (83%) involved full-time employees, fourteen percent (14%) were student workers and three percent (%) were temporary workers. Struck-by was the leading cause of injury, which accounted for thirty-one percent (31%) of all accidents. Lifting/Bending/Pulling was the second leading cause of injury with twenty-six percent (26%).

Yoko discussed one injury that involved burns to both hands due to a fire in a lab. EHS will conduct training for lab technicians.

Mark asked the definition of an OSHA recordable. Yoko explained an OSHA recordable is any injury/illness that incurs lost time or altered job duties, and/or any medical treatment requiring a prescription, sutures, a positive x-ray, physical therapy, etc.

Committee discussed injuries to two employees relating to the grids, east sidewalk of Love Library North. One employee slipped on the wet grids while crossing it. The other employee tripped over a stump while walking around the grids to avoid walking over it. EHS investigated the grids and found nothing out of compliance. Eileen recommended removing the stump and the possibility of widening the sidewalk in this area. Lisa suggested including the grid subject in an upcoming article that Landscape Services had planned to publish on walking/work surface awareness as Fall and Winter approaches. Charlotte would like the awareness article.

Unit Safety Committee Update:

ARDC

- Had Fall Protection training on September 10, 2004 for people through State 309 Taskforce. Have regularly scheduled monthly safety meetings with supervisors. In January, they will be hosting an all-facility safety and health fair which will include skid steer loader training from Caterpillar dealer. Lisa is anxious to attend and see what parts of the training we can provide for the rest of UNL.

Agronomy/Horticulture

- Have been working with committee members on specific issues in their buildings. Lisa accompanied their committee members on a tour of the sites where Agronomy personnel had expressed safety concerns. Were able to get traffic signage changed in Havelock Farm area, after discussing situation with city traffic engineer. Will have another EHS introduction session in November for employees who have just joined the department explaining services and training available.

Manter Hall

- Nothing new to report on developing floor plan maps.

Housing

- Dining Hall held Core training at beginning of semester.

Nebraska Hall

- Computing Services has designated emergency exits and Lisa delivered floor plans for them to post on second and third floors.

SNRS

- Working with Christine Steggs to completely review all safety training records. SNRS has a goal of getting everyone through Core and Fire Extinguisher training, and then will work to develop Virtual Manual and JSA's for each position.

Utilities

- Worked hard to get all East Campus personnel through training. Still working on details for City Campus. Also working with committee on some concerns created with new facility expansions on City Campus.

University Press

- Continues to hold regular toolbox safety meetings.

Theatre – Lied & Temple

- Lied Center installed new fall protection system on loading rail and held training for all tech personnel on September 1, 2004. On October 11, 2004 they had fire extinguisher training.
- Temple – has new temporary personnel in place as replace for William Kenyon is found. Heath Lane has worked with EHS & Fire Marshall for flame in Medea production and Nick gave fall protection/hot work training on September 19, 2004.

IANR 4-H Camps

- Buzz Wheeler is new director at Gretna camp. Lisa gave Core and Fire Extinguisher training for five permanent personnel and provided a quick walk through on some safety concerns of theirs. Lisa continues follow up. They would like us to return in the late spring/early summer to train temporary summer help.
- Camp at Halsey would also like us to develop basic Core training for their permanent and temporary staff.

Art and Art History Department

- Requested a special Core/Fire Extinguisher training session for all of their new personnel including TA's and new chair, Ed Forde. Had training August 19, 2004. Led to increased interest in respiratory protection program, further chemical safety training, and evaluations of rooms being used as grad student studios.

Institutional Animal Policy/Pets on Campus Sub-Committee Update: Bob has a pet policy ready for approval. This policy does not cover IACUC and working animals. No suggestions on how or who will enforce the policy. Brenda suggested the policy should be included in the HR policy. Tenants of research center rental units would be permitted to have pets that would be confined and not over 12" high in size. Housing presently allows fish kept in less than 15

gallon tanks. The IACUC policy was revised at the end of June. This safety committee policy is aimed to fill the gaps of the IACUC policy. Bob will electronically circulate the policy and the committee will vote to adopt at next meeting.

Safety Award Sub-Committee Update: Lisa reported the sub-committee met at the end of July with little progress made. It was suggested that a group, department, or committee award be given instead of an individual award. The sub-committee will meet and have a proposal ready for the January 2005 meeting.

Chairperson Elections: Mark Schroeder's two-year term as chairperson of the committee has expired. Charlotte Evans of Campus Police volunteered and has been accepted as the new chairperson. The Committee welcomed Charlotte. At this time, Mark turned the meeting over to Charlotte. Mark has sent names of committee member nominees to Kim Phelps for confirmation. Charlotte and Lisa will work on filling the remaining open positions.

Open Forum: Committee discussed future meeting dates and locations, deciding to keep them quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. This would place the 2005 meeting dates tentative on January 11, April 12, July 12, and October 11. The committee discussed rotating meetings to different locations but Lisa should also make room reservations at the East Campus Union to fall back on, if needed. Lew volunteered the ARDC visitor's center for the January meeting. This would correlate with ARDC's Health Fair and show support.

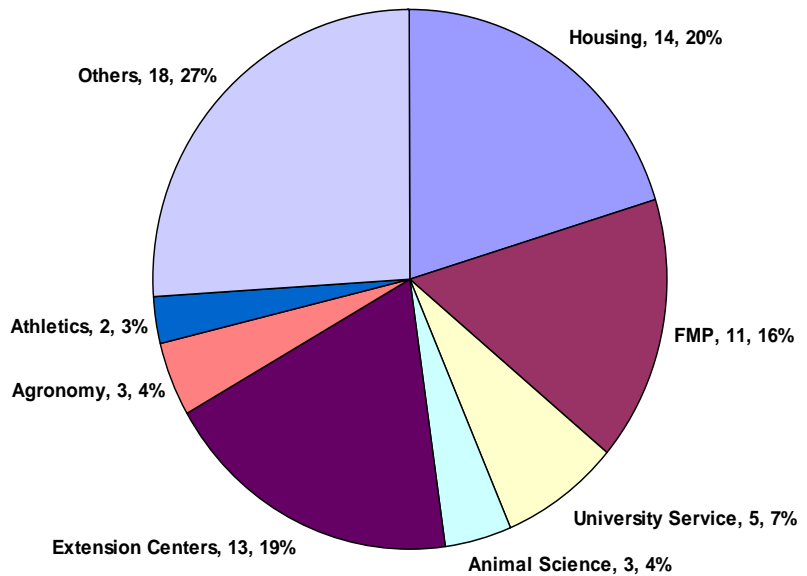
A University-wide employee Safety Fair is tentatively scheduled for October 2005.

The next CUSC meeting will be scheduled around the date of the ARDC Health Fair (which has yet to be announced). Sherry will send out meeting notices as soon as the plans are finalized.

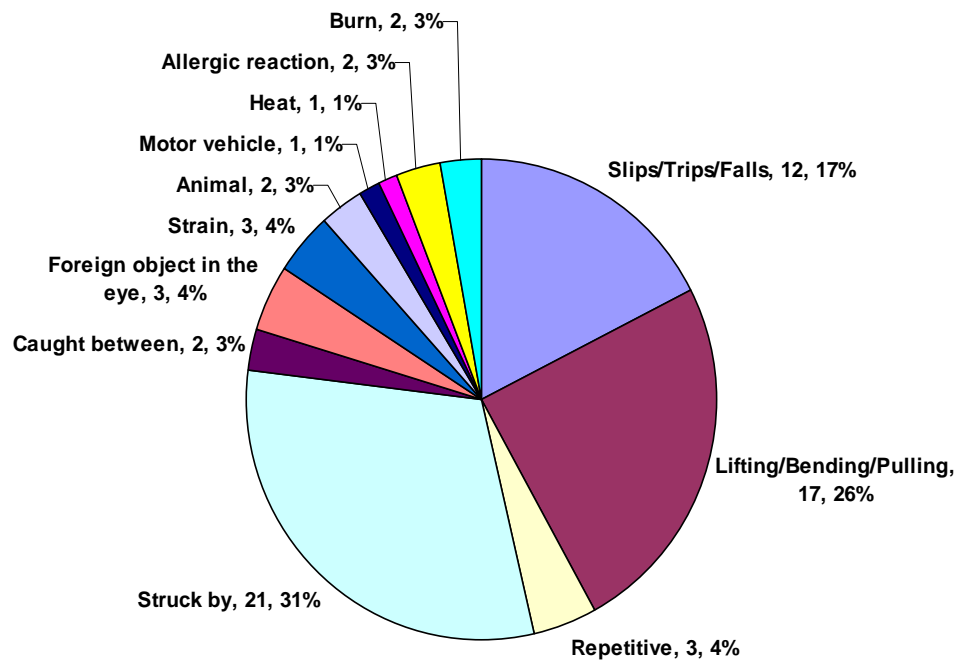
Closing Remarks: Committee thanked Mark for his work and dedication to the committee.

Accidents by Department FY05 First Quarter

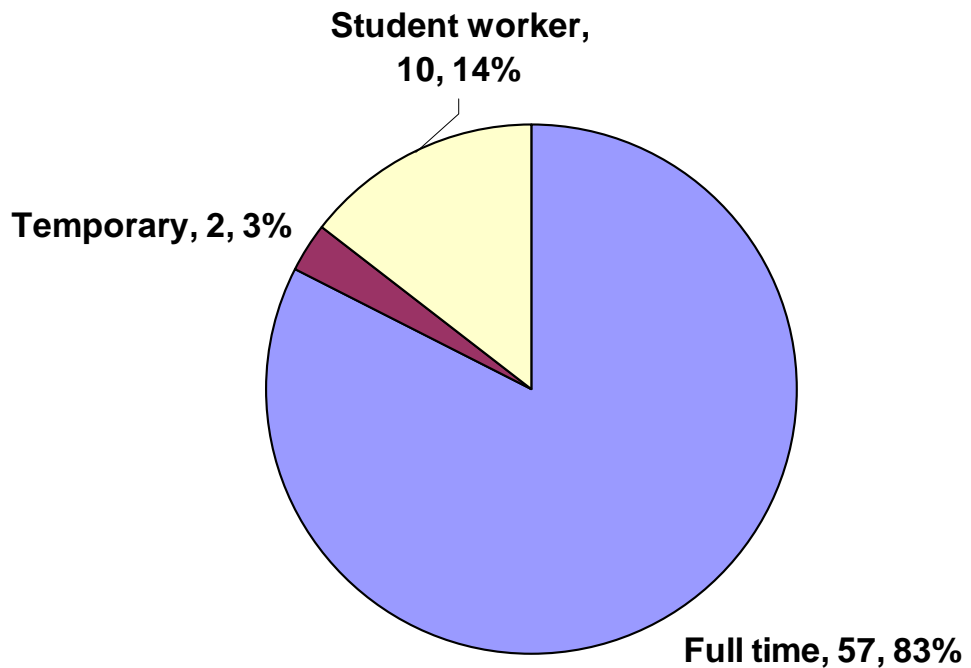
Others include:
4-H, Biochemistry,
Biological Systems
Engineering,
Business and
Finance, Chemical
Engineering, Civil
Engineering,
Education and
Human Science,
Electrical
Engineering, Food
Science &
Technology,
Libraries, Natural
Resources Science,
NETV, Payroll,
Teaching &
Learning, Theatre
Arts & Dance, UHC,
University Police



Accidents by Cause FY05 First Quarter



Types of Employment FY05 First Quarter



SUMMARIES OF SOME ACCIDENTS

DEPT	DATE OF ACCIDENT	DESCRIPTION OF EVENT	ROOT CAUSE EXPLANATION	CORRECTIVE ACTION
Biochemistry	9/17/2004	Employee was sterilizing a spreader with ethanol and open flame. A drop of ethanol fell on an absorbent sheet and started fire. The employee tried to put it out with their hands. The employee had third degree burns on their hands and wrists.	Absorbent pads should not have been used. The spreader was too big to be used in an incinerator to sterilize. The employee should not have touched the flame. The drop of ethanol would have burned off quickly on a fire-retardant countertop.	The employee stated they would clear the combustibile and flammable materials while sterilizing with an open flame. The supervisor will coordinate with EHS to have lab technician training.
Payroll	8/10/2004	Employee slipped on the grids on the east sidewalk of Love Library North. The employee fractured their right forearm.	The employee slipped on wet grids on east sidewalk by Love Library North.	EHS visited the site and did not find compliance issues.
Libraries	9/24/2004	Employee tripped on a stump west of Love Library North and fell. The employee bruised their right wrist, forearm, knee and left ankle.	The employee avoided walking on the grids on the sidewalk and walked on the dirt. The employee did not see the stump.	The employee stated they may take a different route.
NETV	9/7/2004	Employee bent over to turn a switch and felt a pull in their lower back. On September 10, the employee bent over again and felt a pop in their back. The employee could not stand more than a few minutes.	The switch on the remote truck was located 2 feet above the floor and the employee needed to bend over to turn it on. The employee had a bad knee and could not squat. The switch could not be moved higher because it would interfere with other operations.	The employee is more careful and stretching their back to prevent injury. Other employees are aware of the hazard. The department plans to replace the remote truck by 2005.

**Accident Rate YTD (March, April, May, June, July, August,
September 2004)**

Dept. Number	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	570661.38	38	8	3	13.32	2.80	1.05
2	Facilities Management	538805.70	36	10	6	13.36	3.71	2.23
3	University Services	223134.86	5	2	0	4.48	1.79	0.00
4	Animal Science	180178.19	7	2	1	7.77	2.22	1.11
5	Extension Centers	644579.09	19	11	1	5.90	3.41	0.31
6	Student Union	142198.03	2	1	0	2.81	1.41	0.00
7	Agronomy/Horticulture/ Plant Science	272787.03	6	6	2	4.40	4.40	1.47
8	Campus Recreation	128002.40	2	0	0	3.12	0.00	0.00
9	Athletics	392860.73	3	1	1	1.53	0.51	0.51
10	Other Units/Departments	6304485.74	47	25	12	1.49	0.79	0.38
	Total Hours Worked	9397693.15	165	67	26	3.51	1.43	0.55

*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