The meeting was convened by Chair, Beth Whitaker. Attendees introduced themselves.

**Members Present:** Larry Schmid (Custodial Services), Doug Rudeen (ARDC), Eileen Bergt (Landscape Services), Tracy Grauer for Colleen Huls (Information Services), Linda Ybarra (Athletics), Tony Hernbloom (CREC), Greg Maguire (Housing), Greg Snow (Arts & Sciences Dean’s Office), Allen Specht (UAAD), Deb Pearson (Libraries), Lynn Doser (Sheldon), Charlie Griesen (Utilities), Jan Deeds (Student Involvement-CCSW), Lynn Doser (Sheldon Museum of Art), Bob Beckstrom (BSM-FMP), Alex Pavlista for Karen Schultz (PHREC remotely), Logan Dana (NEREC remotely), Brenda Osthus (EHS), Betsy Howe (EHS), Yoko Smith (EHS). Guests: Jennifer Dam (IRP), Lisa Mensah (EHS), Linda Beran (State Museum Safety Committee – Morrill Hall)

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**FY 2011-2012 (4th Quarter) Injury Incident Report**

Yoko Smith told the group that for fiscal year 2011-12 the total number of injury incidents was down 5%, from 312 in 2010-2011 to 297 in the fiscal year just ended. The decrease is particularly good news as previously injury numbers had been increasing, then plateaued.

This quarter there were a large number of trailing reports (16). Workers need to report injuries in a timely manner. Yoko reported on 113 open claims for which $6.2 million has been paid to date. Nineteen claims exceed $100K, with $4.6M paid on these particular claims, ten of which are back injuries.

Yoko reviewed the fourth quarter injury incidents. Sixty-six (66) First Reports of Injury were received for injuries occurring between April 1 and June 30, 2012.

- Fifteen (15) or 22.7% were “report only” (no medical treatment sought).
- Seven (7) or 10.6% were not OSHA-recordable, meaning they were minor in nature (requiring only one visit to medical professional without prescription medication).
- Forty-four (44) or 66.7% were classified as OSHA-Recordable, considered potentially more serious. This is a 20% increase in OSHA-Recordable injuries over the previous quarter.
- The age of workers experiencing OSHA-Recordable injuries (see Age Chart at end of Minutes) most likely reflects the demographics of UNL workers this quarter. Summer workers, who tend to be younger, are hired for seasonal
work, so one would expect a higher percentage of injuries in the youngest age group (18-25), when compared with last quarter.

- Of the OSHA-Recordable incidents, “Struck against or by” accounted for 38.6%, 17 of the 44 incidents in this category. These incidents were very preventable as the predominant causal factors were ones within the control of the worker: Inattention, Deviation from protocol, PPE not used, PPE used improperly.
- Predominant worker-types sustaining OSHA-Recordable injuries were Laboratory (9 incidents, 20.5%), Custodial (8 incidents, 18%), and Animal Handlers (8 incidents, 18%).
- Last CUSC meeting Brenda Osthus talked about the importance of reporting and investigating “near misses.” In May, a serious injury in Animal Science was preceded by one “near miss” and one minor injury incident which was not reported in a timely manner. Brenda reminded the group that the EHS training, Core-Injury and Illness Prevention Plan, talks about injury incident reporting and the importance of timely injury reporting and capturing “near miss” information toward the goal of mitigating unaddressed hazards before a serious injury occurs.

FY 2011-2012 (4th Quarter) Safety Audit Overview

Safety Audits are conducted of all spaces at UNL on a schedule, based on identified hazards and regulatory requirements. A “space” is defined as an area on the official IRP map with a number and/or word designation and includes areas such as secondary rooms, corridors, storage areas, etc. In addition to regularly conducted audits, if there is a serious injury incident such as the one noted above (Animal Science), a safety audit is conducted by EHS personnel as part of the injury investigation.

The usage type for areas audited between April 1 and June 30, 2012 was: 471 Laboratory, 104 Office & Assembly (e.g., classroom) areas, and 3 Shop & Utility areas. Audits were conducted in all or part of 20 different buildings. Each “audit” may include more than one room (same use + same room owner = 1 audit). Safety audit checklists (abbreviated version) for the different room usage types are online at: http://ehs.unl.edu/sop/safety-audit-guidelines.

Betsy Howe provided an overview (available at the end of the Minutes) which noted deficiencies found and their prevalence within the different classifications of space audited. Of particular note:

- There were 256 deficiencies in Laboratories, 36 in Offices and 6 in Shops. One would expect more Laboratory deficiencies since more laboratories were audited and laboratories often contain more potential hazards than Office/Assembly areas.
- The predominant audit findings for laboratories related to chemicals: Chemicals Improperly Stored, e.g. near incompatible chemicals (9% of total) and No Eyewash/Safety Shower/not accessible/testing not performed (8%).
• The predominant findings of Office audits were electrical. Power strips/surge protectors/extension cords not plugged directly into a permanent outlet accounted for 58% of total deficiencies. It is not uncommon to find multiple instances of this deficiency in one area and each instance is noted as a deficiency. Extension cords being used on a permanent basis accounted for 38%.
• The predominant finding of Shop audits was: Machine not guarded/guard not properly adjusted/inadequate (3 of the 6 deficiencies). Machine guarding violations have a great potential for injury, as evidenced by a partial amputation injury this past quarter.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrative Matters
The committee decided to continue meetings on the third Tuesday of the month following the end of each quarter for calendar year 2013. Open Forum meetings will continue, with the April 16, 2013 meeting to be held at East Campus Union and the October 15, 2013 meeting to be held at City Campus Union. Meeting dates and locations for 2013 are published on the EHS web site.

Committee members were reminded that the email address for the CUSC is not listed in the Outlook Global Contacts List and is: cusc@unl.edu. Members were encouraged to add this address this to their own Personal Contacts list.

Goal Setting

Prior to this meeting, Chair Beth Whitaker sent all members communication about possible goals as a reminder to come prepared to select a goal for the quarter. It was determined that setting quarterly objectives and subsequent reporting back the following quarter would help keep the committee’s efforts focused on enhancing safety at UNL. There was discussion on several possible goals. Following is the goal for the first quarter of 2012-2013:

To help foster UNL employee awareness of the individual’s role in their own personal safety, that of their co-workers, and safety/injury prevention in general at UNL. Ensuring successful completion of safety training as identified through the Employee Training Needs Assessment for EHS-Related Topics (http://ehs.unl.edu/Training_Needs_Assessment.pdf) is a recommended first step.

Individual CUSC members are to evaluate how best to accomplish this goal, take steps necessary to meet the goal within their own spheres of influence, and report on their efforts at the next CUSC meeting. One method of campus-wide outreach
with which all CUSC members may assist is supporting a CUSC booth at the October 2012 Supplier Showcase.

Supplier Showcase Participation

A Supplier Showcase, sponsored by UNL Procurement, will be held again this year on October 16, 2012 in the City Campus Union. Specific details were not yet available except for the date. Members decided that, based on the numbers of UNL personnel reached last year, it would be worthwhile to have a booth again this year to disseminate safety information to help further the CUSC’s stated goal.

Lynn Doser and Tony Hernbloom volunteered to chair the committee to organize a CUSC booth for the Supplier Showcase. Members will be contacted closer to the date for help in staffing the booth, both for setup prior to start and takedown, as well as help to staff the booth in one-hour increments over the course of the day. The Supplier Showcase likely will again occur between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Members discussed various possibilities to promote the CUSC goal determined for this quarter. One thing those in attendance all agreed upon was the idea of providing a sticker to be worn by those who stop by the CUSC booth, similar to the “I’ve voted” stickers, but with a theme related to the CUSC quarterly goal. The subcommittee of Jan Deeds and Tony Hernbloom will meet and be ready for the next steps by early August. There were funds left over from the 2011 Supplier Showcase which may be used to purchase stickers to distribute from the CUSC booth.

Follow-up Items

In the discussion on goal setting, a number of topics were raised that will be researched and reported on next meeting:

- Fall 2012 Safety Walk. When will this be held?
- AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) at UNL. Is there a campus-wide policy? Is there a list of AED locations?
- Individual Building Emergency Planning. In spring 2010 Fred Gardy, UNLPD, presented to the CUSC a draft document to assist the campus community with this task. What is the status of this project? Is the document now available, even though it does not appear on the Emergency Planning and Preparedness web site? If the document is still in the draft stage, what are the hurdles to move the Building Emergency Planning document out of this stage? Can the CUSC assist in some manner?
- Dissemination of safety information beyond the EHS web site and EHS monthly listserv. Is it possible to publish regular campus safety articles in the Daily Nebraskan, a newspaper widely read by staff as well as students? Would the Chancellor support CUSC notices in the daily Today@UNL email, for example, regarding safety events such as the semi-annual Laboratory Safety Colloquium, an annual reminder about using care
walking/working in ice & snow (a source of a multitude of injuries every winter season), etc.

**Safety Committees at UNL**

Due to time constraints, this portion of the agenda was not addressed and will be moved to the October meeting agenda.

**CLOSING REMARKS**
The next meeting will be October 16, 2012, at Nebraska City Union, facilitated by Co-Chair, Lynn Doser.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Beth Whitaker.
Age (OSHA Recordable)
April - June 2012

- 18 - 25
- 26 - 40
- 41 - 55
- 56 - 65
Safety Audit Overview (April 1 – June 30, 2012)

Safety Audits are conducted of all spaces at UNL on a schedule, based on identified hazards and regulatory requirements. A ‘space’ is defined as an area on the official IRP map with a number and/or word designation and includes areas such as secondary rooms, corridors, storage areas, etc.

| Laboratory (L) | 471 |
| Office & Assembly (e.g. classrooms) (O) | 104 |
| Shop & Utility (S) | 3 |

**Areas audited** (*Denotes entire building audited. Audit of entire bldg. may occur across two reporting periods.):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Building/Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ag Hort Greenhouse 3</td>
<td>Kisselbach Crops Research Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag Hort Greenhouse 4</td>
<td>Keim Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Warehouse No. 1</td>
<td>(L.W.) Chase Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Sciences Complex</td>
<td>Manter Hall*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry Hall</td>
<td>Othmer Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beadle Center</td>
<td>Poultry Building F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Industry Bldg</td>
<td>Plant Sciences Hall*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Krejci Bldg @ GPVEC</td>
<td>Leverton Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Hall</td>
<td>Theodore Jorgensen Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials Facility</td>
<td>Water Sciences Lab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deficiency Recap** *(Note that one ‘lab’ may consist of multiple, connected lab rooms with the same PI.)*

**Deficiencies in Laboratories – 256 total instances** *(in order of prevalence by category, deficiencies found in 5 for more laboratories + a few general, more serious concerns)*

**CHEMICAL**
- (23) Chemicals stored near incompatible chemicals/amounts exceed allowed limit (e.g. flammables).
- (21) No eyewash/safety shower or testing not performed/not accessible.
- (18) No room door posting/posting inaccurate/incomplete.
- (18) Adequate/appropriate chemical spill supplies not available.
- (13) Chemicals not adequately labeled/label damaged/missing.
- (7) Fire extinguishers not present/secured/appropriate for chemicals/fully charged.
- (7) Compressed gas cylinder: not properly secured; toxic or pyrophoric gases are used/stored outside of a fume hood/gas cabinet.
- (5) Evidence of food/drink consumption in area where chemicals used/stored.
- (1) Hydrofluoric acid in use and no Calcium gluconate paste available for immediate first aid upon exposure.
- (3) Other Chemical Safety Concerns. Flammables cabinet door standing open with no one in the area. Flammables cabinet does not have a label “Flammables – Keep Away.” Ethyl ether dated 5/2011.

**ELECTRICAL**
- (14) GFCI not installed in damp/wet areas or outlets in damp areas not protected by
- (9) Administrative controls lacking/incomplete: Workers have not completed basic EHS training. No lab safety manual or Job Safety Assessments in place. Personnel observed wearing shorts/ open-toed shoes while working in the lab.
- (9) Other Electrical Safety Concerns: Outdoor outlet no appropriate for outside applications. Non-GFCI power strips positioned in close proximity to water spigot of lab bench/sinks. Electrical panel doors not latched/can’t be latched. Standard electrical power strip located within an anaerobic chamber using hydorgen 5%/nitrogen 95% gas (potential for fire/explosion).
- (7) Extension cord not restricted to temporary use.
- (6) Power strip/surge protector/extension cord not plugged directly into a permanent outlet.

**VENTILATED CABINETS**
- (17) Ventilated cabinet certification expired.
- (8) Ventilated cabinet used for storage.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**
- (16) Waste containers are not appropriately labeled (chemical name and indication of whether used/spent).
- (9) Collection containers are not closed.

**Deficiencies in Offices - 36 total instances**
- (21) Power strip/surge protector/extension cord not plugged directly into a permanent outlet.
- (14) Extension cord not restricted to temporary use.
- (1) Chemicals stored in hallway.

**Deficiencies in Shops—6 total instances**
1. (3) Machine not guarded/guard not properly adjusted/inadequate
2. (1) Abrasive Wheel not properly adjusted
3. (1) Extension cord not restricted to temporary use
4. (1) Items stored w/in 18” of sprinkler head