

Chancellor's University Safety Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2026

Open Forum

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The March meeting was convened by Chair Martha Morton at 3:02 p.m.

Introduction of Attendees

All attendees introduced themselves by name and the department/facility they represent.

Members In Attendance: Darren Johnson (ENREEC), Samantha Link (ARD Plant Facility), Mike Livingston (Agronomy & Horticulture), Barb McCain (Dining Svcs), Xiaoshan Xu (Physics & Astronomy), Abby Schletzbaum (UNLPD), Jodie Barnes (UNOPA), Alan Boldt (BSE), Jacob Sharrer (HEP), Jon Shields (NE Unions), Deb Royal (VDC), Max Wheeler (College of Engineering), Brent Morgan (Libraries), Rick Campos (Fire Inspector), Jody Wood (Office of Equity & Compliance), Sunil Sukumaran (Nutrition & Health Sciences) and Zhiguang (Zach) Sun (NCMN).

Safety Committee attendees: Kyle Broderick (Plant Pathology)

Guests: Eric Smith (Tractor Test Laboratory), Speakers Amy Barry and Leah Widdowson (IT Academic Technology)

Open Forum

Rick Campos thanked Max Wheeler for help in a recent antifreeze spill.

Martha Morton notified the group that she had contacted Dr. Pat Dussault, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Science, seeking suggestions on a potential contact to pursue a campus-wide initiative to install AEDs throughout campus. The goal is to get university-funded AEDs in all campus buildings.

Martha pointed out the link in the agenda to a laboratory safety resource provided by the ACS Division of Chemical Safety. This resource is relevant to all laboratory workers, not just those working with chemicals and is available online at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jchemed.5c01480>.

Old Business

Scooter Use Policy

Rick Campos reported that he is waiting to see if UNMC is going to implement an NU system-wide scooter policy. There currently are some building policies regarding charging scooters posted on building doors around the University on Lincoln-Nebraska three campuses. There is a UNL policy re: Mobility (Wheels on Campus), limited in scope, available online at <https://bf.unl.edu/policies/mobility-policy/>.

Jacob Sharrer said he had recently noticed posters by the Union. Jon Shields noted that ASUN has an initiative to put out signage from 7 a.m. to midnight to encourage safe scooter use practices, such as walking scooters not riding them in pedestrian areas on campus.

Plan Ahead Project

Sandi Overkamp shared that she had submitted another select group of Plan Ahead! graphics to the Unions and Housing for them to use in their digital displays for two months. Elizabeth Howe showed where all 19 Plan Ahead! graphics are posted on the EHS website and all 7 Heads Up! graphics are posted as well.

Other Old Business

Last meeting Sandi Overkamp asked if it would be possible to have the colors used for delineating Event/Exposure information in the quarterly Injury Incident reports to be modified as in some instances the color designation for one employment type is so close to the color designation for another employment type as to make it nearly impossible to view the report and tell which employment type has what number of instances for any one event/exposure. Elizabeth Howe told the group the vendor made change, and it is in place for the next quarterly Injury Incident reporting.

New Business

Emergency Planning & Preparedness

Abby Scheletzbaum informed the group of a statewide notice in the morning on 3/25/26 to test the tornado warning system. The standard monthly test will also occur. Departments are requested to treat this event as if it were a real tornado and encourage all workers to participate and report to the building's tornado shelter.

Any shelter issues or concerns can be reported to Abby for assistance and suggestions. For example, if signage for location of tornado shelter is not in place, if there is no

tornado shelter in a building or the shelter is behind card access. Abby is ready to work with any area that does not have a Building Action Plan.

Mike Livingston noted that there would be 7000 – 8000 additional people on campus 3/25/26 with FFA. He suggested that there be some outreach to the organizers of that group.

Abby mentioned that she and Rick Campos will be working to set up fire drills in all buildings across campus in late summer/early fall.

Polling.unl.edu Presentation

Amy Barry and Leah Widdowson, Academic Technologies IT, reviewed the polling.unl.edu and its application for surveys such as CUSC voting for Vice Chair, event planning, meeting engagement, or other applications not related to teaching through Canvas. Since this app was developed in-house, it is continually under review to identify upgrades of use to the campus community. A PDF of the presentation is included with these minutes.

Nominations for Vice Chair

Elizabeth Howe reminded the group that every two years the Vice Chair moves into the position of Chair of the CUSC. This is the year for that to occur. Elizabeth emailed membership a list of duties of both Vice Chair and Chair since the time commitment is four years starting with two as Vice Chair than moving up into the Chair position. This year nominees are asked to provide a short bio and a sample that was included in the mailing. These documents are intended to inform members as they thoughtfully consider if they would be willing to put their name forward to serve.

To put your name forward for the open position of Vice Chair, volunteers were asked to please email ehowe2@unl.edu.

Other New Business

Elizabeth Howe noted she had just received information that there will be a Fall Wellness Fair, date to be determined. Further information will be forthcoming in early summer at which time there will be a booth sign-up available. The CUSC has had a booth at this outreach event for many years, and it has proven to be a good way to raise awareness of the CUSC and a variety of safety considerations. Elizabeth provides resources, handouts and 30-second talking point to facilitate the outreach efforts by CUSC member booth volunteers. The group in attendance voted to participate again in Fall 2026.

Closing Remarks

Martha Morton, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:40 pm. The next meeting will be on May 19, 2026.