Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to compile all actions and recommendations of the Campus Safety Committee for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Members:

Employer Representatives

- Chris Augeri, Campus Events & Student Union
- Todd Bauch, Campus Recreation
- Erin Burns, Helen Gordon Child Development Center
- Abby Chroman, School of Business
- Tyler Hartman, Human Resources
- Sarah Kenney, Construction & Real Estate
- Shaun Kohn, Smith Memorial Student Union
- Mike McNerney, Campus Public Safety Office
- Jeffrey Rook, Environmental Health and Safety
- Gabrielle Sysyn, Center for Student Health and Counseling
- Leslie Walters, Facilities Property Management

Employee Representatives

- Tom Bennett, Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Lorenzo Guzman, Chairperson, Office of the Registrar
- Paul Boevers, Transportation and Parking Services
- Deanna Britton, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- Joshewa Fulton, Global Diversity & Inclusion
- Tyler Hartman, Human Resources
- Erica Hunsberger, Environmental Health and Safety
- Aaron Landreth, Office of Information Technology
- Joe Potter, Facilities and Property Management
- Clare Quinn, Vice Chairperson, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- Jeffrey Smith, Diversity and Multicultural Student Services
- Elena Sokol, College of Urban & Public Affairs
- Susan Tardif, College of Urban & Public Affairs
- Karin Waller, International Affairs

Ad Hoc Members and Attendees

- Alyssa Thompson, Environmental Health & Safety
- Karen Kraus, Human Resources
- Sierra Schmidt, Environmental Health & Safety
- Jacen Greene, PSU Homessness Research & Action Center

Review of Goals for FY 21-22

- Engage with members of other committees to liaise appropriate concerns to the main safety committee
- Continue to expand committee membership with more groups on campus
- Update committee charter
- Enhance incident/accident analysis and injury prevention; propose mechanism for campus wide program for reporting near miss incidents

Accomplishments From FY 21-22

Quarterly Inspections

Implemented in FY 13, the Committee conducts quarterly building inspections as required by OR-OSHA.

Due to ongoing disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic there were no quarterly building inspections during FY 21-22. The committee plans to resume building inspections in the third quarter of 2022.

Increased Campus Representation

Despite some regular departures from the Committee roster, the Committee accounted for the addition of two employee and three employer representatives during the year.

Collaboration with an Adjacent Committee

As of this report there is one active Committee member who participates on the PSU President Stephen Percy's Reimagine Campus Safety Committee and has agreed to bring forward information relevant to workplace safety.

PSU COVID-19 Response and Return to Campus

In September 2021, the University enacted a return to campus transition for staff according to deliberate planning by various University bodies. A driver of this initiative, the Incident Management Team (IMT), provided guidelines and recommendations for the return to campus. EHS Director, Jeff Rook, provided updates to the Committee as Jeff is also a member of the IMT.

- July 14th, 2021 Jeff Rook detailed from IMT discussions, though the University aligned policy with the State of Oregon's physical distancing and occupancy limits guidance, masks are still required indoors for all staff, students and members of the public. The University must develop attestation procedures to fulfill vaccination requirements.
- September 8th, 2021 Jeff Rook provided clarification of University policy as discussed in IMT meetings. The University continues to require masks indoors if individuals are within six feet of another person. Masks can be removed in designated areas or where an individual is in a personal workspace where a door can be closed and not within six feet of another person. The University will enforce mask policy through the appropriate authorities. HEPA filters were installed inside classrooms.

 December 12th, 2021 - Jeff Rook shared the IMT Return to Campus guidelines made available on the University website.

Also in September 2021, the University asked some administrative and services staff to return to campus to facilitate administrative services for students and the public. The University allowed individual departments to coordinate a gradual transition back for the remaining staff though some departments continued to work entirely remote through the fiscal year. Beginning in the Fall 2021 academic term, courses were offered in-person, remote and in hybrid class modes to facilitate education and the responsible transition of students back to the campus environment. The Committee deliberated these small and large unit operations routinely.

University policy to wear masks and face coverings remained in place through March 19th, 2022 and University bodies continue to assess local conditions for further COVID-19 guidance.

Special Presentation

On December 12th, 2021, Campus Public Safety liaison, Michael McNerny, and Assistant Director of PSU Homeless Research & Action Center, Jacen Greene, spoke on their perspective of Homelessness in downtown Portland and the PSU area.

 Michael Mcnerny discussed the impacts of Oregon House Bill 3115, newly passed legislation, which mandates local law regulating,

"[S]itting, lying, sleeping or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property that is open to the public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place, and manner with regards to persons experiencing homelessness".

Michael detailed this legislation will create a precedent for agencies to adopt which may impact contacting homeless populations and the ability of CPSO to respond to such reports.

 Jacen Greene provided a presentation on the status quo of policies related to homelessness and the socioeconomic conditions which have created these population outcomes. Jacen also shared resources Committee members can utilize for reporting campsites on campus as well as City of Portland initiatives enacted for homelessness response.

Injury Summary for FY21-22

Total Injuries: 39 (+6)

Total Reportable Injuries: 13 (-1)

Summary of Locations and/or Departments

Student Injuries: 8 (+5)

https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1/Measures/Overview/HB3115

¹ Oregon House Bill, *Relating to the regulation of public property with respect to persons experiencing homelessness; and declaring an emergency*, HB 3115, 81st Legislative Assembly, signed into 2021 Laws, Chapter 370: Effective date June 23, 2021.

Temporary Employees: 3 (same)

Non-student/Non-temp Employees: 22 (-2)

Facilities and Property Management Employees: 14 (+5)

Student Health & Counseling Employees: 1 (-5)

Helen Gordon Child Development Center Employees: 7 (+2)

Injury Types

Laceration: 3 (-1) Sprain/Strain: 5 (-5) Ergonomics (MSD): 0 (-1) Slips,Trips,Falls: 11 (+7)

Impact: 6 (+1) Crushing: 1 (-2) Needlestick: 0 (-1)

Interpersonal Violence: 5 (+5) Physical Violence: 1 (+1)

Challenges for FY 22-23

- Resume in-person building inspections in the wake of continued COVID-19 outbreaks.
 - EHS staff have suspended building inspections due to local COVID-19 conditions through FY 21-22, but plan to facilitate inspections in the coming quarters.
 - The Committee and EHS staff should develop timelines and plans to coordinate safety inspections pursuant to OSHA standards.
- The Committee must continue to invite staff from under-represented departments or employee classes in order to diversify membership.
- The Committee charter must be reviewed and updated accordingly.

Goals for FY 22-23

- Develop new procedures for building inspections which adequately notify departments in the location to be inspected.
- Incorporate new members of the Committee to diversify membership.
- Continue to collaborate with adjacent committees for workplace safety.

