

**COMITÉ FONCTIONNEL SUR LA SANTÉ ET LA SÉCURITÉ EN LABORATOIRE
LABORATORY FUNCTIONAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

August 11, 2021; 13h30; via Teams

Attendance:

Representation	Name	Present?	E-mail
Deans/Directors from all areas (2)	Sean Kirkwood (co-chair)	X	Sean.Kirkwood@uottawa.ca
	Nada Nagy	X	Nada.Nagy@telfer.uottawa.ca
APUO (3)	James Gomes	X	jgomes@uottawa.ca
	Dan-Sorin Neculescu	-	necsu@uottawa.ca
	Louis Trudel	X	
APTPUO (2)	Md. Mahmud Hadan	X	mhasan@uottawa.ca
	Fadi Malek	-	malek@uottawa.ca
CUPE, Local 2626 (3)	Bridget Price-Robert	-	
	Jacob Drouillard	X	
	Gilles Salameh	-	
	Agnes Bezerra (visiting)	X	
	Seema Shafer (visiting)	X	
PIPSC (1)	Alain Le Hénaff	X	lehenaff@eecs.uottawa.ca
OSSTF (3)	Scott Dick	X	sdick@uottawa.ca
	Patrick D'Aoust	X	pdaous3@uottawa.ca
	Alp Oran	X	
Non-unionized group (1)			
Non-voting undergraduate student (1)			

Resource Persons	Name	Present?	E-mail
Office of Risk Management	Graham Nelson	X	gnelson@uottawa.ca
JHSC Inspector	Robert (Bob) Atkinson	X	blitz@uottawa.ca
Office of Risk Management	Louise Barrette	X	

Minutes

- Approval of agenda
 - SK: Add item to agenda (Fire Safety Training)
 - Motion to approve agenda put forward by Nada Nagy, seconded by Alp Oran.
- Approval of the minutes from meeting #2 held May 5, 2021
 - Motion to approve minutes from May 5th, 2021 by James Gomes, seconded by Alp Oran.
- Matters arising/continuing from the minutes of meeting #2

- Update on ARC alarm panel
 - i. Things are not moving, panel still not connected to Protection despite 3-4 years time have passed. Item is requested by committee to be elevated to the Occupational Health & Safety level.
 - WHMIS 2015 labelling
 - i. Students hired to help continue the labelling, about 90% done in Science. Motion to drop the item from the list due to Science making significant progress put forward by Patrick D'Aoust, seconded by Alp Oran.
 - Silica exposure control program
 - i. People concerned in Arts will verify if an equivalent without silica can be used, if not proper exposure protection will be put in place. Motion to keep in agenda for next meeting until item is solved. Put forward by NN, seconded by PD.
 - Autoclave safety training
 - i. Training moves from in class to online training. This item will be moved to the next meeting.
4. Critical injury / accident / incident / occupational illness reports
- Event 1: Student made incorrect manipulation in the laboratory (quenching) and a fire occurred. Student was wearing a lab coat and caught fire with the chemicals. Post-doc extinguished the student and student sought medical care, minor burns on labs and fingers. Student removed from lab momentarily for retraining. Fire Safety Training motivated by this meeting. Program in the faculty will seek to implement requirement for flame retardant laboratory coats to be mandatory for certain labs. Procedures were reviewed and deemed appropriate – findings find student was careless.
 - Event 2: Fingers pinched by moving tables in a lab.
 - Event 3: Staff was moving equipment out of a lab. Staff was exposed to hydrochloric acid and phosphorus acid. Instruments are not properly decommissioned by used and users were reminded that it was their responsibility to decommission the equipment. No PPE.
5. University Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee
- Many items discussed were COVID-19 related. ORM will be going out to unions and management to revise terms of reference of committees to add two new groups.
 - COVID-19 updates: was at phase 2 at the time, campus is now requiring vaccination to be on campus and new requirements will be put in place for masking and distancing.
<https://www.uottawa.ca/coronavirus/en/mandatory-covid-19-vaccination>

- Questions were asked related to ventilation – Marc Antoine Joly (Facilities) mentions that rooms are meeting ventilation requirements as per ASHRAE requirements for rooms at uOttawa.
- Q: PD asks who is enforcing the vaccination requirement? – NN responds that it will be an attestation system (honor system).
- Q: Question was asked: a student discloses that they will not take a vaccine. What can we do/are they going to be allowed in the laboratory? – A: Additional news will be forthcoming shortly on how to deal with these issues.
- C/Q: LT asks: the vaccine will be obligatory, will there be more restrictions? He raises a point that extra measures (testing, etc.) will have to be enforced. Who is enforcing the rules?
- LT asks: Ventilation – is it recycled or fresh air? – A: If air is recycled, a filter has to be of good quality. Air passes through a MERV-13/14/14 in buildings (it is on a building by building basis), 40% is recycled, 60% of air is new from outside (corridors and offices). Labs have 100% fresh air. To verify people can ask their facility managers.
- Q: Question was asked: How many students we will have on campus in September? – A: NN responds that approximately 20,000 students will be on campus. AO mentions: 1st year courses will be online, 2nd year and up will be on campus.
- University is in the process of a putting a roles and responsibilities workshop, checking with legal for compliance: <https://auth-orm.uottawa.ca/roles-responsibilities>. Hoping to launch this in Fall.
- Hazard reporting procedure: Hazard reporting procedure is modified to align with the WSIB requirements. Incidents are to be communicated and promotional material is put in Science to review this.
- An interview-type tool has been put in place to help people find job-specific training. It is available here: <https://orm.uottawa.ca/training/job-specific>
- Q: AO asks if university ambassadors (yellow shirt) will continue campus-wide? – A: Yes they will continue in the fall.

6. Inspections

- RA gives presentation on results of inspections so far.
- Issues highlighted:
 - i. First-aid kit inspections, eyewash inspections, improperly labelled containers, items leaning on walls and items stored on the ground.
 - ii. Issues brought up are an opportunity to reflect on our shortcomings while also outlining what we are doing well.

- iii. Q: SK asks if ceiling tiles are actually a fire risk – A: We don't know. This conversation can be taken offline.
- Questions from inspector to committee:
 - i. Q: How should we evaluate the PPE? Who enforces it? Who enforces that people wear it? Etc. A: University are currently working to define these things. Whatever is on the door of a room says something. JG mentions that the PPE is the responsibility of the University. The PI is responsible to ensure his employees/students wear PPE. Undergrads have to provide their own lab coats, glasses and gloves.
 - Q: What does inspector do when confronted with a lab that has deficient PPE? A: Lab managers should be sure that door signs are accurate. It was mentioned that PIs could provide this list of what people need. Also, RA is inspecting with another H&S member, he could raise it there and then. Currently he can enforce what is on the door. We can think about this for the next meeting.
7. Upcoming training sessions (fees may apply - <https://web47.uottawa.ca/en/lrs>)
- Workplace first-aider spots available: <https://web47.uottawa.ca/en/lrs/node/1497>
 - Fire safety training (further developed following D'lorio presentation). Comments can be sent to SK. Committee members invited to provide comment by Sept. 10th, 2021 if they wish to.
8. Other / New Business
- Motion by Nada Nagy to place next meeting for **Nov 10th, 2021 at 1:30 pm**. Seconded by Patrick D'Aoust.

Meeting adjourned at 2:59 pm

Signatures

Worker Co-Chair: Patrick M. D'Aoust
Patrick D'Aoust

Date: 2021-11-01

Management Co-Chair: _____
Sean Kirkwood

Date: _____