



Safety Committee Meeting

January 24, 2008

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Invited:

Kim Bryner, Mike Cain, Thomas Hussion, Cindy Dalton, Jeff Kerns, Lt. Allen Hill, Nina Clovis, Tom Fortuna, Lana Bunner, Bob Lemley, Andy Cockburn, Grove Pennington, Dianne DeAngelis, Debbie Pikel, Trudy Werry, Brad Fansler, Kevin Simpkins, Lisa Hatfield, Nasser Razmainfar, Susan Clacko

Present:

Kim Bryner, Bob Lemley, Lisa Hatfield, Jeff Kerns, Brad Fansler, Nina Clovis, Mike Cain, Susan Clacko, Lana Bunner

I. **Opening:** Welcome from Committee Chair, Stephanie Graham-Sims

II. Topics Discussed:

- **Safety Newsletter:**

- The Safety Office is developing a newsletter that will be published quarterly (spring, summer, fall, winter). The Winter Newsletter is a work in progress and will be e-mailed and published online soon. Comments and suggestions relating to the newsletter are welcome.

- **Butane Torch in the Dentistry School:**

- Discussion continued from the previous meeting relating to the butane torches that have malfunctioned in the School of Dentistry. The issue continues to be a safety concern. There is evidence that students may have used the torch improperly. Brad Fansler is seeking viable alternatives. Of the other options identified, none appear to perform as well as the butane torches. Moreover, other Universities have been consulted and the majority are utilizing the same torch as WVU. Dentistry will continue to seek out viable alternatives. The safety committee recommends that in the interim, all students receive training on the safe care and use of the butane torches upon receipt of the instrument.

- **The Gravel Path:**

- Due to the winter weather, the gravel path on the chiller plant side of the building poses an additional safety concern. When the ground is covered with snow, the path is not visible and is untreatable as it relates to snow removal and de-icing. The path is

frequently slick and iced over, presenting slip and fall hazards. The issue of having a safe walkway to the lower parking area needs to be addressed. A committee member asked if we should place signs that say “use at your own risk”. However, because the walkway is so heavily used, the committee recommends that a proper concrete walkway be designed and constructed that can be safely climbed and maintained.

- **Construction in Roadway and Parking Lot:**
 - Another concern addressed by committee members is the construction going on in the HSC roadways and parking areas. While digging and working in the pipeline, contractors are controlling the movement of traffic. However, a committee member noted that there is very little room for pedestrians to navigate through the roadway, the construction and oncoming vehicles. The contractors need to flag for pedestrians using the roadways, as well as for vehicles. Without sidewalks, visitors to the building must walk through traffic and construction to enter the building. This time of year adds additional hazards due to mud, snow and ice.
 - Jeff Kerns said that he would inform the contractors to make pedestrian safety a priority when flagging and working.
- **Picking Up of Waste in the Labs:**
 - There was a concern that infectious medical waste is not being picked up often enough. A member noted that calls have been made to Preventive Maintenance, but regular pick-ups are not consistent enough. Consistent pick-ups are necessary even when containers are not full, due to the type of research involved.
- **The 2007 Annual Report:**
 - The 2007 HSC Annual Safety Report is currently in development.
- **Department Homeland Security:**
 - Chemicals inventory list is due by THURSDAY (Jan. 31, 2008).
 - The measurement needed is the quantity in a one year period. Stephanie and Bob were made aware that Dentistry will likely have large amounts of old chemicals that will need to be disposed. There was a request to go over the department’s chemical list before turning them over to Stephanie, which was approved. Moreover, if there are any questions or concerns about the list just let Stephanie know. She will be glad to work with you.

- **OSHA's Personal Protection:**
 - OSHA issued a final rule on Personal Protective Equipment which clarifies responsibilities as it relates to purchasing equipment. There will be more information on the Web concerning this issue. HSCSafetyoffice@hsc.wvu.edu
- **The ME-In Services:**
 - Maintenance Engineering will have their first safety training in-services of the year on January 29, 2008. More information concerning additional dates has been forwarded and will be placed on the HSC Safety Website.

III. Closing

- The next Safety Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 28, 2008 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the HSC Facilities Hall Harper Conference "War" room.