



Faculty of Science Safety Committee Meeting

June 20th, 2025, ~ 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Dean of Science Boardroom

Attendees:

Dean of Science Office & Meeting Chairperson - Dr. Sam Veres, Dean of Science

Dean of Science Office – Leanne Lucas, Science Safety Advisor

Department of Astronomy and Physics – Dr. Mike Dunlavy

Department of Biology - Dr. David Chiasson

Department of Chemistry – Jennifer Wright

Animal Facility: Caila Henderson

Department of Forensic Science – Dr. Tim Frasier

Department of Geology – Dr. Simone Booker

Human Resources Department – Valerie Wadman

Facilities Management Department –

Minute taker – April Scheller

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at: 10:00 am

GENERAL BUSINESS

Call for Agenda Item Additions

No additions.

Minutes from the May 2025 meeting

Minutes adopted by consent.

BUSINESS ARISING

O2 Alarm follow-up (incident 7309)

L. Lucas and S. Veres haven't received a follow-up yet from Kevin Trudeau. Will follow-up in a few months.

Teaching lab signage for waste guidance (incident 7313)

L. Lucas and D. Boudreau created new signs for attire and updated WHMIS images. L. Lucas will send to V. Wadman and add to safety email update. Let L. Lucas know if more signs are needed.

Shock from fume hood follow-up (incident 7310)

V. Wadman, relayed to L. Lucas that the Facilities Maintenance worker received a shock when the system was reenergized.

REPORTS

Safety Advisor Report

Summary of Injury/Incident Reports for Faculty of Science

L. Lucas described the Injury/Incident Reports that had been submitted for Science during May.

Incident #7329	<i>Incorrect emergency alarm gave a do not evacuate message.</i> Once the fire alarm is pulled, Security is unable to send out notifications since a fire alarm overrides any other alarm. Security recommended downloading the SMU-safe app and adding the push notifications but there's still bugs to work out.
Incident #7350	<i>Fainting spell while in observatory.</i> During a public tour a person felt dizzy and slid down the wall to the floor. Unknown cause, they left with their partner once they felt better. The rotating ceiling was paused in case that was the cause. <i>Prevention: brief episode couldn't be identified but staff have first aid and knew what to do during the event.</i>

OHS & Wellness Consultant: JOHSC Activity and Information

JOHSC minutes: none at this time.

V. Wadman said the Intro to OSH course hasn't been sent out yet but is coming soon. There are 2000 spaces on the PD platform and faculty, staff and others will be on Brightspace.

They advised that the number of free online courses, (paid for by the Department of Labour, Skills & Immigration), has increased to eight courses annually. The information will be available in the next safety email.

The OHS annual policy has been revised and is available on the website, along with the heat stress guidelines.

The violence in the workplace guidelines should be out in July but may be August. V. Wadman will send the link to the committee.

NAOSH went well and was well attended.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

OTHER BUSINESS

D. Chiasson asked if step stools without CSA will be removed. V. Wadman and L. Lucas will look at them to determine if they are acceptable.

L. Lucas said the radiation test results with the dosimeter came back with a low reading and the results from February – May showed no reading. M. Dunlavy will lend out machine if needed.

The Studio is redesigning the WHMIS course this summer. L. Lucas is looking for content for more

advanced faculty and staff training. They will work on this over the summer.

Fire testing training was done two times before and L. Lucas suggested it may be good to bring it back.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Dr. Sam Veres
Meeting Chairperson, Faculty of Science Safety Committee
Dean of Science