

**Safety Committee Meeting
Whitman College
December 19, 2018, 1:00 pm**

Present:

John Hopkins, Kathleen Hutchison, Bryan Lubbers, Celina Coffeen, Kendra Golden, Matt Stroe, Fred Miller

Absent:

Kathy Rogers, John Eckel, Shane Watkins, Dan Schindler, Claudia Ness, Paul Dodez

Welcome to Celina Coffeen who is the new Biology Lab Coordinator.

DISCUSSION

Campus inspection report from Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) dated 8/17/18.

- John noticed the report didn't document information discussed about having chemical inventory lists in lab spaces, or about confined space lists. John gave a copy of his L&I inspection notes to Fred, and asked that Fred go back and talk to the L&I inspector.
- Celina questioned who is responsible for making sure the campus' chemical lists are kept current. Fred explained that lab chemical inventories are the responsibility of the faculty. Likewise, the Science Tech staff are responsible for the stockroom inventories.
- Fred relayed that campus custodians are not trained to clean up spills when they don't know what is in the spill. Fred is the contact person for all chemical spills on campus. Fred has training but the law states that he must have a full support team to clean up hazardous spills. The college does not have staffing for this, thus the college has established that the universal response for a chemical spill is to "back out, call 911, and isolate the area".
- Fred clarified that the Fire Department Hazmat Team will take care of spills. Chemical inventory lists are meaningless, because the Fire Department only cares about the broad class of chemical that could be in the spill.
- Celina requested a meeting for the Science Tech staff for review and update on lab safety procedures. Fred agreed that a meeting is overdue.

NEXT MEETING is Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 1:00pm in WCTS room 132.

Additional meetings are scheduled on Google calendar for February 19, March 26, and April 16. Each member was sent an invite via email.