



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

College of Engineering

Annual Local Safety Committee Report 2015-16

Supporting +/-2,500 College of Engineering community members, including +/-347 employees

College Safety

The Local Safety Committee (LSC) is established to review and address health and safety concerns in the College of Engineering.

The committee is one component of the University's Occupational Health and Safety policies and procedures. In accordance with Section 3 of the Saskatchewan Employment Act, the University of Saskatchewan has established an Occupational Health Committee (OHC) to provide a forum for consultation between the University of Saskatchewan and representatives of its employees concerning health and safety issues in the University workplace. The primary focus of the OHC is to address health and safety issues that have implications for the University as a whole. In support of the OHC and its activities, a network of Local Safety Committees (LSC) is established to identify, review and address health and safety concerns arising at the college/division level.

<u>Current Local Safety Committee Members</u>		
Veronica Bendig	Management Co-Chair	3B48.7
Richard Blondin	Employee Co-Chair & CBE Representative	1D23
Brennan Pokoyoway/Dale Pavier	CGEE Representatives	1C01.2.1
Doug Bitner	ME Representative	1B19
Jason Pannell -	ECE Representative	2C94
Evan Nordquist	SciFi Representative	1C03
Blair Cole	E- Shops Representative	1B91
Andrea Book	Building Warden Representative	1B97.3
Denard Lynch	Faculty Representative	3B11
Shafiq Ala	Faculty Representative	1C123
Omolara Olubajo	Graduate Student Representative	
Ashley Stock	Undergraduate Student Representative	
Susan Cook	UofS OHC Representative	WCVM 1317
Patrick Hauser	UofS Safety Resources Representative	
Marwan Bardouh	FMD Representative	
Amanda McDonald	LSC Administrative Support	1B97.3

The Engineering LSC met monthly in 2015-16 and reports that overall the college continues to progress in achieving its safety goals and targets. The goal of the LSC mirrors the goal of the Workman's Compensation Board of "Mission Zero" with regards to incidents within the college. The LSC also wants to develop a safety culture which the students incorporate into their careers and employees incorporate into their everyday lives both on and off campus.

Incidents

In 2015-16, there were 7 reported incidents in the college, down from 10 the prior year. One of these incidents was reported to Occupational Health and Safety as a Near Miss and Dangerous Occurrence. All of the incidents have been addressed or are in the process of being addressed and corrective actions have been planned and implemented.

Minor preventable occurrences	Personal Injury requiring medical attention	Near Misses and dangerous occurrences
Laboratory Flood	Two hand injuries requiring stitches	Chemical Leak
	Fainting episode resulting in minor head injury	
	Strained Hand	
	Foreign object in eye	

Safety Training

Providing regular safety training to the building occupants remains to be a priority for the LSC. A new mandatory 3 year safety refresher course requirement was implemented in 2015-16.

In 2015-16, continued training was offered to various members of our college communities including:

1. Two day safety training for students,
2. Biosafety Level 2 & 3 permit training,
3. Laboratory safety re-training,
4. Certificate of Training in the Use, Care and Maintenance of Gas Detection Equipment
5. WHMIS refresher training and
6. First Aid & CPR re-certification for all LSC members was offered.

Inspections

This past year has seen numerous inspections of labs from various authorities.

INSPECTOR	INSPECTION TYPE	2014-15 INSPECTION RECOMMENDATION	2015-16 INSPECTION RECOMMENDATION	2016-17 PLANNED INSPECTIONS
SaskPower	Electrical	Notice of 10 defects	4 remain	Fall 2016
Saskatoon Fire & Protective Services	Fire Code	Notice of 5 defects	Notice of 1 defects	Summer 2016
RMS Insurance		34 Hazards	6 remain	Fall 2017
Stantec (University Sponsored)	Building Condition Assessment			Correction in Progress
College	Laboratory Condition Assessment (OC Wing)		23 Defects Identified, 10 Corrected	Planned continued monthly inspections
LSC (Local Safety Committees)	Regular scheduled audits			
Chemical Safety Committee	Chemical Inventory		63 Defects Identified	Summer 2016
DSC (Dept. Safety Committees)	Regular self-inspections			

Fig. 8: Local Safety Committee Inspection Summary 2015-16

As a result of these inspections, numerous deficiencies were observed and rectified. Some deficiencies remain as work in progress and continuous reviews and inspections are required to ensure compliance is achieved and maintained long term.

Through funding received for Indirect Costs of Research, the LSC continues to allocate \$25,000 annually to departments in order to address safety concerns and noted defects in research laboratories.

Safety Subcommittees

The two LSC subcommittees, *Chemical Security Subcommittee* and *Safety Days Subcommittee*, continued their valued work throughout 2015-16.

Chemical Security Subcommittee

The *Chemical Security Subcommittee* primarily focused on the implementation of a Chemical Security Protocol for the college. The mandate of this subcommittee is to inventory and monitor the hazards of the chemicals in labs. They also have the mandate to ensure that new chemicals ordered are being inventoried, handled safely, and stored correctly and securely. With a proper inventory, the college has the ability to ensure labs meet the requirement to ensure maintenance of the classification of chemicals by hazard type. In summer 2015 the original chemical inventory data was recorded and compiled and the Engineering Shops Coordinator was tasked in November 2015 to ensure the spreadsheets are consistently updated as chemicals are received or removed, provide accurate monitoring, and working with department technicians to ensure appropriate storage of the chemicals. Currently the College Data Analyst is working on developing a more robust and automated chemical inventory database which will integrate into ordering and disposal forms ensuring more consistent accurate and timely inventory is available per laboratory. Completion of this database is scheduled for Spring/Summer 2017.

Safety Days Subcommittee

The *Safety Days Subcommittee* is planning the fourth Safety Day event in the college and the 2016 Safety Days will be held in early September 2016. The mandate of this event is to ensure the Engineering students have the appropriate knowledge and training in order for them to be able to conduct themselves in a safe and professional manner while within our college as well as carry this culture of safety with them when they graduate. The invitation to Industry has been sent out with some Industry contacts already responding in a positive manner. The class and lab schedule for the 2nd year under grad students is being reviewed to schedule the safety sessions without disrupting the degree courses being offered on these dates. The Safety Day schedule will be finalized this month.

Continuing Work

In 2016-17 the LSC continues to focus on continued improvement to the overall safety culture and is committed to the following initiatives:

Project/Activity	Team	Detail	Timeline
Safety Management System (SMS) Implementation	Patrick Hauser	SMS documentation review (inspection reports, safety meeting minutes, training records, written procedures), A physical inspection of lab(s) or other research space, Discussions and documentation of existing SMS processes and any recommendations for improvements, or concerns present.	December 2016
Chemical Security Improvements	R. Blondin, A. Book, M. Desipeda, P. Hauser	Development of single point of order form for all chemicals and gasses	September 2017
		Development of an integrated inventory and approval workflow system for all chemicals and gasses	May 2017
Safety Day Planning Committee	D. Lynch, D. Pavier, C. Deutscher	Annual activity resulting in delivery of a two day safety training program for all 2 nd year undergraduate and graduate students	September 8 th & 9 th , 2016
Apparatus and Equipment Safety Policy	R. Blondin, P. Hauser	ERP policy, HAZOP policy, and SOP policy	September 2016
Updates to College Emergency Response Plan	V. Bendig, A. Book	Updates to “safe rooms” and minor content updates to improve readability and ease of access to information	September 2016
Nanoparticle Research	R. Blondin	Lab safety form development	September 2016

As always we appreciate the college community is continuously growing and changing and as such continue to welcome all input and suggestions related to improving the overall health and safety within our building. Please contact any of the members of the LSC to provide your feedback or suggestions.