

**El Camino Community College
Workplace Health & Safety Committee
Wednesday, February 12, 2020**

Present: Adrian Amjadi, Iris Ingram, Christie Killduff, Gregorio Luna, Michael Pascual, Antonio Saucier, Carl Turano and Valerie Wagner (Recorder).

Absent: Michael Blada, Robert Brobst, Michael Clifford, Chris Egnozzi, Gary Robertson, Ana Tontcheva and Michael Trevis.

- A. **Call to Order:** Valerie Wagner called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
- 1. **Minutes:** The November 13, 2019 committee minutes were approved.
- 2. **Workers' Compensation:** Valerie Wagner reported that one injury occurred during the month of January, resulting in a total of three days of lost time from work.
- 3. **Office of Safety and Health:** Valerie Wagner reported that the written Formaldehyde Health & Safety Program was completed last December. Forensic Analytical will be conducting a Planning Meeting involving the Dean of Natural Sciences, Amy Grant, and the Laboratory Technicians on February 24 to discuss the next phase of the Program, The Work Exposure Assessment Study.

Valerie Wagner reported that the Hazardous Materials Business Plan for the 2020 year, is due into the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) on Sunday, March 15, 2020. The Hazardous Business Plan involves the annual reporting as required by the State of California, pursuant to the Health & Safety Code, Chapter 6.95, Article 1, Section 2550 reporting of certain chemical thresholds, as follows: 1) Liquids, 55 gallons or greater; 2) Solids, 500 pounds or greater; and 3) Gases, 200 cubic feet or greater. In order to make the March 15th deadline, the Office of Safety and Health sent a notice to Facilities, Fine Arts, Industry & Technology and Natural Sciences in December of 2019, requesting that each department submit their reportable hazardous material information, no later than Tuesday, February 24, 2020.

- 4. **Safety-Related Work Order Report:** The Facilities safety-related work order report was not available in time for today's committee meeting.

5. **Old Business:**

Dust Collection System for Construction Technology – Michael Pascual reported that there was a meeting held with the manufacturer, Donaldson Torit, on October 7th to discuss the many problems Construction Technology Department has been experiencing for a long period of time, but also to address the safety issues involved in both changing the filters and cleaning the system when the system becomes clogged. We are presently investigating the problems with the system and are realizing that perhaps the specifications for the current system are not correct for its' current use. We are also looking into what options are available for correcting the various problems associated with the System ***Michael Pascual reported that Facilities is working with an Architect Firm to either design a new system or correct the design problems associated with the existing unit.***

Life Sciences – Christie Killduff reported that there has recently been communication between the Dean of Natural Sciences, Amy Grant, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Jean Shankweiler, and the instructors who teach in LS-130 concerning the on-going noise problem, caused by the ventilation system. Christie Killduff also stated that this problem was also reported during two separate Workplace Health & Safety Committee meetings, but unfortunately the problem was never resolved. Valerie Wagner stated that it was her understanding, per the Facilities Department, that more likely an engineering company, would need to design and install new equipment, which requires funding since this project would be expensive to complete. Christie Killduff also reported that one of the instructors will also be meeting with President Maloney to discuss this problem. ***Iris Ingram reported that a voice amplifier was purchased to assist the instructors with the noise problem. This is the solution for now, until a more cost effective alternative can be found.***

Fine Arts Department – Adrian Amjadi reported that the door to the Sculpture Room, Art-125 has to be replaced due to damage caused by a student. ***Adrian Amjadi reported that a vendor and Facilities have both taken a look at the damaged door.*** Michael Pascual reported that there is a Facilities Steering Committee. Some safety items are reported to the Facilities Steering Committee and some safety items are reported to the Workplace Health & Safety Committee and some items are reported to both committees. The Vice President of Administrative Services wants to have all safety issues identified by the Workplace Health and Safety Committee and directed to the Facilities Steering Committee for resolution. Therefore, the damage to the Sculpture Room door, should be addressed to the Facilities Steering Committee. Iris Ingram stated, that we need to define, based on the law, what health & safety means. The information, which defines what health & Safety means should then be circulated throughout the campus and provide staff with guidelines for reporting issues.

6. **Division Safety Reports:**

Office of Safety and Health – Valerie Wagner reported that the Office of Purchasing & Risk Management has purchased an additional Garaventa Super-Trac (electric) Evacuation Chair for the campus, which will be housed in the ITEC Building, Room 155.

Vice President of Administrative Services - Iris Ingram reported that the District has a cat problem, which is considered to be a health and safety issue. There have been complaints made by staff who have sustained mosquito and flea bites with placing containers around sprinklers systems to catch water for the cats. This is also a concern because the containers can cause problems to the existing sprinkler systems. The cat population has also drawn other vermin, such as coyotes onto campus. There appears to be a process for feeding the cats, which should stop because this also draw cats to the campus. The District's mission is education and to retain students but not to draw other populations. The campus now have both a flea and mosquito infestation due to the standing water. The District also has received notification from Vector Control informing us of the county-wide mosquito infestation. Therefore, the District needs to do whatever it can to minimize the infestation. Recommendations for humane solutions that are workable and permanent are highly encouraged.

Life Sciences – Christie Killduff reported that the Natural Sciences department would like to order (9) formaldehyde-preserved cat specimens per class for dissection during the Spring Semester. Valerie Wagner stated that the environmental health & safety team, Forensic Analytical, who has also been working on the Formaldehyde Health & Safety Program, does not ideally recommend purchasing additional formaldehyde-preserved specimens until the results of the air sampling to be taken during the Work Operations Exposure Level Assessment has been completed. Iris Ingram stated that her concern, coming from the medical field where there was a Well-Body lab and dissection was routine, you cannot teach students unless you have dissection. The exposure to formaldehyde from preserved specimens such as cats and cadavers is minimal. This is one of the reasons air handling units are installed in the labs, is to keep the exposure levels down. There should not be a problem conducting an air handling study every year at a certain time in order to set the baseline levels and to order the formaldehyde-preserved specimens needed for instruction. The whole point is to instruct and part of the instruction process for Anatomy is the ability to do dissection. As long as there is appropriate air exchange in the classroom, there should not be a problem with dissecting formaldehyde-preserved specimens. Per Iris Ingram, proceed with the Work Operations Exposure Level Assessment study and to also go ahead and order the formaldehyde-preserved cat specimens for the (9) Anatomy classes held in LS-113.

Art Department – Adrian Amjadi reported that his department has been experiencing problems with a partition to rooms, ART-103 and 106, which divides the lecture classes. The motor for the partition has blown out more than a few times over the last ten years. Facilities has come out to take a look at the partition and have suggested that the Department complete a 519 form. It is unsure how to address this issue any further since the building will soon be demolished. Iris Ingram stated that is an issue which needs to be addressed with the Facilities Steering Committee to come up with an alternative solution for addressing the partition issue.

Operations – Antonio Saucier reported that we had an individual, two years ago fall out of one of the blue event chairs. The existing chairs have been used for the last 20 years for events and should be replaced. The department will need from 1,000 to 1,500 new chairs. It is believed, this is a safety and health issue, which is why it has been brought to the Workplace Health & Safety Committee today. The District has vendor information where the chairs can be ordered, but at this point, there is no budget to purchase the chairs. Iris Ingram suggested that the department place the need for new chairs on the Program Plan.

7. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in the 2nd Floor, Bookstore Conference Room, 253.