



**UAH Environmental Health & Safety Committee  
Annual Report 2019  
January 7, 2020**

- I. The EHS Committee meets twice a year to discuss safety issues with campus-wide implications. Minutes are posted here: <https://www.uah.edu/oehs/ehs-committees>
- II. Members of the Committee with Attendance : (S) Spring Meeting (F) Fall Meeting

S, F	Chris Taylor, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences	S, F	Haley Hoy/Marsha Adams, College of Nursing
F	<i>Ivey MacKenzie, College of Business</i>	S, F	Robert Lindquist, Office of Research (Chairperson)
S	<i>Laterrica Shelton, Compliance/Title IX</i>		<i>Robert Griffin, College of Science</i>
	<i>Shannon Mathis /Beth Quick, College of Education</i>	S, F	Scott Royce, Student Affairs
S	<i>Mike Anderson / Shankar Mahalingam, College of Engineering</i>	S	<i>Elizabeth Hamrick, Office of Council</i>
S, F	Kristy Olive, Office of Environmental Health and Safety	F	Kevin Bennett, Risk Management
S	<i>Greg Smith, Facilities and Operations</i>		<i>Donald Thompson, Warehouse Operations</i>

- III. Facilities Safety
  - a. New Initiatives
    - i. A Fire Drill Initiative was presented to the committee by OEHS in the Spring meeting. In previous years, 2-3 buildings held fire drills. In 2019, all buildings except one held fire drills. Listings of Fire Captains were updated throughout the year and a meeting of these Fire Captains is scheduled for January 2020.
  - b. Ongoing Initiatives
    - i. 32 additional evacuation maps have been placed in 7 buildings and pads and batteries were replaced on 93 AEDs campus wide.
    - ii. In the Spring Meeting the committee asked about the surplus property procedure as it pertains to keeping aisle ways and emergency egress clear. This was addressed by OEHS contacting Central Receiving and Facilities and Operations. In the Fall meeting, Greg Smith's communications regarding the goal of the new work order system to address this was presented. This will be 6 months to a year before implementation.
    - iii. Concerns were raised in the Spring meeting about personal safety and door locks. In the Fall meeting, OEHS presented information from UAH PD and Kevin Bennett about steps departments can take to address these issues.

#### IV. Research Safety

##### a. New Initiatives

- i. The need for a Bio-Safety Officer was proposed and discussed in the Spring meeting. Kristi Dendy was appointed by the Office of Research as the Bio-Safety Officer and presented at the November meeting.

1. In the coming year, the goal is for Kristi Dendy to become certified.

- ii. The need for an Institutional Biosafety Committee was proposed in the November meeting and the first meeting of the IBC was held on December 4, 2019 to review the Safety Protocols for Dr. Sysovea's laboratory.

##### b. Ongoing Initiatives

- i. OEHS presented the Peroxide Former policy to the Committee for communication back to the affected departments. This is not a new policy but incidents had shown that it was not being fully implemented. As a follow-up, OEHS met with Emmanuel Waddell about possible corrective action. A quarterly e-mail reminder system has been implemented and labels have been provided to the departments to alert the P.I.'s that their peroxide formers must be regularly tested.
- ii. In the Fall meeting, Kristi Dendy presented a revised Biowaste pickup procedure designed to improve customer service to departments that generate biowaste and to reduce costs associated.
- iii. The inspection findings and completion for all Colleges were presented. OEHS presented a proposal to move to an audit protocol that separates the paperwork audit from the physical inspections so that the physical inspection results are not watered down with things the individual P.I.'s cannot address for their department. The committee consented to this change which is planned for 2020.

#### V. Curriculum Safety (Classroom Safety Protocols)

##### a. New Initiatives

- i. No new initiatives for Curriculum Safety were raised in 2019.

##### b. Ongoing Initiatives

- i. No ongoing initiatives for Curriculum Safety are in process but this will be a focus in 2020.