

Employee Health & Safety Representative Meeting 1 - 2022

Date: Friday 18th March, 2022

Time: 11am – 12pm

Location: Zoom meeting

Chair: Ms Heather Daykin, HSR Dept Biochemistry & Pharmacology, FMDHS

MINUTES

The University employee Health and Safety Representatives acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. We pay respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging of the Kulin Nation and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

1	INTRODUCTIONS
	HSRs introduced themselves.
	WELCOME
	Heather welcomed all attendees. This year we no longer have the
	support of Deanne Catmull who was the previous leader of this group
	and organized so much behind the scenes. Going forward we will need
	to support each other to keep this invaluable forum continuing as it
	provides a safe place for new and old HSRs alike to learn about other
	areas of the University and to see how each of our DWGs compare. And
	it's a great place of support and to gain advice.
	ATTENDANCE (20 out of 44 HSRs)
	Hayley Barker, Melbourne Medical School, Berkeley (General Practice)
	Meredith Potter, School of Chemistry
	Paula Mitchell, FMDHS @Doherty Institute
	Ben Gook, Faculty of Arts
	Susan Karpasitis, Law School
	Dinidu Wijesurendra, FVAS Faculty, Parkville
	William Shieh, Department of EEE, FEIT
	Cathy Alizzi, Faculty of Arts
	Andrew Martel, Architecture, Building & Planning (academics)
	Lynn Tran, Biochemistry & Pharmacology (WEBs building)
	Heather Daykin, Biochemistry & Pharmacology (Medical building)

	Laura Juliff, School of Computing and Information Systems, FEIT Ray Furmston, FEIT (Lab technical support) David Collins, Biomedical Engineering Sue Hill, School of Psychological Sciences, Academic Programs Winnie Huang, MGSE Cheryl Augustine, St Vincent's Hospital/UoM David Chan, FEIT – professional staff in Melbourne Connect building Xavier Cadorel, Architecture, Building & Planning (academics) Sascha Andrusiak, Faculty of Science, Burnley campus		
	APOLOGIES Name	DWG representing	
	Ashley Cross	Faculty of Arts	
	Jessie Malignaggi	Student and Scholarly Services - Student Success	
	Helen Billman-Jacobe	FVAS	
	Lynda Boldt	Research, Innovation & Commercialisation - Parkville	
2	 ELECTION OF (ONE) HSR TO THE OHSC (amend to suit the type of election) There was a recent call for nominations for the vacant HSR positions on the University OHSC. There were 4 positions to fill and 4 nominations were received. Therefore, the following HSRs to join the committee are: Cathy Alizzi – Faculty of Arts Helen Billman-Jacobe - FVAS - Parkville (Veterinary) Lynda Boldt – Research, Innovation & Commercialisation - Parkville Dinidu Wijesurenda - FVAS - Faculty (Parkville) Paula Mitchell and Heather welcomed these new members to the committee and are to notify Heather or Paula if they do not receive the meeting agenda and documents prior to the meeting. 		
5	GUEST SPEAKER None at this meeting – encouraged to suggest speakers for future meetings		
4	CONFIRM PREVIOUS MINUTES Minutes from the previous meeting were confirmed unchanged (by David Chan).		
5	ACTION ITEMS PLEASE NOTE: When HSRs bring issues to the forum which then become Action Items, it is advised that they follow up on these items promptly so that they can be reported back at the next meeting with the intention of resolution. Action Items will be deleted from the lists if the person responsible does not follow up or attend the next two meetings to provide clarification and a subsequently amenable resolution.		

5.1 Health and Safety issue: Windows in John Medley Building-(Cathy Alizzi). During the lockdown Dept Facilities at the request of the OHS Department installed window blockers on all the windows in the John Medley Building. Now the sash windows open 10cm only at the bottom, instead of being able to be opened at the top, near the ceiling. John Medley has no air conditioning and the north side of the building heats up when the sun hits the windows and bricks. This was done without consultation with the Faculty of Arts HSRs (me [Cathy Alizzi] and Trudie Malloy), or the DWG. I found out from the school manager that it was done as a safety measure in case staff or students fall or throw themselves out the window. But now the thermal comfort and the ventilation in all offices (except 6th floor which is not affected and does have A/C) have been compromised. Sash windows are meant to open at the top so that ventilation and cool air can enter the office. I have had many complaints from SPSS staff about it in writing (can be provided if required), wanting the blocks removed, complaining about stuffiness and heat, even staff on the cooler, south side of the building.

(Cathy Alizzi) In progress.

Update:

Many Service Now requests to have windows open have been submitted and also hazard reports for ambient heat reasons. No air conditioning and many rooms become very hot in summer. Staff have been told they can work from home on a hot day, but not always plausible for academic staff. A meeting held to discuss changing the way windows could be opened, eg. bars on the windows or a grill. They didn't want to spend a lot of money on a building that will be refurbished in 2-5 years. Tinting doesn't make a large difference. There are chill beams in some locations but the windows do not open in those areas and they are not circulating air. Ventilation for COVID -CO2 monitors in most rooms. There are a few air purifiers in teaching areas. They are not putting them in staff rooms or rooms where staff can meet students. There is progress since the last HSR meeting in 2021 because the HSRs in their area have persevered with management and have kept bringing it forward as

issue. They also held a public meeting with employees and within two days, they

an ongoing unresolved

	had higher management from the University attend the site. Ben Gook mentioned that with the portable CO2 monitors, you can download an app on your phone and you can store a few days of data. Redmond Barry and other buildings on campus have also had these sash windows changed without consultation and may encounter the same problems in terms of temperature and ventilation.
5.2 Hazard issue: The covered walkway with runs from Elizabeth St to Barry St (Jessie Malignaggi). People are not supposed to ride their bikes along this stretch of walkway, yet people still do. The signage that says "Walk your bike" is not adequate. It's becoming dangerous having bike riders weave in and around people on such a narrow walkway.	Jessie was still absent so the HSRs at the meeting were asked for their observations Cathy Alizzi and Heather noted that they have seen cyclists riding in pedestrian-only locations including the covered walkways on Grattan street; outside Engineering and the corner of Grattan st and Royal Parade. Heather encouraged the committee members to submit hazard reports on ERMS or using Snap Send Solve. Supervisor for Hazard reports on ERMS is Katherine Geddes, but noted that she has not heard any feedback from submitting those reports. This issue will be brought to the next University OHSC meeting.
5.3 Hazard issue: Pedestrian crossing, corner of Grattan and Barry St (Jessie Malignaggi). Cars that come from Barry St and turn right into Grattan don't realise that there is a pedestrian crossing	Update from Jessie at next meeting. If no update, then remove from Action items. No update from Jessie so this will now be removed from the action items list. Heather encouraged
right there around the corner. Some cars are not stopping for people crossing the street.	HSRs to submit Hazard/incident reports if you see anything dangerous.

	Report concerns to:	
	Katherine Geddes, Assistant	
	Project Director x 43930. Or use Snap Send Solve app to log	
	OHS issues.	
	5.4 Snap Send Solve – David Chan had	David Chan (Complete)
	issue with the app when the location is	Encouraged the use of Snap Send
	not strictly on campus – the report	Solve to log an incident.
	went to Melb City Council rather than	If the incident happens outside of
	UoM but not sure if then getting to	a building it's a bit more difficult
	UoM?	to determine the location.
	David to pass on locations of those	
	requests to show Stefan Delaney.	
	5.5 Lack of consultation with Faculty of	Cathy Alizzi
	Arts HSRs with regards to transparency	Carried over from Meeting 4,
	of information about air quality and ventilation in the John Medley Building	2021. This has been margad with Itom
	in particular, and in all Faculty of Arts	This has been merged with Item 5.1
	buildings in general. Correspondence	5.1
	sent to Business Partner on 22 October	
	requesting the particulars of any	
	ventilation audit that had been carried	
	out. Attached is the	
	response. Neither link sent in the	
	response included the information	
	requested. Due to lack of transparency	
	HSR is advising staff with offices in John	
	Medley who wish to return to campus	
	that there may be risks around doing	
	this.	
6	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY CON	MMITTEE
-	6.1 What's happening at the OHSC	Heather Daykin
	Paula noted a meeting that Heather and h	-
	were invited to as HSRs to discuss the retu	
	campus procedures for the beginning of	
	Semester 1.	
	There were significant concerns that	
	unvaccinated students would come to car	npus
	and attend classes	
	Items of note from the University OHSC M	leeting
	4 held on 14 th December, 2021:	
	Action items from the meeting:	
	Poor communication between HSRs and	nd OHS
	Business partners has led to a review	of those

		•
	 processes. New positions on the central OHS team were still being filled at the time of the meeting. Undergoing a review of the HSR and DWG (designated work group) list on the Uni Health and Safety website as the current list is inadequate. The DWG description need more clarification and detail as to the areas they cover. TO be completed by the end of this quarter. There is an in-progress review of the University's first aid training arrangements in light of the new First Aid compliance code. David Chan brought up the Snap Send Solve issue where you couldn't select the University as the location in some areas, but this has been resolved. The COVIDSafe plan has been updated and is always open for feedback on the Health and Safety website. 6.2 Progress of items previously raised at the OHSC Snap Send Solve issue mentioned in 6.1 has been resolved. E-scooters on campus (currently no UoM policy) Circlicts using podestrian only walkways 	Heather Daykin Heather Daykin
	 Cyclists using pedestrian-only walkways around the metro rail project 	
	around the metro rail project	
		1]
7	OTHER BUSINESS	,
	7.1 MS Teams and the HSR forum Roster: A Teams group has been created for HSRs to have discussions about OHS issues or to put questions to the	Heather Daykin
	group they may have.	
	The HSR Forum roster document has been added to Teams for others to add their names to for	
	volunteering for meeting tasks.	
	Some attendees at this meeting volunteered for roles	
	for the next meeting.	
	Still looking for volunteers for minute-takers and doing the agenda for meetings for the rest of the year.	
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We can fin ie. Mento the cost o Heather c mentees locate it a	e with an HSR mentor: nancially support the HSR mentor program, rs and mentees can meet over a coffee and f the coffees will be covered. ould not locate the list of mentors and who volunteered last year. Heather to try and nd if they can't be found, she will do another o the group.	Heather Daykin
Heather of brought the the group The group same as b should be The main are left al the fact th responsib	o questioned if they could be treated the icycles and there was a consensus that they	Heather Daykin
 DWG rene If you bout to a second second	Ferm of office expiry, re-election as an HSR & egotiations – overview: show your term is about to expire, proactively reach your local OHS business partner if you have one. hould be able to help you to begin the process of g an election and they should have an email list for WG that you can use for running the election s are many areas without local OHS business partners. s the case, then you will need to contact Health and Assist. They have put the button on the home page alth and Safety. election process is: Re-negotiate the DWG (if applicable) Call for nominations If there are more nominations that there are positions, then a voting process should be done to elect the HSR and deputy HSR If there are only enough nominations for the number of HSR positions, then those people are automatically elected The OHS business partner passes on the election outcome to the Central OHS team to update the HSR list on the Uni website and they will pass on information to the new/re-elected HSRs regarding training, etc	Heather Daykin

	 Please remember, if management talks about changing the structures of DWGs in your area, THEY MUST CONSULT with those members of the DWGs. They are in breach of the OHS Act if they do not. Even if there are no elected HSRs in the DWG or the HSR Terms of Office have expired, they still MUST consult. If you hear that there will be a change of DWGs, follow up with the OHS business partner to let them know that you would like the DWG members involved. The University has documents and processes available on their website that they should follow Please continue to feel welcome to contact Heather or the Health and Safety Assist line to seek help about questions. If you don't think your local OHS business partner (if you have one) is offering the right advice or you need another opinion, please seek out other HSRs in this forum. Paul noted that after she reviewed the HSR and DWG list, there are some Faculties or areas where there are no HSRs. There should be a call for nominations once a year. Paula suggested to take this issue to the next OHSC meeting and it was agreed upon to do this. 7.5 Any other business
8	NEXT MEETING Friday 10 th June, 2022, 11am-12pm

Circulation: All Employee HSRs of UoM University HSR 2022 Meeting Schedule

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
1	Friday 18 th March	11am-12pm	Zoom
2	Friday 10 th June	11am-12pm	Zoom
3	Friday 9 th September	11am-12pm	Zoom
4	Friday 25 th November	11am-12pm	Zoom

HSR Term of Office Expiry approaching:

Under s55 of the OHS Act 2004: "A Health and Safety Representative for a designated work group holds office for the following period (not exceeding 3 years)"

The following HSRs should speak to their local Health and Safety Business Partner https://safety.unimelb.edu.au/people/community/local-contacts or member of their local OHS committee regarding the nomination process in your DWG. HSRs can re-nominate as many times as they like for the position.

Information on the nomination/election process can be found here under "Electing a new HSR": https://safety.unimelb.edu.au/people/community/hsr-dwg

Whoever is on the roster for updating the list will notify the Chair of who has **expired**/expiring (usually marked in red on the HSR list. Chair will notify the person responsible for compiling the Agenda.

HSR	DWG	Expiry date
Melody Eotvos	<mark>Music</mark>	<mark>4 Feb 2022</mark>
Rula Paterson	Student and Scholarly Services	<mark>20 Feb 2022</mark>
	- Student Success	
Jessie Malignaggi (DHSR)	Student and Scholarly Services	<mark>20 Feb 2022</mark>
	- Student Success	
Ami Atkinson (DHSR)	Student and Scholarly Services	<mark>20 Feb 2022</mark>
	- Student Success	
John Christou	Student and Scholarly Services	20 Feb 2022
	- Student Success	
Leanne McCredden	Student and Scholarly Services	<mark>20 Feb 2022</mark>
	- Student Success	
Sam Barber	Infrastructure Services -	<mark>4 Mar 2022</mark>
	Campus Services	
Heather Daykin	School of Biomedical Sciences	19 May 2022
	- Biochemistry and	
	Pharmacology (Medical	
	Building)	
Sunnia Rajput	Bio21 Institute	20 Jun 2022
Jennifer Fox	DiaSciences Teaching	4 Jul 2022
Jennier Fox	BioSciences Teaching	4 Jul 2022
Anton Coniincon	(formerly Biology Labs)	4 Jul 2022
Anton Cozijnsen	Biosciences 1, 2 & 3 (Botany)	4 Jul 2022
Meredith Potter	Chemistry	21 Jul 2022
	Chemistry	21 JUI 2022
Lynn Tran	School of Biomedical Sciences	24 Jul 2022
	- Biochemistry and	
	Pharmacology (WEBs building)	

HSRs on the OHSC:

HSRs on the OHSC (6 voting positions plus alternates):
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Name	DWG	Role (member/alternate)	Elected
Heather Daykin	School of Biomedical Sciences – Biochemistry & Pharmacology	Member	Aug 2019
Paula Mitchell	School of Biomedical Sciences - MDHS @Doherty	Member	Jun 2020
Cathy Alizzi	Faculty of Arts	Member	March 2022
Lynda Boldt	Research, Innovation & Commercialisation - Parkville	Member	March 2022
Helen Billman-Jacobe	Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences - Parkville (Veterinary)	Member	March 2022
Dinidu Wijesurenda	Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences – Faculty (Parkville)	Member	March 2022
Lynn Tran	School of Biomedical Sciences - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	Alternate	Nov 2017
David Chan	Engineering & Information Technology – Professional Support Groups	Alternate	
Sunnia Rajput	Bio21 Institute	Alternate	
Meredith Potter	Chemistry	Alternate	

Please note: HSR members on the committee have voting rights if a vote is required. Alternates can attend meetings as a substitute for an absent HSR member (and therefore hold voting rights), or as an alternative to observe and be involved in discussions, but does not hold voting rights in the alternate capacity. Election of Health & Safety Representative (HSR) on to Occupational Health & Safety Committee (OHSC) as a committee member

The upcoming meeting on date TBC to the OHSC as an alternate committee member.

Alternates help fill the vacancies we occasionally get on the OHSC when regular HSR committee members cannot attend.

All HSRs are encouraged to nominate for these positions and participate in the election process.

The following information has been included to provide some background information on the committee.

What is the role of the OHSC?

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee is a representative consultative committee.

The Committee provides the peak OHS consultative mechanism of the University for management, staff and students to -

• facilitate cooperation between Management, staff and/or students in instigating, developing and carrying out measures designed to ensure the health and safety of staff and/or students throughout the University;

• formulate review and disseminate standards, rules and procedures relating to health and safety that are to be carried out or complied with throughout the University.

Who are the members of OHSC?

Management Representatives

Dean or Executive Director appointed by the Vice-Chancellor or nominee Dean of a Faculty or Graduate School or nominee Executive Director, Human Resources and OHS or nominee Executive Director, Infrastructure Services or nominee Executive Director, Academic Services & Registrar or nominee Associate Director, Health and Safety or nominee

Employee Health and Safety Representatives

Six employee Health and Safety Representatives (HSR), elected by the University's employee HSRs in accordance with the Terms of Reference of this Committee.

The term of office for other than ex-officio members is three years.

<u>Alternates</u>

Each committee member may nominate an alternate to represent the committee member in their absence.

HSR members may only nominate alternate from the pool of current employee HSRs from the University of Melbourne.

Management representative members may only nominate alternate from the pool of current management representatives from the University of Melbourne.

Office Bearing Positions

Chairperson: A Committee Chairperson shall be a Dean or Executive Director appointed by the Vice-Chancellor, endorsed by the Committee at the first meeting of each calendar year.

Deputy Chairperson: A Deputy Chairperson shall be an employee HSR member elected by the OHSC. The Term of Office for the Deputy Chairperson shall be one year.

Minutes Secretary: The OHSC may appoint a minute's secretary to support the committee. The Minutes Secretary shall not hold voting rights.

Committee Secretary: The Associate Director, Health and Safety shall act as Committee Secretary to support the Committee.

<u>Gender balance observers</u> Nominated by the Chair, if required.

Observers - without voting rights

One student nominated by UMSU Incorporated. One nominee of the President, University of Melbourne Graduate Student Association.

Other observers as determined by the Committee and invited by the Committee Secretary. Observers may provide reports to the OHSC.

<u>Quorum</u>

The Quorum for the Committee is six (6) members, at least three (3) of whom must be employee Health and Safety Representatives.

What is the term of office?

The term of office for other than ex-officio members is three years.

How often does the OHSC meet?

The Committee meets 4 times a year.

What is the election process?

A summary of the nominee's election statements will be circulated to all HSRs for consideration.

HSRs will vote for their preferred candidate/s using an election ballot form which will be circulated via email with the election statements. The ballot paper will then be filled out by the HSRs and sent back to the returning officer (usually a member of the Health & Safety Services, Business Services team) who will also verify the counting. The candidate with the majority of votes will be elected. The Returning Officer will report back to the OHSC for confirmation. Results will be circulated to all HSRs.

I am an elected HSR committee member on the OHSC and cannot attend a meeting, what is the process?

HSR committee members who cannot make a meeting should arrange one of the alternates to attend on their behalf. You should also notify Hexing Yang: <u>hexing.yang@unimelb.edu.au</u> as committee secretary of the OHSC, for noting and reporting.

TERMINOLOGY/ABBREVIATIONS:

ERMS: Enterprise Risk Management System. ERMS contains modules to carry out Workplace Inspections, store risk registers, Incident reporting, Incident/Hazard register please see the link: <u>https://www.riskcloud.net/prod/?ccode=uom</u>

Health and Safety business partner:

Health and Safety business partners are available to provide support and advice on health and safety matters in your area (eg. OHS Manager, OHS coordinator, OHS advisor, Laboratory Manager etc). To find your local Health and Safety Business partner, click here: https://safety.unimelb.edu.au/people/community/local-contacts

TrainMe: Train Me is the University online training platform for most core compliance and Health and Safety Specialist courses. See the following link for more information: https://safety.unimelb.edu.au/#training

OREI: Office of **R**esearch **E**thics and Integrity. The office maintains its commitment to responsible research with honesty, responsibility and accountability, which demonstrates respect for animals used in research, research participants and the environment.

OHS Act: The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (OHS Act) is the main workplace health and safety law in Victoria. It sets out key principles, duties and rights about OHS.

OHS Regulations: The Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (OHS Regulations) build on the OHS Act. They set out how to fulfil duties and obligations, and particular processes that support the OHS Act. For example, they include requirements for:

- safe operation of major hazard facilities and mines
- training for high risk work
- managing and removing asbestos
- licences for specific activities

The OHS Regulations came into effect on 18 June 2017 and replaced the (old) OHS Regulations 2007.

OHSC: The Occupational Health and Safety Committee is a representative consultative committee. The Committee provides the peak OHS consultative mechanism of the University for management, staff and students to

facilitate cooperation between Management, staff and/or students in instigating, developing and carrying out measures designed to ensure the health and safety of staff and/or students throughout the University;
formulate review and disseminate standards, rules and procedures relating to health and safety that are to be carried out or complied with throughout the University.

OHSC Executive committee: The OHSC executive committee meets on an ad-hoc basis to discuss urgent matters that require action PRIOR to the next committee member. One ELECTED HSR committee member from the OHSC is a member of this committee along with the Associate Director of Health and Safety.

DWG: A **D**esignated **W**ork **G**roup is a grouping of employees represented by an elected employee HSR.

Worksafe: WorkSafe Victoria is the trading name of the Victorian WorkCover Authority, a statutory authority of the state government of <u>Victoria</u>, <u>Australia</u>. WorkSafe Victoria plays a critical role in the lives of Victorian employers and workers - as the state's health and safety regulator and as the manager of Victoria's workers compensation scheme. In both capacities, employers and workers are at the heart of their service.

U/G: Under graduate.

P/G: Post graduate.

Yammer: University social media platform. Yammer is an enterprise social networking platform, designed to help us easily communicate and collaborate. Yammer lets us exchange knowledge, information, files and ideas in real-time and connect with colleagues we might not otherwise have the opportunity to connect with. For more information, see: https://staff.unimelb.edu.au/about/university-services/the-way-we-work/output-

<u>pdfs/Yammer101US.pdf</u> Health and Safety has its own group you can join once you have a Yammer account via The University of Melbourne Groups tab.

Zoom: Zoom is a high quality video and audio online conferencing tool for desktops and smartphones. It's ideal for online classes, meetings, special events, webinars, remote working and job interviews.

WPI: Work Place Inspection

HSR: Health & Safety Representatives (HSRs) are employees elected by members of a Designated Work Group to represent and safeguard their health and safety interests.

An HSR elected for a DWG may, under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (Vic), do any of the following:

- Inspect any part of a workplace in which a member of the DWG works after giving reasonable notice, or without delay in the event of an incident or immediate risk to health or safety.
- Accompany an inspector during a workplace inspection involving their DWG.
- Require the establishment of a health and safety committee.
- If the member of the DWG consents, attend interviews on health or safety matters between that person and an inspector or employer.
- If the HSR is authorised to represent an independent contractor and that person consents, attend interviews on health or safety matters between that person and an inspector or employer.

VTHC: Victorian Trades Hall Council. The Victorian Trades Hall Council helps organise activities and campaigns with and on behalf of affiliated unions. Trades Hall is comprised of 40 affiliated unions, representing approximately 430,000 members in Victoria. They are supported by 8 Regional Trades and Labour Councils around Victoria, which represent workers in regional areas and organise around local issues. The Council of Trades Hall meets monthly with delegates from affiliated organisations, and is the major industrial, political and social forum for Victorian unionists. It can consider and make policy on any matter - political, industrial and otherwise.

TOO: Term of Office. Refers to the length of served as a HSR. According to the OHS Act 2004, the TOO for a HSR is a period not exceeding 3 years. After this time a HSR can be re-elected, but must go through a formal election process within their DWG.

HSR Alternate: Alternate HSR committee member for the OHSC. They are a pool of HSRs that can act as replacements for HSR committee members on the OHSC if they are unable to attend a meeting.

NTEU: National Tertiary Education Union. Organisation which represents employees in the national tertiary sector with regards to workplace rights and conditions, OHS etc.