

CSUS Executive Safety Committee (ESC)

Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | ZOOM

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION ARE LISTED AT THE END

Note: If you no longer wish to be on the list, please get in touch with Risk Management Services, rms@csus.edu, (916) 278-6119

Call to order: 11:04 Gary Rosenblum

Review and approve minutes for March: Approved

Open Forum:

Bill Macriss: First, I want to commend you all for the great job you do in keeping our students and staff safe on campus. I have a question regarding transportation options for an upcoming campus tour. I'm hosting some directors from local community colleges, and a few of them need assistance getting around campus during the tour. Is there a cart or other transport available that we could use for visitors with mobility issues?

Jeff Dierking: The Hornet or Herkey line that operates on campus is available for anyone to ride. It runs on a fixed route, so visitors could use it to get around during a campus tour. They would just ride it like a regular passenger.

Additionally, Facilities has golf carts that can be rented for a personally guided tour. While the golf carts may not be ADA accessible, the Herky streetcar is accessible for those using wheelchairs or scooters. The Herky streetcar also operates on a fixed route and schedule, so that could be another option if visitors need accessible transportation during the tour."

New Business:

Time Place and Manner Policy Update

Gary Rosenblum: The updated TPM policy is in the Student Affairs section of the campus website. It is an addendum to the generic CSU-wide TPM policy that was drafted over the summer.

The key points of Sacramento State's custom TPM addendum include:

- Campus is now closed from 12am to 6am, with no unauthorized access allowed.
- All access to university property must be scheduled and registered in advance.
- Different campus departments control access to various properties.
- A list is provided indicating which departments control which properties.
- Users will be responsible for any damage that occurs.
- Written permission is required for many activities.
- The university has an established response team to handle TPM implementation and enforcement.
- Contact information is provided for the team members responsible for different areas.

In summary, the updated TPM policy gives the university more control over activities on campus, with new requirements for scheduling, permissions, and accountability.

Chemical Hygiene Plan Review

Janee Hardman: This annual activity involves updating the Chemical Hygiene Plan based on feedback from users, staff observations, and lab inspections to make the document more functional. Although no changes were made in Section 7, there is an ongoing effort to develop new standard operating procedures in collaboration with faculty. The most significant update occurred in Section 14.3, which covers accidents and spills. This section was revised to clarify the definitions and responses for different spill types. For example, "simple spills" can be safely cleaned by lab members, while "complex spills" were previously defined as requiring emergency personnel. However, the new revision emphasizes that this determination should be based on judgment.

In Section 15 on hazardous waste management, only minor updates were made, including clarifications on labeling requirements and timelines for waste accumulation and storage. A new Section 19, titled "Risk and Safety Solutions" (RSS), was introduced. RSS is a web-based app used for chemical inventory and hazardous waste management, and the new section outlines its utility and mandatory usage for anyone handling chemicals. Additionally, a new appendix, Appendix G, was added, featuring a table that lists absorbents for hazardous material spill cleanup. Another change is that SDS Online is no longer used to access Safety Data Sheets (SDS); instead, RSS, Google, or Oracle Consulting are now the preferred sources. The updates conclude with an invitation for any questions.

Gary: Let me add, Section 15 on hazardous waste management saw minor revisions, such as updates to labeling requirements and waste accumulation timelines. A new Section 19 was added, covering the "Risk and Safety Solutions" (RSS) web-based app, which is now required for managing chemical inventories and hazardous waste. Appendix G was also introduced, providing a table of absorbents for hazardous material spill cleanup. Additionally, SDS Online is no longer used for accessing Safety Data Sheets; instead, RSS, Google, or Oracle Consulting are the recommended sources. The session ended with a prompt for any questions.

Janie Mutchler: Do you need to have login access

Janee: you don't have to log in through RSS; it just requires your sac link credentials. So yes anyone with a sac link credentials will have access to RSS and obtain SDSS.

Gary: Also, it's perfectly legal to google information about a chemical and check the internet for a safety data sheet.

Stephanie: Where would I find this Chem Risk policy?

Tyler Harris: the chemical risk policy would be found on the university policy manual; you can google it.

Janee: I've also created a link in the BCHP for the policy too. <https://www.csus.edu/president/policy-library/>

Gary: The policy is general and refers to resources like the Chemical Hygiene Plan and other campus guidelines related to emergency response and hazardous waste management. For any questions regarding chemicals on campus, the EHS department handles inquiries. The best way to contact them is through the 8-2020 hotline.

Hazardous Waste Annual Waste

Bob Hitomi: The screen shows a summary of major hazardous waste categories shipped over the past few years. The main point is that during COVID, a reduction in lab classes led to a decrease in waste generation. The upper section covers operations and maintenance waste, primarily from facilities and construction, with fluctuations tied to projects like asbestos removal. The next section shows EPA waste codes for characteristic waste—ignitable, corrosive, and reactive—mostly generated from NSM lab activities. Post-COVID, waste from these labs has increased. Metal waste, often expensive to manage, also shows an upward trend, especially silver waste from the design department in art. Solvent waste, mainly from chemistry labs, has increased significantly post-COVID. The table provides a deeper explanation of waste categories under EPA regulations, with a focus on solvent waste. There is some overlap in the waste stream data due to multiple EPA codes being associated with certain waste streams, but the overall trend shows rising hazardous waste levels as lab activities have resumed.

Gary: Thank you. Just to add, as Bob has categorized the waste by pounds, this is because disposal costs are based on weight, and it's quite expensive. The university spends a significant amount each year to properly manage waste disposal. Bob also collects items like fluorescent bulbs when they're replaced, as they are considered hazardous waste. Something that stood out this year is that toner cartridges are also classified as hazardous waste, and they can be costly when accumulated in bulk. Many campus departments generate hazardous waste, not just chemistry or NSM—it's a widespread issue. Thanks, Bob, for doing a great job tracking and safely disposing of it all.

Michael Keenan: Is E- Waste considered hazardous waste?

Bob: Yes, but it's managed by Facilities. Their crew can handle larger volumes of computers and monitors and things. They have the vehicles to haul them off.

Michael: Are those usually trackable assets?

Bob: Yes, when they are being funneled through the property department.

SB 533 Mandated Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP)

Gary: The next agenda item is Senate Bill 533 (SB 533), which mandates the implementation of a Workplace Violence Prevention Plan on campus, in accordance with California State law. This law requires us to develop a plan similar to the Injury and Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP), managed by our Environment, Health, and Safety (EHS) Department. As of July 1st, our Workplace Violence Prevention Plan has been created and is available for public viewing on the Risk Management website, accessible to all employees and labor partners.

While this law primarily targets employee safety, we are also including students to ensure comprehensive safety across campus. The plan outlines procedures for reporting violent incidents involving employees, students, or both, with various departments like University Police Department (UPD), HR, and Student Affairs involved as necessary.

Incidents that qualify as workplace violence will be documented in a log maintained by EHS, which will be reviewed annually to identify trends and improve safety measures. The log will not include any personally identifiable information, only general descriptions of incidents. Employees and their representatives have the right to request access to this log. We will continue to report on the log annually and encourage everyone to report any violent incidents to UPD or HR as appropriate.

With that, are there any questions or comments about the Workplace Violence Prevention Plan? If not, we'll move on to discuss Cal/OSHA's new rules for indoor heat safety. I'll hand it over to Tyler to share more details.

New Cal-OSHA rules for “Indoor Heat Safety”

Tyler: In early July, Cal/OSHA introduced a new regulation regarding indoor heat safety, expanding the focus from outdoor heat to indoor environments where temperatures exceed 82°F. This regulation mandates that campuses collaborate with leadership and department heads to identify indoor areas that may reach this temperature threshold, especially during hot summer months in Sacramento.

For any identified spaces exceeding 82°F, a workplace safety plan must be implemented. These plans may include measures such as providing cooling areas, like break rooms, establishing regulated work-rest schedules, and ensuring proper ventilation. Areas like warehouses, workshops, and research studios—especially older buildings with inadequate HVAC systems—are particularly susceptible to heat buildup. If you suspect that your workspace may become excessively warm, please notify me and my team. We are available to assess the situation and explore options for mitigating heat and ensuring the safety and comfort of employees and students. The key focus is to either cool down these spaces or provide employees with areas to cool off while working.

Gary: This regulation can apply anywhere on campus. California is the first state to implement indoor heat safety regulations, which is a significant step forward since heat-related illnesses can occur even in indoor environments.

Regarding the timing, Tyler, do you remember how the regulation works? It's not that the temperature must stay at 82°F for the entire 8-hour day; there's a specific timeframe involved.

Tyler: No, it doesn't have to be over 82°F for an entire hour or the full 8-hour shift. If you're in an indoor space that exceeds 82°F, even briefly, it can still be a concern.

Gary: This triggers the rule, which means we will provide the same heat stress information as outlined in our heat stress program. The Risk Management website also hosts our Heat Illness Prevention Program page, complete with links and resources. Additionally, we operate a 24/7 weather station on campus that offers live weather data.

We also have a listserv that many of you may subscribe to, which sends out a heat warning email every morning between 6 and 7 AM on days forecasted to exceed 95°F outdoors. Subscribers receive a daily email alerting them that it's a heat stress day, activating our heat stress program, which includes guidelines for water intake, shade, and air conditioning.

Tyler: I've had a few conversations with Cal/OSHA representatives about this topic in recent months. The state views this regulation as a new framework, but managing heat indoors is not a new concept for us. We've been exploring ways to cool down our indoor spaces, especially in warehouses, for quite some time. With this regulation now in place, the solutions we implement for indoor heat will be similar to those used for outdoor heat, focusing on effective strategies to address high temperatures.

Gary: As this is a Cal/OSHA regulation, it primarily applies to employees. However, since our campus includes students who may also be in hot indoor environments, we aim to apply the same safety measures for them. We are here to assist any department with questions about heat stress related to their students, whether in classes or field trips.

New Federal Rules for Methylene Chloride (Dichloromethane, DCM)

Tyler: This summer, the U.S. EPA passed a regulation to limit and ban the use of methylene chloride as part of the President's Cancer Moonshot program, which aims to reduce cancer death rates by up to 50% over the

next 25 years. Methylene chloride is used on campus in significant quantities across various departments and can also be found in many household items, such as those in home workshops or garages. It is classified as a potential human carcinogen, meaning it may increase the risk of cancer, as evidenced by animal studies. You'll likely encounter methylene chloride in several campus settings, particularly in research and chemistry laboratories, engineering facilities for aggregate binding, and print shops, as well as in products like automotive paint strippers and aerosol pesticides.

At Sac State, we are starting an initiative to identify areas that utilize methylene chloride. While we have a good understanding of its current usage, we will also conduct hands-on investigations to discover any additional applications that may not have been previously documented.

Our goal is to completely eliminate methylene chloride from campus inventories across both academic and facilities non-academic areas. In research spaces where methylene chloride is used as a solvent, finding substitutes may be challenging, as alternatives could be more hazardous. Therefore, specific procedures will be implemented for its use in these areas. If you need to use methylene chloride, please contact Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) to discuss your requirements.

In academic settings, we are already collaborating with departments to phase out methylene chloride entirely. Consequently, you will notice that household products, such as certain paint strippers and automotive cleaners, will no longer be available at retailers like Home Depot. Companies will need to remove these items from the market.

Furthermore, even for laboratories that wish to continue using methylene chloride, its cost is expected to increase significantly due to the ban on manufacturing. This will likely lead to scarcity, making it a high-demand item, similar to toilet paper at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. So, while it's a joke, it's a good idea to plan ahead as prices are expected to soar.

Benham Arad: Tyler, you mentioned several areas within ECS, and I understand that Tom intends to visit some of our labs. Is he specifically looking for this substance? Do you have any guidelines on what we need to do?

Tyler: We are currently developing our strategy for addressing the use of methylene chloride, as this issue is still very new. The goal is not to come in and immediately prohibit its use, but rather to establish workplace safety procedures regarding its application by the end of 2025. This gives us a little over a year to implement these changes.

Sacramento State is aware that there will be significant regulations and restrictions on methylene chloride use, and we want to make sure everyone is informed. Tom will be working with various departments to assess how this substance is being used, ensuring compliance with the new regulations while also identifying safe alternatives.

While some areas may face major changes, others might find simple substitutes. We will collaborate with you to navigate these adjustments, starting initial conversations with departments like chemistry to explore potential solutions.

Gary: In summary, methylene chloride is not immediately banned on campus, and its use is still permitted for now. However, we encourage everyone to stop purchasing it and to use up their existing supplies responsibly. If you're using it in a manner that could expose you to harmful fumes, we advise taking precautions to minimize that exposure. Our aim is to gradually reduce its use on campus, and currently, we don't have significant quantities in stock. If anyone has questions or concerns, feel free to reach out.

If you have any questions, contact our offices and we will analyze your risk and mitigate your risk.

Tyler: In general, the areas that use methylene chloride in significant quantities are already aware of its presence. While it may be found in trace amounts in some materials, we're primarily referring to specific labs that potentially utilize it in larger quantities.

Gary: Yeah, it's like degreaser sprays or things where people are cleaning metal. There's a big one.

Janee: I wanted to add that for the concentration threshold it's 1% DCM for any of the cleaning agents or anything over 1% is going to fall under this regulation.

Tyler: Like I said before this more of a heads up that we will be enforcing this regulation. We are still in the gathering of information stage. When we provide further communication about this matter, those on this call should recognize it as a continuation of information they may have previously heard, although some details might be new. The situation is fluid, as methylene chloride has been in use for a long time, and there are ongoing lawsuits involving large corporations related to its regulation. We aim to be proactive and prepared for any changes. Thank you, Gary. If anyone has questions, please feel free to reach out to me or anyone on my team at any time—we're here to help.

Old Business

RMS activities for Scooter Safety Awareness

Gary: To wrap up, let's discuss our ongoing efforts in scooter safety awareness. This semester, we've increased the number of safety signs on campus and made them more prominent. We've also distributed safety postings about pedestrian zones to every department and provided copies to housing, including a scooter safety map for each student during move-in. Since many scooter users reside in housing, this was a key focus.

Additionally, we plan to enhance our outreach to the athletics department, as there is significant overlap between student-athletes and scooter users. From my observations, scooter safety seems to have improved this semester. I'd like to conduct an informal survey to gather your impressions.

Furthermore, we have a couple of licensed scooter rental companies on campus, including Lime.

Jeff Dierking: Yes, we're currently running a pilot program with Lime. They are permitted to operate on campus but are geo-fenced out of all pedestrian zones. This solution allows easy access from the light rail station or nearby apartment complexes to campus within a quarter-mile radius. So far, Lime has performed well and has been very responsive to my requests for rebalancing and relocating their devices. Additionally, anyone can call 311 to request the relocation of a device, and they will address those requests as well.

Gary Alright, great! We'll keep the signs up for as long as the administration allows this semester and monitor their effectiveness. My plan is to relocate them periodically to prevent them from becoming stale in their current spots. Ideally, we won't have to resort to my backup plan of standing outside to flag down scooter users and handing them an information sheet. While I've been considering this approach, I haven't had to implement it yet. However, if we notice an increase in scooter violations, someone from my department, including myself, will go out and start flagging people down to share the scooter safety information and check if they understand the signs. Are there any other comments, thoughts, or questions regarding scooter use on campus or safety concerns with other wheeled devices?

Michael Keenan: Gary, as you know, I'm part of that group, and I can see people moving through the pedestrian zones from my office. I like the idea of distributing informational flyers in a non-confrontational way. This way, I won't have to reprimand anyone, but it will provide them with more information than just the signs, which might encourage them to be more mindful. Thank you for that suggestion!

Gary: Yes, I've been considering going out there to flag people down, but we haven't done it yet. Perhaps when the weather becomes more favorable for standing outside, we can gather a few people from our department to start addressing any violations. Overall, my impression is that things have improved this semester; I've noticed more people parking their scooters in the bike racks and securing them. Maybe we can foster a culture of proper parking on campus and celebrate that!

Brent Moffatt: I just wanted to provide a comment. I'm glad the scooters. And you know, bicycle safety is the topic. If anyone's been following the news, we lost a student down South Sac to an accident not that long ago, and Sac City's had several fatalities recently. So, it's good we're keeping this at attention.

Jeff: I believe the city plans to seek additional funding for outreach campaigns similar to what we've been doing. The aim is to educate both wheel device users and vehicle operators in high-traffic areas, fostering a better culture around the use of these devices, not only on our campus but also throughout the greater Sacramento area.

Gary: I'm also considering how we can share our information with the commercial housing nearby. Although it's not technically ours, it houses many of our students, who are likely to use scooters and frequent the Hornet Crossing. So, we plan to distribute our informational materials there as well.

Michael: I want to mention one more thing for the record. I've raised this issue before, but I noticed it again at the start of the semester. The road between the Union and the bookstore lacks a designated space for wheel devices, which makes it difficult to navigate through the crowded pedestrian traffic. I would like to see this addressed at some point.

Gary: That has been noted. Thank you everyone for attending!

IN ATTENDANCE:

*Safety Committee Labor Representatives

Gary Rosenblum, AVP of Risk Management, Chair

Yvonne Bolano, ASC II Risk Management

Adelle Seibels, Workers Compensation Manager of Risk Management

Todd Dangott, Director of Risk Management

Tyler Harris, Director of Environmental Health and Safety

Bob Hitomi, Environmental Specialist of Environmental Health and Safety

Janie Mutchler, Emergency Manager

Meysee Vang, EH&S Specialist

Dania Santos-Cruz, UEI Real Estate Services

Stephanie Conrad, Performing Arts Technician of Dept. Theater and Dance

Thomas Scarry, Occupational Health and Safety Specialist of Environmental Health and Safety

Mark Hyde, Director, Employee and Labor Relations of Human Resources

Oscar Castro, Student Assistant of CCE-Facilities

Troy Bettcher, Senior ELR Specialist

Michael Keenan, Special Projects Manager of College of Engineering & Computer Science

Sabrina Charleston, Vice President of University Affairs

Jennifer O'Neal Watts, Library Services Specialist

Jeff Reinl, Sergeant of CSU Police Department

Jeff Dierking, Director, University Transportation & Parking Services (UTAPS)

Behnam Arad, Associate Dean, Professor - Computer Science and Computer Engineering, Director - Scholarship for Service Program

Bill Macriss, AVP/Chief of Strategic Partnerships for Student Affairs

Patrice Griffith, Director of Real Estate Services for UEI

Chris Taylor, Professor / Interim Associate Dean, Natural Sciences and Mathematics AY 24/25

Janee Hardman, Industrial Hygienist of Environmental Health and Safety

Brittany Anderson-Steele, Safety Manager of College of NSM

Martinique Baker, ASC of Sac State Black Honors College*

Nayeli Parra Gonzalez, Youth Protection Program Analyst of Risk Management