

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN**  
**University Health and Safety Committee**  
**MINUTES**

**Friday, January 16, 2009, 1:00 in Sci 253**

<b>Voting Members</b>			<b>Present/Regrets</b>
Allan, Linda	(UBCFA)	Unit 4, Barber School of Arts & Sciences	R
Bizzotto, Roger,	(M & P)	Facilities Management	R
Dunn, Shannon,	(M & P)	Housing & Conference Services	P
Frost, Ruth	(UBCFA)	Unit 6, Barber School of Arts & Sciences	P
Gesi, Mike	(BCGEU)	Security & Parking	P
Jost, Mark	(BCGEU)	Lab Tech, School of Engineering	R
King, Allan,	(BCGEU)	Facilities Management	R
Lyons, Don,	(BCGEU)	Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies	P
McAulay, Judy	(UBCFA)	Nursing	R
Mobbs, Kevin	(M & P)	Gymnasium	P
Mortenson, Bud	(M & P)	Alumni & University Relations	P
Nilson, Blythe	(UBCFA)	Unit 2, Barber School of Arts & Sciences	P

**Non-Voting Members**

Shelley Kayfish, Health, Safety & Environment

**Recorder**

Connie Neid

**Chair: Kevin Mobbs**

**Welcome:** New Member Ruth Frost

**1. Approval of agenda**

**Motion:** Nilson/Gesi To approve agenda. **Carried.**

**2. Approval of minutes of November 21, 2008.**

**Motion:** Mortenson/Nilson To approve minutes of November 21, 2008. **Carried.**

**3. Old Business**

3.1 Additional cross walk for University Way directly between the Fipke Bldg and Kalamalka (5 min)  
S Kayfish

Shelley advised that an evaluation of the crosswalks/speed bumps was completed and recommendations put forward. The crosswalk on University Way (by the new residences) will be back in place once the new Arts & Sciences Bldg is completed. Properties Trust agreed to putting in a temporary speed bump and getting the lights operational. It has been identified that people cross all along University Way.

A concern was raised regarding University Way, F Lot, and the handicapped parking spaces. Once a person parks in the first spot it is difficult for on-coming traffic to see who is at the cross walk area. It was the feeling of the committee that this cross walk has a flashing light, which people should use, and take personal care.

There was discussion regarding the use of sidewalks around the FINA Building during the winter months. It was noted that the sidewalks are cleared by facilities and people choose not to use them.

3.2 Lighting for parking lots (5 mins)

R Bizzotto

Roger and Mike reviewed the lighting in the parking lots and felt that parking lots are now well lit.

#### **4. New Business**

4.1 Concern that the marked crosswalk is being used on Pentiction IFO the bus loop. It would appear vehicles are dodging the speed bumps and driving onto the bus lane just missing persons using the cross walk. (5 mins) K Mobbs

Shelley, Properties Trust and Mike looked at this issue and acknowledged what was happening. A suggestion was made to add a speed bump on Pentiction and University Way and remove the x-walk further down that is in close proximity to buses. It is also possible to make the existing speed bumps longer. It was felt that Transit may not appreciate this change and should be contacted to explain the situation.

**Motion:** Gesi/Lyons To elongate the speed bumps . **Carried.**

**Action Item:** Shelley to follow-up with appropriate people to have this done.

4.2 Decision making process regarding recent power outage resulting in the closure of UBC O campus and notification during a power outage. (5 mins) K Mobbs

It was determined that the power outage was caused by a car accident on Hwy 97. It was felt that clarification is needed regarding the decision making process of how these types of emergencies are communicated to the campus population. This incident happened during final exams. Final exams take place in the gym. On this occasion staff and faculty were minutes away from letting another group of students into the gym to start their exams. No one came over to advise gym staff of the protocol or process. It is important to advise the gym staff of what might be required of them during this type of emergency.

4.3 General Question

B Nilson

There was an incident with a student which happened after 4:00 and offices were closed. This student seemed to be having a psychotic episode and it was clear that the student needed to be looked after. This happened in the evening and the professor couldn't step out of the class. The preference would be to hand the student off, but in this case the student refused and did not want anyone to be called. It was noted that the obligation of safety is to self, assisting the person and other students. Security should be called for any type of incident.

Flip out emergency booklets should be in labs and class rooms.

#### **5. Standing Item**

Manager's Report

Shelley reviewed her report.

#### **6. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Nilson/Gesi **To adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:10.

**Next meeting:** Friday, February 20, 2009 - Sci 253

## ADDENDUM #1

### **Manager's Report**

**University of British Columbia, Okanagan Health and Safety Committee  
December 1<sup>st</sup> – January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

#### 1. Fipke Ventilation Assessment

Potential concerns were raised regarding the ventilation system for the Fipke Centre for Innovative Research. These concerns were (1) The building's ventilation system did not appear to be operating as designed (2) The design deviates from the "UBC Technical Guidelines for Architects and Engineers" regarding the number of acceptable air exchanges for laboratory environments. Without a solid understanding of the building's unconventional laboratory design or the impact potential deficiencies may have on the overall effectiveness of design, UBC Okanagan ordered UBC PT to conduct "smoke tests" in each of the undergraduate labs on the second floor. These tests were performed by a third-party consultant with the intent to observe the airflow patterns and as well as the overall efficiency of smoke removal. The Manager of HSE is currently compiling observations and recommended actions which will be forwarded for comment by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

#### 2. Power Outage, Campus Closure

The University lost power on Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 11am due to a motor vehicle collision with a power pole just off Highway 97. The Science Building and Fipke Centre were evacuated. The Arts building and gymnasium remained open so that students could complete their morning exams. While Fortis indicated that the outage could last as long as 24 hours, power was restored by mid-afternoon. The outage resulted in valuable lessons learned which included tightening notification protocols, roles and responsibilities, instituting a procedure for disrupted exams, communicating with on campus stakeholders (i.e. daycare, UBC PT, Environment Canada), as well as tightening communications with the University Community. The event was formally debriefed at the request of the Executive Director, Administration and Finance, and correction actions have been included in UBC O's temporary procedures as well as the University's Disaster Plan which is scheduled for release on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

#### 3. Cold Weather Effects on Fipke

December's cold weather temperature (minus 12-16 degrees) resulted in an emergency shutdown of Fipke's ventilation system. Building failures included:

- One of three water source heat pump units failed due to burned out compressor
- The two sets of double doors off the atrium (east side) allowed for large volumes of cold air to enter building. This was due to poor weather stripping and an absence of vestibules.
- A building envelope leak resulted in a significant infiltration of cold air (building is under negative pressure).
- Fire sprinkler pipes near atrium overhang froze requiring a contractor to isolate, thaw and drain.

Building temperatures varied however 8 labs were at 10 degrees Celsius or less. The decision was made to shut the strobic/make up air system on the mechanical engineers advice in order to preserve the building heat loss and allow working systems to recover and prevent any further damage. As such afternoon classes and labs were cancelled. Facilities managed to restore the ventilation system and normal temperatures by 7am the following day.

#### 4. University Centre Fire

The University Centre, currently under construction and control of UBC PT, sustained a small fire resulting from an alleged propane torch that had been left on. The torch was located on the top floor of the building where strong winds most likely caused the fumes to ignite. UBC PT was asked to review the contractors hot work procedures.

#### 5. Fume hood Failure

The weekend proceeding November 24<sup>th</sup>, the Science Building suffered a short power loss which resulted in the failure of fume hoods. Minutes later when the power was restored, the building fume hoods restarted with the exception of two hoods located in Science 221 and 224a. The result was a thick accumulation of chemical vapour in both laboratories. The problem was reported to HSE shortly thereafter by the laboratory technician. This incident resulted in the review of notification procedures (i.e. HSE to be notified of all power outages affecting Fipke and the Science Building), protocols for laboratory unattended operations, as well as a requirement for Facilities to remotely review and confirm that fume hoods have successfully restarted following a power outage.

#### 6. Training (courses offered)

Fire Safety Training (Nov 25<sup>th</sup>)

Radiation Safety (Jan 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>)

WHMIS (Jan 13<sup>th</sup>)

#### 7. Report on Incident/Accident Statistics

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 = 13 first aid reports

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 = 3 first aid reports

16 reports to be discussed during meeting

