Faculty of Health Sciences  
Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC)  
Minutes of Meeting  

Held Wednesday, June 23rd, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees:  
- Logan Bale  DBMS  USW Local 2010  
- Dan Langham  EH&S  
- Edwin Ocran  PSAC 901– unit 1 (TA’s/TF’s)  
- Hamid Ghaedi  PSAC 901– unit 2  
- Allison Mackey  Nursing  MGMT  
- Jacqueline Findlay  Medicine  MGMT  
- Lucie Pelland  SRT  QUFA  
- Anne Biggar  CCTG  Non-union  
- Yat Tse  DBMS  MGMT  

Minutes:  
- Allison Leverette  FHS Ops  Non-union  

Co-Chairs:  
- John Singleton  Cancer Research Labs  MGMT  
  *Worker co-chair vacant*  

Regrets:  
- Sharon David  SRT  MGMT  
- Christine Irving  FHS Ops  MGMT  

Copy to:  
- Safety Officers, Faculty of Health Sciences  
- Department Heads  

J. Singleton (Co-Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:35pm.

1) Approval of the Minutes of April 21, 2021  
Approved as written, by L. Pelland, and seconded by L. Bale.

Welcome to Y. Tse, joining the FHS JH&SC as Management Representative in DBMS, taking over from A. Lister.

2) New Business  
2.1 Fall Operations Planning Framework Review & Safety Plan for On-Campus Operations  
There is some flexibility with respect to who is defined as a “unit” for the Covid-19 safety plan. There are also opportunities for areas to work together where similar with respect to a return to campus framework. This document has not yet been released – the format is being finalized, along with the explanatory text. D. Langham is still accepting comments with
respect to the document and how it reads, etc. The intent of the document is to change the format to a safety plan and so that Departments can provide more information regarding a return to campus strategy.

The fall planning framework outlines what is likely to occur for planning purposes for fall operations. This framework is also being reviewed with respect to feedback by JH&SC’s.

Y. Tse indicates that there is no mention of how common areas such as break and lunchroom spaces will operate in the fall. D. Langham will look into this. L. Pelland also questions where we are at with vaccinations on campus, and whether these will be required for students. At some other Ontario Universities, students must wait two weeks following a second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine prior to attending campus in September. There is different information from different Universities, although it seems as though most institutions are running clinics on campus throughout the summer. D. Langham indicates that there has been robust discussion surrounding student vaccination. There is high-level information on vaccinations, and the assumption is that most students will be coming to campus double vaccinated. However, the intent is to also make vaccines available on campus for those needing a second dose. There has been much discussion among Queen’s/KHSC and the KFL&A Public Health Unit regarding promotion of vaccinations and facilitating access to vaccines prior to the term beginning. There are also programs or activities where a vaccine may be mandated (such as in clinical settings and perhaps among varsity athletes). Access to vaccinations is a big issue and there will be more communication around this, especially with respect to residences, where vaccination status will be collected. Planning around how much of a need there is for further vaccination availability will come out of student data obtained for residences.

3) Other Business

3.1 Inspection Teams update
J. Findlay will be paired with L. Pelland given that A. Lister is no longer on the committee. There is no worker partner for Y. Tse at this time.

The inspection teams, areas, and schedules are reviewed with respect to the 2021 calendar year. It is expected that many inspections will take place over the summer months, where possible.

3.2 Covid-19 update
There is a new “step” reopening plan in Ontario as opposed to a colour-coded framework. The University has loosely translated University operations from the colour-coded framework into each step in the reopening plan, so there is now a better sense of what can reopen and when. All looks well to move into step 2, and there may be an acceleration
into step 3 given the outlook of the provincial vaccination rates and low case counts.

The regulations in each step must be reviewed to see what is permitted and what is not. The library, for example, can open to the public in step 2 with “x” capacity. Regulations are often released immediately before the step is entered. When the step 1 regulation was released, the work-from-home framework was still maintained and enforced. Rules and restrictions for the University are confirmed following the release of each step’s regulations.

Covid-19 rates in Kingston remain low, while the push is on to vaccinate as many individuals as quickly as possible. There are still questions and concerns that remain regarding the Delta variant and what it might mean as we move into the summer. The “Faster, together” media campaign has been promoted widely on campus to encourage mass vaccination. The Health Unit additionally has information posted about vaccinations for anyone with hesitancies and questions. The public still needs to follow the Public Health guidelines, which have not fundamentally changed at this time, even though further restrictions are lifted as a whole. There is a need to keep on top of the changes and it is recognized that timing is tricky during the summer months for planning for the fall framework. EH&S appreciates the additional meetings and feedback by the JH&SC’s on the fall return to campus documents as well as maintaining demanding inspection schedules throughout the summer months.

*The meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm.*

**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE Wednesday, July 21st, 2021.**

Minutes approved by:

[Signature]
Co-Chair J. Singleton

(*Worker Co-Chair position is vacant*)