



Faculty of Science Safety Committee Meeting
September 26th, 2025, ~ 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Dean of Science Boardroom

Attendees:

Dean of Science Office & Meeting Chairperson - Dr. Sam Veres, Dean of Science
Dean of Science Office – Leanne Lucas, Science Safety Advisor
Department of Astronomy and Physics – Dr. Mike Dunlavy
Department of Biology - Dr. David Chiasson
Department of Chemistry – Jennifer Wright, Dr. Jason Clyburne
Animal Facility: Caila Henderson
Department of Forensic Science – Dr. Tim Frasier
Department of Geology – Dr. Mitch Kerr
Human Resources Department –
Facilities Management Department – Patrick Farmer

Minute taker – April Scheller

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at: 11:00 am

GENERAL BUSINESS

Call for Agenda Item Additions

No additions.

Minutes from the May 2025 meeting

Small edits. Minutes adopted by consent.

Annual review of FSSC membership

C. Henderson and T. Frasier reoffered for 3 year terms. J. Masuda is on sabbatical and J. Clyburne will fill in for the year.
D. Chiasson will serve as the Vice Chair when S. Veres is unavailable.

BUSINESS ARISING

O2 Alarm follow-up (incident 7309)

L. Lucas and S. Veres will follow-up with Kevin Trudeau to see if Security has been trained since the incident.

REPORTS

Safety Advisor Report

Summary of Injury/Incident Reports for Faculty of Science

L. Lucas described the Injury/Incident Reports that had been submitted for Science during June to September.

Incident #7370 June 2025	Damage to the Engineering building. <i>While getting the lift through the door, damage was done to the door and frame. P. Farmer said repairs will need to be completed.</i>
Incident #7432 July	Minor cut from chemical glass drop. <i>A 4L bottle of acetone slipped out of the student's hand. The supervisor helped clean it up with solvent pads and shut off oven as a precaution. There was a small cut, but hand was washed and required no other first aid. Supervisor said the student had a good response and noted to hold the bottle more securely.</i>
Incident # 7410 July	Slipped, fell and hurt back on stairs. <i>Although it may not be a FSSC issue, L. Lucas will follow up on it in case repairs are needed on the stairs.</i>

WHMIS Update

L. Lucas said WHMIS education is available on Brightspace for Students, and for Faculty and Staff. Training is to be completed annually. Updates were made to the course over the summer for clarity, to focus on changes from 2015, and to align better with material available from CCOHS. A certificate that auto-generates upon course completion was added by SAS.

The Studio will be available this fall to complete additional updates to the WHMIS course. Hopefully this will be completed in January. Will work on a more advanced version of WHMIS after updates to the basic course are complete.

OHS & Wellness Consultant: JOHSC Activity and Information

JOHSC minutes: April 2025 and June 2025 minutes were reviewed. It was noted that there is work ongoing to create a travel registry.

L. Lucas said the Intro to OSH course is on Brightspace.

NEW BUSINESS

11th Sept 2025 1st stage alarm concerns & general 1st stage alarm concerns

S. Veres said there's been no information on the SMU-safe app which is a concern. The alarm was triggered by tile cutting. The external company was doing testing, and all the lights were on the security panel, so no one realized the alarm was happening.

The committee discussed the 1st stage alarm and how it's not needed and should go right to an evacuation alarm. P. Farmer agreed and will discuss this with D. Gillis and provide an update. Also, if the mass notification system is in use and a fire alarm is pulled, the fire alarm overrides any other system.

Risk Notice form

S. Veres discussed the new risk notice form and how it meets the new academic regulations. The form is created, goes to L. Lucas and V. Wadman to review. It gets sent to S. Veres for approval. Science students should get a copy of the risk notice with the syllabus. Science Advising will alert faculty if theirs has not been submitted. Please send any feedback regarding the risk form to L. Lucas and S. Veres.

OTHER BUSINESS

L. Lucas will check on the respirator fit testing and get back to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Dr. Sam Veres
Meeting Chairperson, Faculty of Science Safety Committee
Dean of Science