

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH, OCEAN and ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

EOAS/ESB LOCAL SAFETY TEAM
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 12th, 2021

Zoom Room

9:00am – 10:00am

Present: Raymond Andersen (Chair), Tim Morgan, Brian Hunt, Bethany Ladd, Matthijs Smit

Regrets: Anne-Martine Doucet (Graduate Student Representative), Peggy Ng (Statistics), Rozalia Mate (PIMS), Kate Blackburn (Dean's Office), Kevin Lin (Data Science), Kimberly Tietjen (Secretary)

Action Items:

- **Meeting called to order: 9:00 AM**

Adoption of previous Safety Committee Meeting Minutes:

Approved: N/A

1. NEW BUSINESS:

- **EOAS Student Joining IOF Fieldwork**
 - BH advised that one of his EOAS students is planning to join an IOF-conducted fieldwork trip. The IOF trip has already been approved by that group's Safety Committee and Director. No safety parameters need to change due to the addition of an extra student, and the participants will receive additional on-site training once they arrive. BH will request that the student review the Risk Assessment ahead of time. Question: Does the paperwork need to be re-reviewed or can we accept the paperwork from another department?
 - BL is happy to accept the IOF paperwork provided all our team's safety requirements are also being met. TM added that as long as it is within UBC it should be fine, but outside organizations' paperwork would definitely need to be looked at in-depth.
 - RA would still like the plan to go through the LST and be signed off by Philippe, but it doesn't have to be a rigorous review. BH will send a copy of the safety paperwork to the LST, and Raymond will look through it before sending it to Philippe for approval.
 - TM added that once the JOHSC reviews our field safety plan, there can be a general agreement between the departments in the Faculty of Science to generally accept each other's safety plan paperwork.

- **International Fieldwork**
 - MS advised that one of his students was hoping to do some work on a very specific outcropping in the Alps, but the green light is always last-minute. Due to the lack of turnaround time and the amount of paperwork, the plan was ultimately abandoned. MS is concerned that all the paperwork severely limits the flexibility often needed in fieldwork.
 - BL confirmed that the paperwork needed for international research can be extensive. The emphasis of the EOAS forms is on the communication plan. We need to feel comfortable telling the family of the person who might get hurt that we approved their safety plan. The forms are prescriptive in nature but only the sections applicable to your research need to be filled out. Further guidance on

the forms may be needed to alleviate the perceived burden of filling out the forms.

- BL added that many Graduate students have a lot of safety concerns and feel that there is not enough material included in the safety plans. The LST is trying to find the balance to ensure the participants are safe without making it too difficult to make it into the field.
- BH advised that the goal of the forms is to make people think about the potential hazards in their work so that they can avoid them as best as they can, and to make sure that you know what to do and who to contact should things go sideways.
- RA advised that Go Global has its own rules for international work for students. TM confirmed that one of Go Global's main concerns is insurance; if the correct insurance is not obtained, the department itself and the individual PI would be financially responsible to transport the student home and for any medical bills.
- MS questioned what would happen if something unforeseen occurs – would that invalidate the safety plan and the insurance? TM confirmed that they would not be invalidated if it was not reasonably foreseen.
- RA confirmed that in this case the timeline would have been too short. TM added that since we have a template with Joel Saylor's Bolivia group, if we have enough time we can work through all the processes. RA will contact Philippe and Go Global to find out what the required timeline and steps for this scenario would have been.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:46am

Next Safety Team Meeting – To be determined.