Leadership organization

- The Laboratory and Research Safety Committee (LRSC) continued to meet regularly and focus on improving shared commitments from units (e.g., PPE standards, accountability). The LRSC restructuring in 2017 has facilitated more impactful partnership opportunities with the office of research, facilities & operations, and trainee groups.
- Established regular strategic planning meetings to address organizational gaps and expertise limitations. Meeting goals emphasized collaboration and networked goal setting with key partners.
- A new software interface was launched (MiSafetyPortal) to organize EHS services into one system to allow for campus accessibility and data trend analyses. This system also encourages unit-accountability on corrective actions and reporting.

Committee Development

- Safety committees representing 15 schools, colleges and units across the U-M campus have independently expanded their scope and regularly meet. Continuing to maintain and support working relationships with local and global groups is an ongoing priority.
- Several cross-disciplinary working groups have been developed to address shared resources and best practices (e.g., Field research, museums/libraries collections, PPE barrier program, no-working alone group).

Visibility

- Several projects and pilot programs have been established to be more locally effective on working with trainee specific organizations (e.g., UROP, RSG, LNF, UMMS, UMPDA). These projects include: launching local surveys, presenting within departmental-specific mechanisms, joint-training awareness, communications programs, etc.
- Community outreach partnership events locally and campus-wide prioritized communication, partnerships and resource identification.

Education

- Safety Coordinators training sessions were conducted to promote collaboration, benchmarking, and brainstorming for a unique Safety Coordinator locally chosen community.
- Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) language was modified to clarify policies on PPE usage and barrier protection, setting the groundwork for shared practical solutions to safety challenges.
- A new internal professional development pilot program focused on EHS representative employees, establishing a more customer service focus with the campus research community.
Key Goals for 2019

- Analysis of the second Safety Culture Survey Report to be completed and distributed.
- Training of key stakeholders across campus to expand MiSafetyPortal usage for unit-directed data analyses.
- Campaign for safety committees to utilize unit specific data within the MISP to address incident/near miss issues and inspection deficiencies within the unit.
- Hosting of Safety Coordinator Training events and supporting local units’ attempts to train their own safety coordinator networks.
- Establishing a comprehensive communication plan that is effective in sharing lessons learned, best practices, and resource awareness across units.
- Developing additional opportunities and working groups to partner with local units and assisting with their priorities.
- Planning for a written policy to establish organization and operations process for research safety non-compliance.
- Empowering the unit safety committees with further resource awareness and programming that includes their own internal community of safety coordinators, research staff, and trainees.
- Evaluate an approach to be consistent across all units on undergraduate curriculum training and safety awareness sustainability.