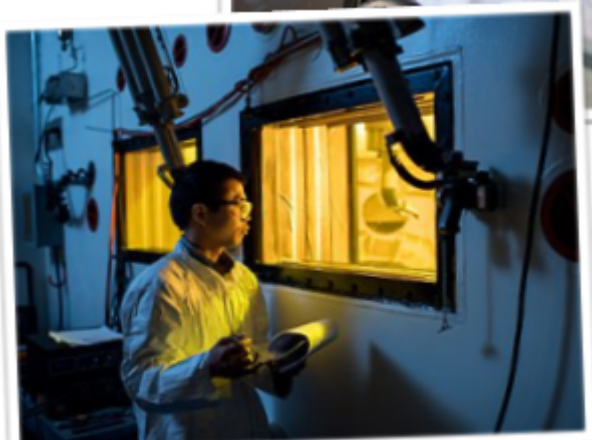


Research and Academic Safety Committee

2020 & 2021 Report



Activities and Accomplishments

- The Research and Academic Safety Committee (formally known as the Laboratory and Research Safety Committee) was restructured to a smaller committee with required faculty representation and to ensure that the committee focus is on ensuring that the culture is making progress and consistent across campus.
- The committee added a program manager and a marketing communications specialist to assist with achieving the day to day tasks to move the initiative forward.
- Each unit with either laboratory, studio or shop space was requested to submit a Safety Accountability Plan by October 2021 to the committee that outlines how each unit will address safety issues.
- New metrics tied to creating an inspection-ready safety culture were introduced that provide the following details on a quarterly basis as related to inspection results:
 - Percent of deficiencies that have been corrected
 - Percent of deficiencies corrected on time
 - Top five deficiencies for each unit
- Safety summits were held in May and June 2021 to engage both safety accountability leaders and unit safety chairs on the concept of the safety accountability plan and the safety dashboard reports (formerly known as safety scorecards) were introduced to each unit with unit-specific metric data provided as described above.
- In Fall 2021, Safety dashboard reports (formerly known as safety scorecards) were issued to each unit with inspection data for 2021.

- An update on the research safety initiative was presented to the Academic Program Group which consists of deans, directors, vice provosts, provost and vice president of research. This also included confirmation from leadership of their commitment to strengthen the culture of safety and the goal of creating an inspection ready culture.
- The committee partnered with Michigan Creative to develop a new marketing campaign to increase awareness of the safety program across campus.

Key Goals for 2022

Continuous Improvement Efforts

- Set primary goals and objectives for overall culture initiative.
- Update the research and academic safety policy and charge to reflect safety accountability plans and roles not previously included.
- Transition name change from the Laboratory and Research Safety Committee to the Research and Academic Safety Committee to better represent oversight of the committee.
- Create a policy for the Research and Academic Safety Committee in resolution of research safety non-compliance issues that remain unresolved after a unit has engaged with their accountability processes.
- Create a policy for the Research and Academic Safety Committee that addresses expectations for incident review for units and the committee.
- Engage with units in utilizing their safety accountability plans to achieve initiative goals.
- Establish a comprehensive communication plan to effectively share lessons learned, best practices and resource awareness.
- Organize a targeted effort on reducing inspections staying open for more than 30 days.
- Empower the unit safety committees with further resource awareness and programming that includes their own internal community of safety coordinators, research staff, and trainees.

- Develop additional opportunities to partner with local units and assist with their priorities (e.g., pilot program for barriers to designate desk areas as non-safety glass required zones).

Metrics

- Provide annual report for units on overall progress with action items on future planning efforts for top deficiencies.
- Provide quarterly safety dashboard reports to units and expectations for action.

Events

- Hold an annual safety summit for unit safety committee chairs and safety accountability leads.

Education

- Perform a gap analysis of existing safety training to increase safety compliance and knowledge of roles and responsibilities across all levels, from deans to trainees, participating in research operations.