

Minutes, Health and Safety Committee 2023-05-23

Time: 13:00–15:00

Location: A1001

Attendees: Katarina Åkerling Lindholm, Head of HR, chair
Andreas Kedestig, HR Strategist
Elin Weiss, Controller, Equal Rights and Gender Equality
Anders Nordquist, Principal Health and Safety Representative
Erik Nilsson, Chief Security Officer
Jessica Waleryd, Head of Student Services
Malin Saverman, SACO
Sofia Holm, Vice President, Student Welfare, Örebro Student Union
Emina Mujkanovic, ST
Hanna Malmberg, HR Officer, secretary

Absent: Olga Jonsson, OFR
Seko

1. Opening of the meeting and approval of minutes from last meeting

Katarina opened the meeting and went through the agenda for the meeting.

Comments were made in connection with two of the items on the minutes from last meeting:

- Anders voiced a request that an access page be created to the work environment handbook also for members of staff. Currently, the handbook is only accessible from the pages for managers (on Inforum).
- Sofia raised concerns about the work environment training course in the autumn and how it may be difficult for student health and safety representatives to find time during the day to take the course. It was suggested that an online course or video be prepared for those concerned and for it to be geared more specifically towards the student health and safety representatives. Andreas and Anders will think about a possible setup and will report back on the subject.

2. Report from the work environment forum

Andreas reported on matters raised in the last meeting. Among other things they concerned the circular planning tool. Requests have been made that the safety rounds be moved from spring to autumn, as spring is a busy time for many. There have also been comments on the checklist and how it is too general and not entirely applicable to all parts of the organisation.

There is a request that more work be done with social work environment issues, it is easy to mainly focus on the physical aspects.

Anders commented that the idea when the circular planning tool was designed was that the preparatory work was to be done in the spring and the ensuing measures to be taken in the autumn. Erik added that the operational planning process also has to be considered. If changes to the facilities are needed, that information must reach Campus Services in the spring.

Jessica pointed out that Student Health Services perhaps should be invited to the work environment forum since they are in a position to pick up matters of concern to students. It may also relieve heads of school when it comes to questions relating to students' work environment.

3. Reports from the principal health and safety representative

Anders asked what the status is of the idea of introducing self-inspection of common areas on campus.

Erik said that the matter is still on the table and that one suggestion is for cleaning services to conduct self-inspection. How to handle reports from these self-inspections is one matter to be solved. Today, cleaning services submit fault reports if they discover any anomalies when they work in common areas.

How incident reports linked to common areas are handled was also discussed. It is sometimes difficult to know who to turn to if the facility in question does not belong to a specific part of the organisation.

4. Reports from the Student Union

Sofia reported that the student survey has closed and that the responses are now to be analysed. There were 1,825 respondents, a lower number than in 2017. The student survey is to be carried out every two years, but it has not been done since 2017. Possible improvements to the survey have also been discussed, for instance doing a smaller survey every year rather than a more comprehensive one every other. Elin said that when the results are in from the survey, these make up part of the material that schools have to consider when working with prevention and promotion measures aimed at preventing discrimination (*aktiva åtgärder*). This time, responses have also been collected from doctoral students, which will hopefully be beneficial.

In 2024, the plan is to look at physical student welfare, such as student union section rooms and other facilities.

5. Information from Student Health Services

Jessica reported that the calendar for the autumn is about to be published. Various activities will be tested and targeted measures based on existing challenges within specific programmes will be taken. Dance for Health courses will, for example, be offered.

One activity during the spring was organised walks for people who are lonely.

For people to come up with activities can be a challenge as it is difficult to find suitable times.

6. Statistics from Occupational Health Services

Andreas presented statistics from Falck for the first quarter 2023. The most measures are those linked to support from psychologists as well as different mapping activities. Andreas would like statistics that show the number of appointments within different categories of support. Currently, statistics is based on cost allocation across different categories, which does not say much.

7. IA system

Andreas reports that a formal order has been placed for the IA system. HR, management and health and safety representatives will receive training in the system in the autumn. The plan is for the system to be up and running by the new year 2023/2024. The system will allow us to manage incidents, accidents and safety rounds. Students will also have access to the system.

8. Information from Campus Services

Erik reported on ongoing construction work.

Campus USÖ is nearly finished, some wrapping up remains.

Completion of Student Services' new exam halls in Teknikhuset is scheduled to August. Work to decide on premises for the Info Centre and Student Health Services is in progress.

There is water damage and mould in some premises in Måltidens hus in Grythyttan. A new kitchen is planned, with significant reconstruction work as a result. Completion of the project is planned in time for the start of the spring semester 2024.

As Akademiska hus has terminated the contract for student union premises at the School of Hospitality, Culinary Arts and Meal Science, a review of facilities that could house student union activities is underway.

Erik reported on developments in the matter of storing batteries for, for example, electric bikes. The Swedish Legal, Financial and Administrative Services Agency, Kammarkollegiet, has introduced a stricter insurance policy with a complete indoor ban on batteries for transport vehicles such as electric bikes and scooters. The Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions, SUHF, is lobbying for Kammarkollegiet to change their policy. Locally, at ORU, there are currently two views: either the policy needs to be clarified with a total ban on batteries as a whole, or a formal departure from the policy must be made. Currently, we do not know when a decision on the matter will be made.

Finally, Erik reports that reconstruction of three bicycle parking lots is underway on Campus Almby. On two of them, charging cabinets will be installed.

9. Incidents and accidents

Andreas reported on incidents and occupational injuries reported for the first quarter 2023: 1 incident and 4 occupational injuries.

Andreas reported on two cases from the Swedish Labour Court regarding homeworking and how it is difficult to get compensation under the occupational injury insurance policy if the injury would happen while working from home. It is important to have private accident insurance cover for any injuries happening at home.

10. Health and Safety Committee going forward

Andreas has been thinking about how the work of the health and safety committee could be organised going forward. A multi-tier organisation with health and safety committees at each school would be good. That would entail work environment management that is more tailored and closer to the needs of the local organisation.

The central health and safety committee could then focus on decisions that would serve the entire university or that cannot be managed in the local organisation. Sofia commented that it was a good idea but that it is important to ensure student perspective representation in such an organisation.

11. Any other business

No other business.

12. Next meeting

Next meeting will be on 12 September.

Taking the minutes:

Hanna Malmberg

HR Officer

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record:

Anders Nordquist

Principal Health and Safety Officer