

**Building a Campus-Wide Animal Care and Use  
Occupational Health and Safety Program at a  
Land Grant Institution**  
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**Components of a Successful OHS Program**

- Risk Assessment and Hazard Identification
- Adequate Facilities and Equipment
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Medical Screening
- Education and Training
- Evaluation of Program



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## Structure of a Land Grant Institution

### Agriculture research and teaching focus

- Animal care divisions
  - Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program
  - Division of Animal Resources
- On and off campus facilities
- Greater diversity of species
- House agricultural animal in lab facilities



## Structure of a Land Grant Institution

### Organization of Safety Programs

- Division of Research Safety
  - Biological
  - Chemical
  - Radiation
- Division of Safety and Compliance
  - Occupational Safety and Health
  - Environmental Compliance



## Structure of Land Grant Institution



### Limited medical services on campus

- No occupational medicine physician
- No medical school
- McKinley Health Center
  - Provide student services
  - RN



## Challenges of Building an OHS Program

- Communication and coordination
- Comprehensive risk assessments
- Identify and meet training needs
- Ongoing program evaluation



## Are we effectively protecting our employees?



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## Getting Started

- External review of OHS Program
- Identify involved parties
- Assess current program
- Develop a plan of action
  - Establish communication and coordination
  - Identify person(s) responsible for program
  - Appoint a program coordinator
  - Evaluate other OHS programs
  - Identify Best Practices



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## OHS Leadership Group

- **Members**
  - Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program
  - Division of Animal Resources
  - Division of Research Safety
  - Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
  - Division of Safety and Compliance
  - McKinley Health Center
  - OHS Specialist
  - Office of Vice Chancellor for Research
- **Meet monthly to evaluate program**



## OHS Specialist

- **OHS for Animal Care and Use Program**
- **Liaison for safety professionals and animal care personnel**
- **Coordinate OHS Leadership Group**
- **Develop and maintain program**



## Mandatory Enrollment

- Principal Investigators
- Research Staff
- Animal Care Staff
- Veterinarians
- Safety Professional
- Facility and Service Workers
- Student Employees



## Web-based System



- Accessible and secure
- Risk Assessment
- Enrollment easily verified
- Opportunity to complete Health Screening Questionnaire
- Allows for education and training



## Protocol Driven

- Assures participation
- Assessment of individual risks
- Onsite audits and inspection
  - Forces communication between parties
  - Written SOP and training opportunities
  - Provides follow-up



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## Medical Screening

- McKinley Health Center
  - RN confidential review Health Screening Questionnaire
  - Immunizations for employees
- Contract with local hospitals
  - Medical care for occupational injuries
  - Physicals for Medical Surveillance



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## Summary

- Communication and coordination
- Provide protection and procedures
- Training for employees
- Ongoing program evaluation



## Thank you!

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