



University Safety Committee Minutes

Date: February 10, 2020

Time: 09:00-10:00

Chair: Chad Johnson
Members Present: Kennedy Lentini ASEWU, Dave Sundstrom;
Members Absent: Dave Meany, Drew Ayers;

Guest: Gerry Page, EH&S Industrial Hygienist

The USC met November 6, 2019 at 08:30

I. Call to Order:

- a. Introductions
- b. Review of University Safety Committee Charter
- c. Selection of Committee Chair: Chad Johnson was selected

II. Mandatory Agenda Items: (WAC 296-800-13020) - 30 Minutes

- a. Review Safety and Health Inspection Reports (**Chad Johnson/Gerry Page**)
- b. Evaluation of Accident Investigation Reports (**Chad Johnson/Gerry Page**)
- c. Evaluation of Workplace Accident & Illness Prevention Program (**Chad Johnson/Gerry Page**)

Items A, B and C Combined.

A significant employee incidents, from the first half of 2019 were provided by Jerry Page. L&I data for that period was also discussed.

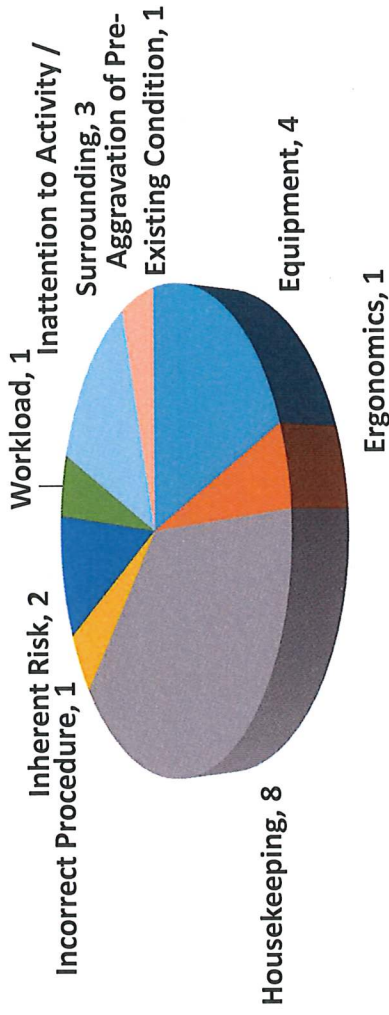
III. New Business; None

IV. Members comments: None

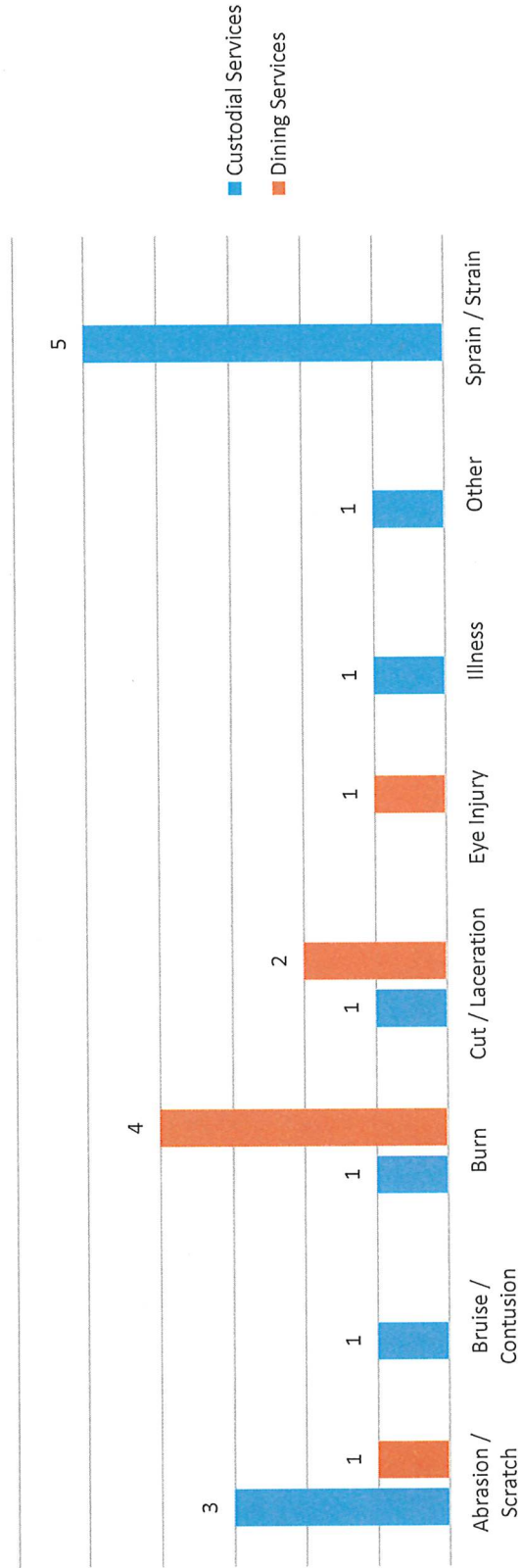
V Adjourn 09:15

Incident Type	Employee Injury / Illness description of Incidents: July through December 2020
Sprain / Strain	Employee was diagnosed with damages to both cubital tunnels in arms from work activities including pulling wire, bending pipe, ditch workm and heavy lifting
Sprain / Strain	Employee just finished putting on a coating for the scissor roof at TAW and as he walked up the section of the roof, when he reached the top his feet sliped out from under him and he fell on his side and part of his back (left side). Right on the high side of the scissor roof. 2 other employees were present when he fell.
Concussion	Employee was dropping rental equipment @ EPIC. Attending EPIC employee was inside the equipment room, turned away for a moment and saw the employee on ground shaking with her feet on her vehicle non-responsive. EPIC employee had associate call 911, and began first aid. Employee was semi-responsive but could not recall event. Employee was transported to Sacred Heart for observation.
Hazardous Contact / Re	Employee was instructed to sanitize synamcut room 218, second and fifth floor door handles, and bathrooms. Employee was unaware of COVID positive case in the building and was using her assigned work gloves and a homemade mask during disinfection activities.
Bruise / Contusion	Employee's view of surroundings was limited by the wearing of her personal respirator, a result she tripped on a rolled up mat, falling to her knees and hands. Abrasion to her left knee, left wrist and elbow aggravated with strain. Right arm, knee, and back indicated no injury at the time of reporting.
Bite / Sting	While cleaning bathrooms in Dryden Hall, I was bit on my left hand near my thumb. The bite has turned purple.
Concussion	Student employee was on his hands and knees disassembling an old capstone project wooden frame. Upon repositioning his body and proceeding to stand up, his front of head struck the edge of the nearby bench
Sprain / Strain	Employee sought medical attention from Urgent Care after here hands were achey and tire after difficulty from typing at her keyboard in her home office. Discomfort has increased in her hands progressively for the last two weeks. Attending Physician diagnosed an overuse injury and recommended a split keyboard, and anti-inflammitory prescription
Bruise / Contusion	Employee was cutting plexiglass on the table saw and the material kicked back. The plexi-glass struck him in the pelvic area resulting severe pain and ambulatory to Deaconness Hospital
Hazardous Contact / Re	Employee found Barkeepers' Friend (oxalic acid) on her right fingers after cleaning toilets and urinals. The employee's belief was that the use of pumice stones, green scrubbies, and the Barkeepers' Friend. Employee noted that the lightweight blue nitrile gloves are not resistant to abrasion, and resulted to the exposure. Employee rinsed and cleaned her hands to remove residials before re-gloving.
Sprain / Strain	<p>I was walking out the back door of the library and up the ramp towards the CEB -- the sprinkler system had clearly been pressurized, presumably to drain it for the winter. As I walked past the place where the ramp up towards CEB and the Science Building intersects with the sidewalk leading from the disabled parking area, there was a small explosion from the ground near me. I can only assume that a sprinkler head exploded due to over-pressurization, since the explosive sound was paired with the bursting forth of an intense column of pressurized air and water, which erupted from the ground and reached a height of about 15-20 feet before cascading back down to the ground. This column of water and air persisted for about 30 seconds before subsiding (I couldn't tell if someone intervened, or if the pressure merely was released). I was standing about 4-5 feet from the explosion when it occurred -- the combined effect of the loud bursting sound and the eruption of the water column startled me, resulting in a twisting, leaping motion away from it, out of what I think is a very natural fear. I have been undergoing treatment for lower back pain for months now, and fear that this event (and my instinctive response) may have aggravated that injury. Later in the day, when I returned to the library, I stopped at the point of the explosion, and looked down to see a clearly exposed and open piece of pipe, which confirmed to me that some kind of cap or sprinkler head must have been blown away by the force of the pressure. I think this cannot have been a safe and proper procedure with the sprinklers -- had I been standing any closer to the point of the explosion, I could easily have been struck by flying debris. If pressurizing the sprinklers carries with it the routing possibility of this outcome, grounds staff need to cordon off these areas for public safety. Had I know the venting was taking place, and carried that risk, I never would have taken the route I took this afternoon. I'll note that I'm saying "No Treatment Necessary" below because I cannot yet tell, this afternoon, if my back is in any worse condition than it was earlier today, given my ongoing pain issues, and so I have not gone to my doctor. I already plan to meet with my doctor later this week to discuss imaging of my back taken on Sunday, and I will share this experience with him at that time.</p>
Burn	Employee received a work order to snake a drain. When she got to room 024 the sink was not backed up but dirty and oily. She ran water and notice that the sink was still plugged so she plunged the sink with zero hand protection and afterward noticed her left index finger had a burning sensation in it. When she rubbed her finger where it was burning the top layer of skin peeled off. She washed her hands and put bandaids on them. First aid only.
Repeated Moation	Employee been sitting in a Aeron Chair for 14 years and have recently changed to out because of the pain it caused in his butt and hips. He may have been too late. His butt and hips hurt all the time now. There is no chair he can sit in, that does not cause pain. Exercise, stretching does not seem to help and reinforces his pain. He has been using a new chair abot 4 months, its feels better but as stated before the pain is still there.
Burn	Employee was removing a plug from a condensate tank that she thought was empty. She pulled the plug and the hot condensate was pressurized to it being over gull it splashed off the wall and onto her leg. Burning her leg. Went to Cheney Medical Clinic.
Repeated Moation	Autoshop work injured their back Mounting Truck Tires

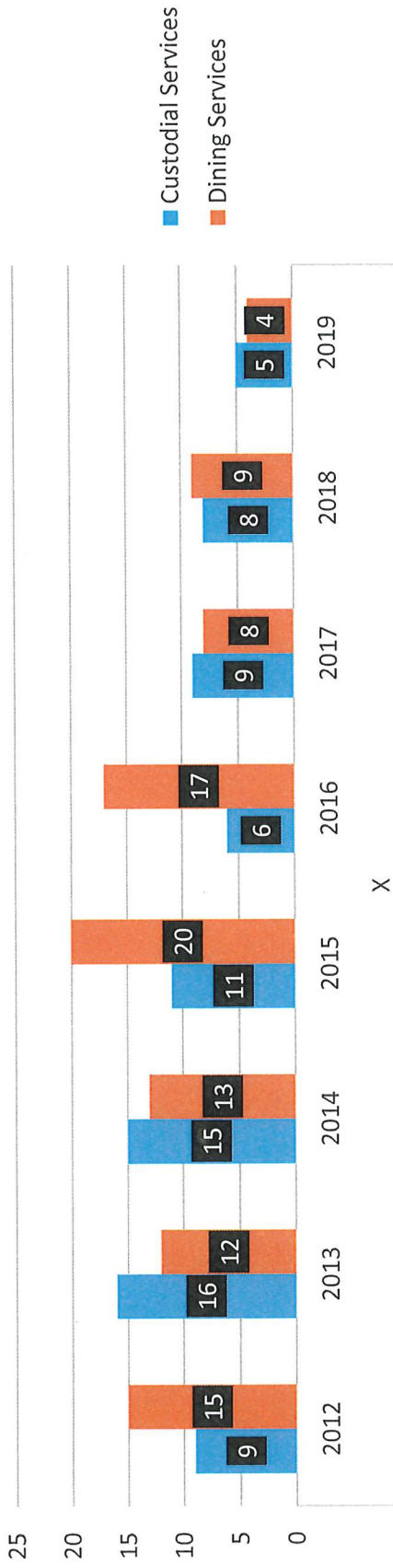
Custodial and Dining Services Reported Accidents/Injuries, Illnesses by Root Cause Q3 for 2019



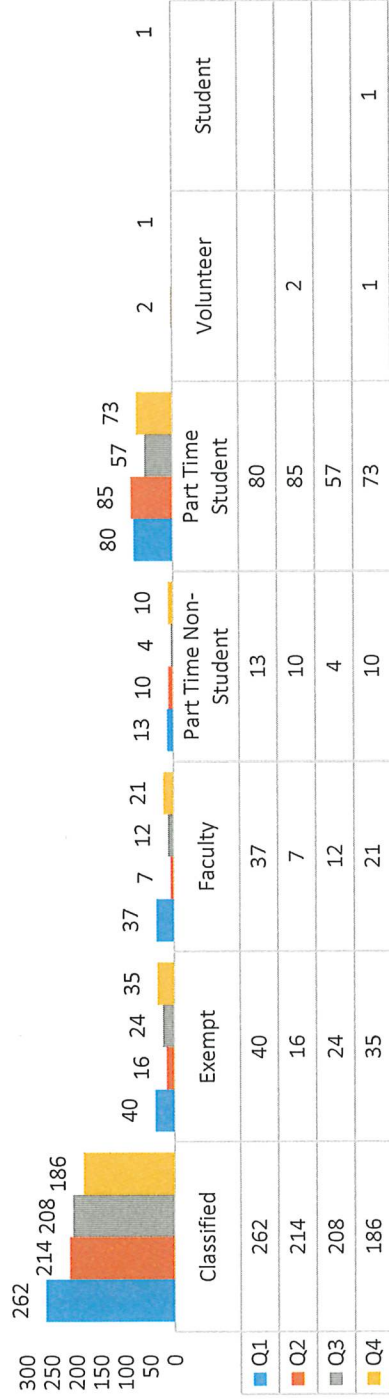
Reported Accident/Injury, Illnesses by Injury Type Custodial and Dining Services - Q3 2019



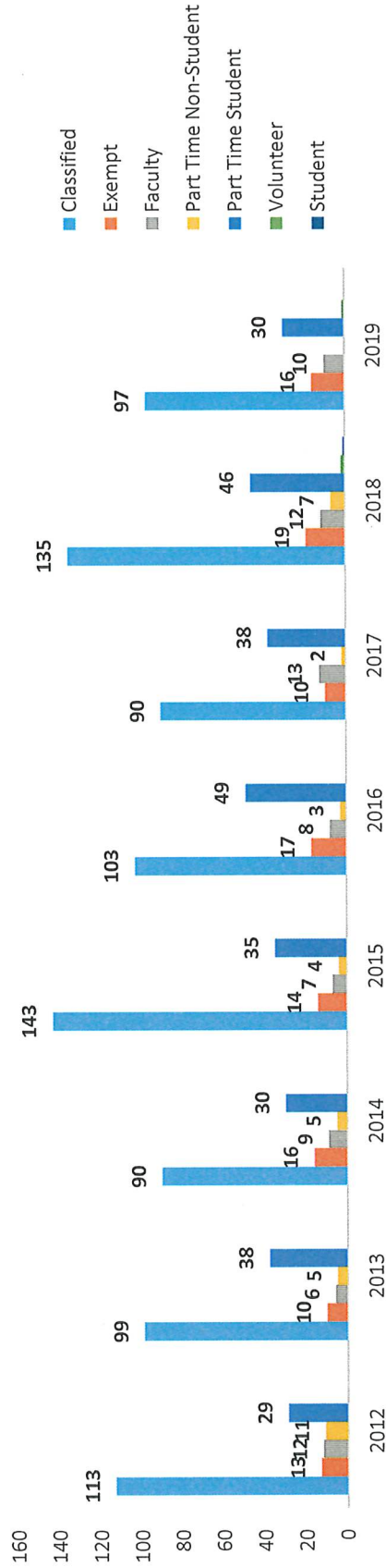
Custodial and Dining Services Reported Accident/Injuries, Illnesses by L&I Claim 2012-2019



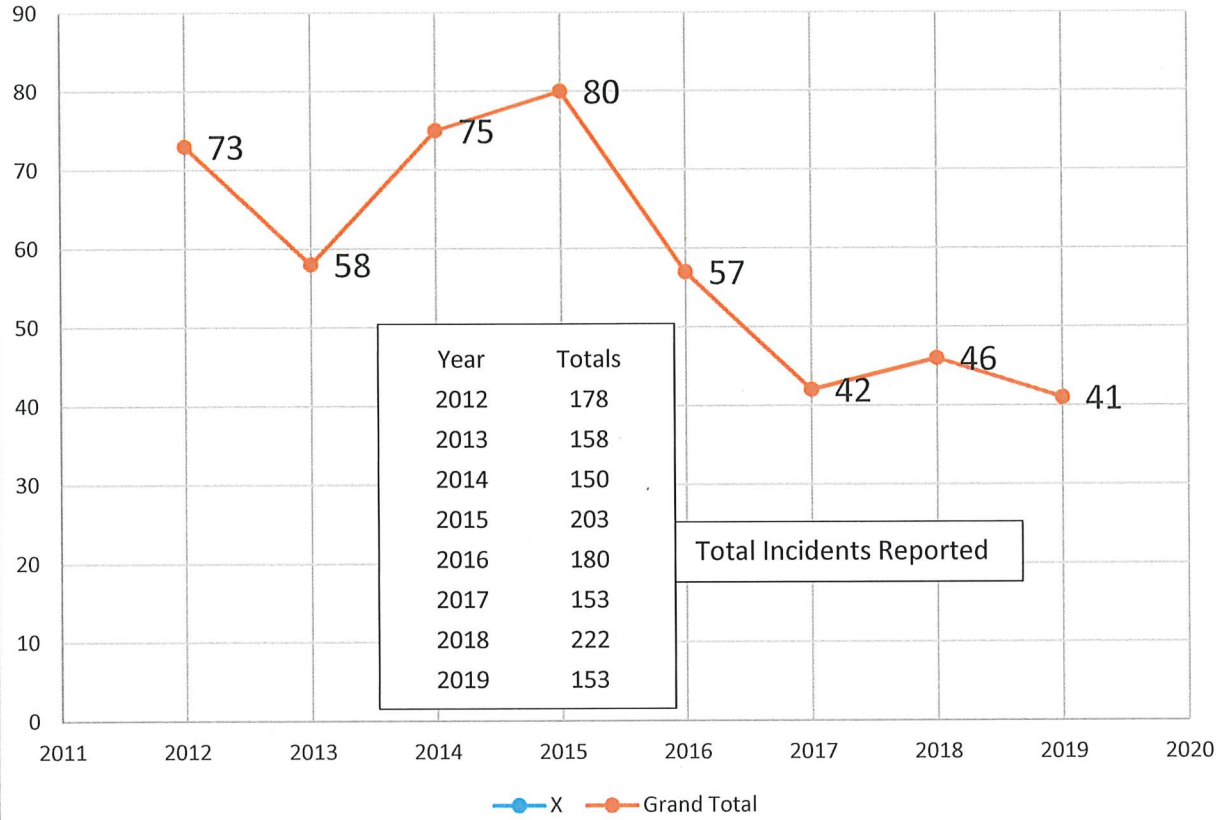
Accident/Illness Incident Totals by Employee Type & Qtr 2012 through 2019



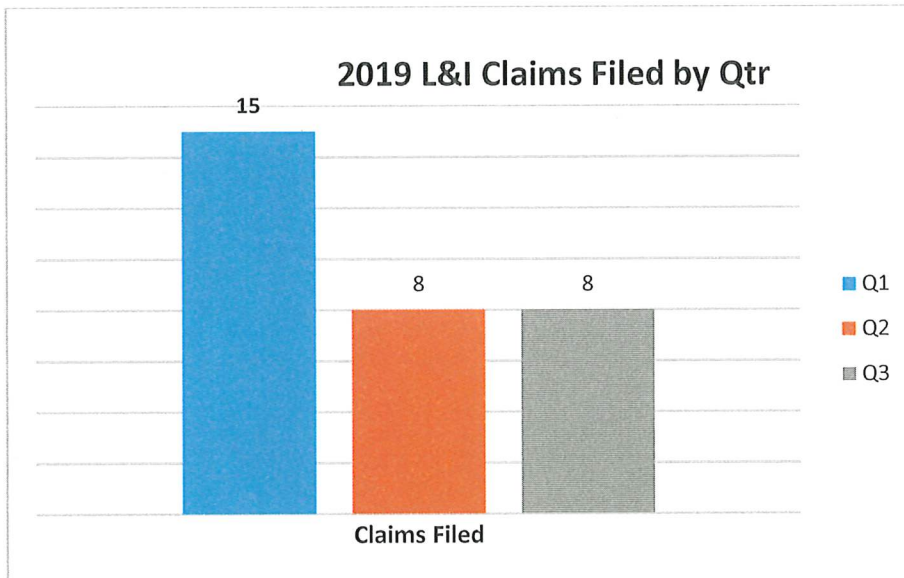
Reported Employee Accident/Illness Incidents 2012 to 2019 by Employee Type



L&I Claims 2012 through 10/31/19



2019 L&I Claims Filed by Qtr



10 claims from 9/1/19 to 10/31/19

Count of Department	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
Admissions			2		2
Archaeological & Historical Services		1			1
ASEWU	1				1
Athletics		1			1
Biology	2			1	3
Bookstore	1				1
Building Maint	1				1
Campus Police	3	4			7
Campus Recreation		2			2
Career Services	1				1
Center for Academic Advising & Retention			1		1
Central Stores	1				1
Community Engagement			1		1
Custodial Services	10	16	13	2	41
CWTAP / FRTC		1	1		2
Dental Hygiene	2	1			3
Dining Services	12	12	8	1	33
Early Head Start		1	1		2
Education		1		2	3
EH&S	2	1	4		7
Electric Shop		1			1
English	1				1
Fabrication Shop		1			1
Graduate Programs	1				1
Grants Office	1				1
Grounds Maintenance			1		1
Housing Maint	1	1			2
Housing Maintenance			1		1
Human Resources			1		1
HVAC Shop	1				1
Information Technology	1		1		2
Insulation Maint	1				1
Library Services	1	2		1	4
Mathematics				1	1
Music	1				1
Parking & Transportation	1				1
PEHR			1		1
Plant Operations	1				1
Plumbing Shop		1		1	2
Post Office			1		1
Residential Life	1				1
School of Global Learning	1	1			2
Student Affairs	1		1		2
Theatre & Film	2				2
Trucking Services			3		3
Trucking/Recycling	1	1			2
Women & Gender Studies		1			1
Grand Total	53	50	41	9	153

Incident Type	Employee Injury / Illness description of incidents: July to October 2019
Burn	Employee was visiting a client address, after 20 minutes at the home, her nasal cavity began to burn and she has since felt ill (meth house exposure)
Hazardous Contact / Rel	Employee was leaning on the doorway, talking with supervisor when she realized that there was a smear of blood on her wrist. Employee went to the bathroom and washed off the blood. She checked her wrist and it wasn't bleeding. Employee wiped down the door jam to see if there was blood on it and couldn't locate any blood. Employee was not sure where it came from or whose blood it was. The skin on her wrist is intact so even if there was a pathogen she should be okay.
Burn	Employee was inspecting a microwave for cleanliness by reaching inside with her hand. Realizing that the unit was on with the door open, she shut the door and the unit turned off. After resetting the microwave, the unit performed the same way as before; on with the door open, off with the door shut. The unit was removed for service, the employee has not designated permanent injury as of yet.
Hazardous Contact / Rel	Graduate student (GSA) spilled 10-20mL RPE Buffer (Qiagen) on lab/legs. She accidentally bumped the bottle with her gloved hand. The buffer is classified as a skin irritant. The student immediately took a shower and washed the area with soap and water, she then changed her pants.
Crush / Pinch	Employee was presenting lecturer to his class, when the document camera fell upon his right thumb.
Concussion	Employee was hosing down the women's pool locker and slipped on the wet floor and fell backwards to the floor. She struck her left hip on the floor, her left hand was down to catch her fall and she hit her head on the floor machine that when behind her. Her neck is sore along with the left hip and left hand. No treatment necessary/treatment refused. Tim Harnois called and said that she went to the doctor and said that she has a concussion. Also told her to have the doctor fill out a L&J claim and to get a doctor's note release her to come back to work.
Fracture	Employee was walking up the stairs in Monroe hall SW stairwell and slipped on a step causing him to fall on his face and nose. Went to Sacred Heart ER. Medical Treatment Received.
Sprain / Strain	Employee was lifting compose bin, slipped from grasp and caught before the bin hit the ground. Strained/pull muscles in left side of upper and lower back.
Cut / Laceration	Student worker was dicing zucchini and forgot to put on cut glove. Cut left thumb
Hazardous Contact / Release	Employee received a work order to snake a drain. When she got to room 024 the sink was not backed up but dirty and oily. She ran water and notice that the sink was still plugged so she plunged the sink with zero hand protection and afterward noticed her left index finger had a burning sensation in it. When she rubbed her finger where it was burning the top layer of skin peeled off. She washed her hands and put bandaids on them. First aid only.

Type of Incident

Student Injury / Illness description of Incidents: July to October 2019

Cut / Laceration
 Student acquired a minor laceration while replacing a scalpel blade. She applied too much pressure to the handle, causing the blade to penetrate its packing, her glove, and eventually her skin. She immediately removed her gloves, washed her hands, and her supervisor provided her with a bandage.

Near Miss
 A student with visual impairment reported that there is a gap in the handrail at the Elm Street/Freshen's entrance. When he was entering the building, he fell off the edge of the sidewalk. The student reported he was not hurt, but wanted to make sure we were aware of the problem area.

Illness
 Student was in class when she told her friend that she didn't feel well and would need to be helped out of class. The student stood up with the help of her friend, as they began to walk out of the classroom, the student went very pale and passed out. Her friend caught her on the way to the floor. The student started to seized for a few seconds. She also seized a second time and the second time seemed stronger than the first. The instructor called 911 and another student, went downstairs to notify Spokane Student Services. Upon getting notified, not knowing whether 911 was called, I also called 911 and had staff members call Campus Safety so that they were aware as well. When I responded to SEWC 226, I found the student on the floor, responsive, but with labored breathing. I notified the instructor and the remaining students that emergency personnel were on the way. The Fire Department and AMR responded. The paramedics started a line in her arm, eventually responding to some questions. She said her head hurt and she was feeling very sleepy. AMR transported the student to Sacred Heart.

Fracture
 Student was skating and fell on her shoulder. Tried to catch herself but she fell left backward, and couldn't really see when she sat down in a chair. When on the ice she was helped up. Call 911 they checked her. A friend took her to the doctor. URC staff followed up with the student and she has a small hairline fracture on her shoulder.

Near Miss
 Student witnessed a person in the sauna pull a knife in the sauna, after argument and fight with person 2. Person 2 feared for his safety after an initial bump contact with person 1 with the knife. Campus Police investigating.

Other
 Student was biking on the cardio floor, she was feeling light headed and decided to stand up to get some water. The student fainted near the water fountain. Her friend notified the front desk; by the time the front desk staff made it to the student she was conscious and responsive. The student said she donated plasma about 45 minutes before working out. Front desk staff called 911 and gave her water. Emergency personnel arrived and checked on the student, she was not transported to the hospital.

Sprain/Strain
 Student's right elbow had a subluxation during the wheelchair basketball game. It popped back in. Apparently this happens every once in a while do to a medical condition. He feels ok. First aid only (ICE)

Needle Stick / Puncture
 While administering local anesthesia for a non surgical periodontal therapy patient, the Student withdrew the needle and the patient flinched due to her heightened anxiety with needles. This caused the student to poke her thumb with the needle. Student then noticed blood in my glove and realized the needle had broken the skin. Student printed out the medical history and went over it with the patient. She was unsure what Hepatitis she had (A was marked but she was unsure) and said she wasn't she it she had any other bloodborne pathogens. Student then left to go to the ER for post exposure protocol and procedures.

Crush / Pinch
 Student was putting away a cadaver, while closing the lid the student's left index finger got caught and the lid pinched her. It drew a small amount of blood on the skin, just below her finger nail. She doesn't know if the metal lid cut through her glove, she noticed the wound after discarding them. She washed her hands with soap and water for a few minutes.

Sprain / Strain
 Student came to the front desk stating that he believed he had jammed his finger playing basketball. The pinky finger on his left hand appeared to be locked in a straight position. The student requested ice and was given a bag of ice. We recommended that he seek medical attention from Rockwood promptly. He left with a friend and did not request an ambulance at this time.