

## **Framework of Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) Support for Research Phase-In**

Based on the recent Research Phase-In Framework, EHS is proposing the following:

1. Development of a Local Support Network
  - This will involve identification of Local Health and Safety contacts within academic and research units to work with identified EHS liaisons to support implementing the required safety measures and precautions.
2. Training and Guidance
  - EHS will develop and provide an online training package for returning personnel, including researchers, addressing general COVID-19 related measures and precautions.
  - EHS will develop and maintain guidance documents related to COVID-19 precautionary measure and practices.
3. Monitoring and Compliance
  - EHS will monitor COVID-19 related precautionary measures and practices through their ongoing inspections (Laboratory, Biosafety and Radiation) and audits
  - EHS will provide a COVID-19 inspection checklist for use by unit Health and Safety contacts and Local Joint Health and Safety Committees

### **Developing Support Network**

EHS will develop a network of local contacts who will liaise with EHS experts to support implementation and monitoring of COVID-related precautionary measures in line with Public Health direction and best practices across the research enterprise. In consultation with key departmental contacts including Associate Directors Research and Assistant Directors Finance & Operation, this network, will be developed first using the existing resources within Local Joint Health and Safety Committees (LJHSC) and Health and Safety Representative (H&S Rep) framework. This network of Health and Safety contacts will be the point of contact for EHS and become the local resource for monitoring COVID-19 related measures that have been implemented by each department/unit.

The majority of academic departments, particularly those that are most likely to require access to campus facilities during research phase-in have existing LJHSCs and therefore have existing liaisons with EHS personnel. Research Stations have existing Health and Safety Representatives, as appropriate. See Appendix 1.

Those academic departments without current LJHSCs, are likely to have limited requirements for on-site access to campus facilities as research will often be able to continue remotely. It is reasonable to suggest that an alternative “health and safety” contact be identified and an EHS liaison assigned to each of these colleges to support these departments accordingly, during the return to work Phase-in following COVID-19. While members of the LJHSC are preferred contacts given their previous involvement in safety in the workplace, units will be given the flexibility to assign others as appropriate with consideration of those personnel who are currently under-utilized. It will be important that the health and safety precautions put in place to support the resumption of research operations become an item on LJHSC meeting agendas to ensure that JHSC engagement, as appropriate.

EHS will establish a community of practice to support this networking, and using Microsoft Teams enable consistent communications, sharing of guidance and best practices as it relates to the research phase in.

### **Role of Unit Contacts**

The role of unit contacts will be to:

- Act as the point of contact for the EHS liaison
- Participate in the networking team to stay current with new COVID-19 related policies/procedures/guidelines
- Communicate related EHS guidance within their unit
- Provide ongoing support to the unit related to COVID-19 precautionary measures as research is phased back
- Monitor ongoing compliance using the approved research recovery checklist found within research management plans

## Role of EHS Liaisons

- Be a resource and liaise with the unit contact
- Lead the networking team
- Provide guidance to the unit contact on COVID-19 related, inquiries, related policies/procedures and guidelines
- Provide a training module for returning research personnel
- Provide the inspection checklist, incorporating covid-19 related precautionary measures and practices to unit contacts and/or LJHSCs
- To ensure that measured outcomes are reviewed by LJHSCs
- Include COVID-19 related precautionary measures within General Lab Safety, Biosafety and Radiation safety inspections and other EHS audits, and identify areas of inspection as a priority for 2020/21.

## Training and Guidance

EHS has developed a training program designed for personnel returning to campus. This training program is designed to provide general information related to the COVID-19 measures and precautions which are required to be taken by members of the University community. The [COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Awareness Training](#) [1] is accessible through Courselink.

EHS has also developed multiple guidelines related to precautionary measures to be taken for COVID-19 prevention including considerations for specific research spaces. Currently guidelines are available on the [EHS website](#) [2].

Additionally, a “Research Recovery checklist” designed to be used in Research Management Plans is incorporated into the Research Phase-In framework.

## Monitoring and Compliance

- EHS will include COVID-19 related precautionary measures within General Lab Safety, Biosafety and Radiation safety inspections and other EHS audits and will identify inspections as a priority for 2020/21.
- EHS will provide a COVID-19 related inspection checklist to LJHSCs and H&S Representatives to support ongoing workplace inspections. This is in-line with recommendations for peer-to-peer monitors, within Ontario’s Postsecondary Education Health Measures Framework for Reopening (June 12, 2020)

## Appendix 1

### Guelph Campus

The following table outlines those academic departments and related core facilities with and without existing LJHSCs and H&S reps and their corresponding EHS liaisons.

College	Department	LJHSC	EHS Liaison
CBS	Centre for Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Alicja Zachertowska
CBS	Human Health and Nutritional Sciences	Human Health and Nutritional Sciences	Gausiya Khan
CBS	Integrative Biology	Integrative Biology	Alicja Zachertowska
CBS	Molecular & Cellular Biology	Molecular & Cellular Biology	Gausiya Khan

## Framework of Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) Support for Research Phase-In

Published on Human Resources (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr>)

College	Department	LJHSC	EHS Liaison
CEPS	Chemistry	Chemistry	Alicja Zachertowska
CEPS	Engineering	Engineering	Karanvir Viridi
CEPS	Physics	Physics	Karanvir Viridi
CEPS	Computer Science	No LJHSC	Jennifer Wesley
	Mathematics and Statistics		
COA	School of Fine Art and Music	School of Fine Art and Music	Karanvir Viridi
COA	School of Language and Literature	No LJHSC	Jennifer Wesley
	Philosophy		
	History		
	School of English and Theatre Studies		
CSAHS	Geography, Environment and Geomatics	Geography (Hutt)	Tara Hargreaves
CSAHS and Lang	Family Relations & Applied Nutrition	CSAHS – Lang	Karanvir Viridi
	Political Science Psychology		
	Sociology & Anthropology		
	Department of Management		
	Department of Economics & Finance Management		
	Department of Marketing & Consumer Studies		
	School of Hospitality, Food & Tourism		
OAC	Animal Biosciences	Animal Biosciences – Barn 37 B, C	Bryan Lee
OAC	Food Science	Food Science	Alicja Zachertowska
OAC	Plant Agriculture	Plant Agriculture	Bryan Lee
OAC	School of Environmental Design and Rural Development	School of Environmental Design and Rural Development	Christi Cooper
OAC	School of Environmental Sciences	School of Environmental Sciences	Tara Hargreaves
OVC	Pathobiology	AHL/Pathobiology	Gausiya Khan
OVC	Biomedical Sciences	Biomedical Sciences	Gausiya Khan
OVC	Health Sciences Centre Clinical Studies	OVC HSC / Clinical Studies/ Population Medicine	Christi Cooper
	Population Medicine		
Research	Campus Animal Facilities	Campus Animal Facilities	Gausiya Khan
Research	Campus Animal Facilities	Isolation Unit	Gausiya Khan
Research	Agriculture and Food Lab	Agriculture & Food Laboratory, Lab Services Division, 95 Stone Rd.	Alicja Zachertowska
Research	Animal Health Lab	AHL/Pathobiology	Gausiya Khan
Research	Advanced Analysis Centre	No LJHSC	Jennifer Wesley

### Ridgetown Campus & Research Stations

College	Location	JHSC	EHS Liasion
OAC	Ridgetown Campus	JHSC	Christi Cooper
Research	Research Stations	JHSC/H&S Reps	Christi Cooper

---

### Source

**URL:** <https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/about-hr/environmental-health-safety-ehs/ehs-programs-policies-guidelines-and-forms/ehs-4>

### Links

[1] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/covid-19-infection-prevention-and-control-awareness-training> [2] <https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/about-hr/environmental-health-safety-ehs/ehs-programs-policies-guidelines-and-forms/ehs>