# SAFETY POLICY

- It is the goal of the University and its <u>employees</u> to ensure that our educational programs and all other activities protect and promote the health and safety of our students, employees, visitors to the campus and the environment
- ECU is committed to complying with all applicable safety and environmental regulations, accreditation requirements and consensus standards

#### SAFETY PRINCIPLES

- Responsible for continuous practice of safety and environmental compliance
- Nothing is so important that it can not be done safely; safety is #1 priority
- Overall success of the safety program is a shared responsibility
- SUPERVISORS and staff must show leadership & provide good example

## -GOAL: TARGET ZERO

- Target Zero: ProActive Safety Attitudes Coastal Video (16 minutes)
- Goal something to work toward
- □ Take responsibility can't put on others
- □ Change way of thinking culture
- ZERO ACCIDENTS IS OUR GOAL



- Safety Team
- Responsibilities
- Key Safety Policies
- Workers' compensation/RTW
- Accident Investigation

## THE SAFETY TEAM

- □ Management
- EH&S/Prospective Health
- Supervisors
- Employees
- Safety Committees

#### -EH&S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure management commitment
- Work together with campus community
- Provide written safety programs
- Provide effective training programs
- Provide program mgmt & consultation
- Conduct audits and inspections

### PROSPECTIVE HEALTH

- General responsibilities similar to EH&S
   Work with EH&S to encourage safety
   Biological/Radiation Safety & Infection Control programs
   Employee Health program

   Employee physicals – respirator, asbestos, etc.
  - ECU workers' compensation physician

# MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Management commitment is the key
   Ultimate responsibility for safety
- Legal obligation to provide safe workplace
- Provide leadership & make safety a priority
- Display proper attitudes; provide resources
- Safety management delegated to EH&S and Prospective Health

# SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Video "Supervisor Safety Responsibility" □ Leadership - good example; attitude Provide resources - equipment/guidance □ Safety in work plans/evaluations Feedback on safety & enforcement Ensure training is provided and YOU attend Respond immediately to safety issues

#### SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

- Video "Discipline Safety Enforcement"
  Follows same procedure as personnel issue
  Coach first; positive reinforcement
  Disciplinary procedure used to change behavior
- Be Consistent and Document
- Discuss accidents in staff meetings; educate

# EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Active participation in EH&S program Continuous practice of EH&S compliance Use only safe tools and equipment □ Wear required PPE - shoes, glasses, etc. □ Notify supervisor of accidents, near misses, spills, fires, hazards or damaged equipment Notify supervisor of any impairments

#### SAFETY COMMITTEES

- Environmental, Radiation, Biological, Infection Control and Animal Care Committees
- Departmental & unit committees
- Facilities Services Safety Committee
- Housekeeping Safety Committee
- □ Advisory input and review
- Identify problems & solutions
- NOT for imminent safety issues

# SAFETY ORIENTATION VIDEO

- Safety Orientation: It takes a winning attitude" (Coastal 18 minutes)
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Hazard Communication
- □ Lifting & Fire Safety
- □ Slips, Trips and Falls
- Lockout/Tagout

#### DEFENSIVE DRIVING

- Since 4/91 6 state employee fatalities;
   3 were vehicle related
- □ Holidays, summer -> increased travel
- □ Maintain vehicle
- Use seatbelts and child safety seats
- Drive defensively alert, speed, space
- □ Take breaks, get rest, watch stress/anger



□ New OSHA standard – effective 10/14/01 □ Def. – science of fitting jobs to people, not bending people to fit jobs □ Goal – reduce work-related MSDs **OSHA** standard requires: □ Provide info about MSDs and regulation – done Assess cases & develop program if needed □ Implement program & evaluate regularly

# SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

□ Pain in wrists, shoulders, forearms & knees □ Fingers or toes turning white Painful joints, back or neck pain □ Stiffness, swelling or inflammation □ Pain, tingling or numbress in hands or feet Shooting or stabbing pains in arms or legs Burning sensation

# MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS (MSDS)

- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Rotator cuff syndrome
- Trigger finger
- Epicondylitis, tendinitis, sciatica
- □ Herniated disc, low back pain
- Carpet layer's knee
- Hand-arm vibration

# CAUSES OF MSDs

- □ Repetition
- □ Forceful exertions
- Awkward postures
- Contact stress
- □ Vibration

# REDUCING MSD HAZARDS

- □ Key is reporting discomfort lasting >1 wk
- Job hazard analysis by EH&S and employees
- Employee participation & mgmt leadership
- Quick fix or review by physician
- □ Engineering controls lifts, hoists, etc.
- □ Change tasks, change position, break repetition
- □ Training
- □ Rest
- Not all jobs will be covered; not all pain is workrelated



# WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM

- Administered by Office of Environmental Health & Safety
- ECU Contact: Donna Davis, WC Manager
- Medical Provider: SOM Employee Health
- Facilities Services contacts
  - □ RTW: Ken Kisida, David Lancaster
  - Forms: Lillian Jenkins, Kathy Odom, Barbara Moseley

WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM (cont'd)

- Covers full-time, part-time & temporary employees
- Must be result of work-related injury/illness
- Rules established by NCIC and OSP
- Information available through EH&S office, EH&S Web Site and NCIC Ombudsman's office

WC REQUIREMENTS

- Immediately notify supervisor & EH&S
- Supervisor transports on initial if employee unable
- □ Treatment must be authorized by EH&S
- Supervisor completes NCIC Form 19 and Accident Investigation form
- Employee completes Employee Statement of Incident and Medical Release form

# WC REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- Employee must follow doctor's orders, accept all medical treatment and attend all appointments
- EH&S will pay all AUTHORIZED medical treatments and prescriptions
- Employee must provide supervisor and EH&S with copy of all doctor's notes regarding work status
- NC: 7 day waiting period; no pay 'til after 21 days

WC REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- Employee must communicate with supervisor and EH&S weekly
- Employee continues to receive vac/sick leave, hospitalization insurance and performance increases
- Employee will not receive retirement credits while on WC leave
- Do not compare cases with co-workers

# RETURN TO WORK

- Provides benefits to employees and ECU (AAOS news release)
- Research proves benefit; 70% NEVER return after 30 days
- Backed by Management
- Requires cooperation and communication
- □ Transitional Duty "it could happen to you"



- Wage continuation vs. 2/3 salary
- Part of rehabilitation program
- Endurance vs. Inactivity
- Less disruption, stress, depression
- Preserves leave time & service credits
- Maintain social contacts & self-esteem
- Positive influence on peers

# RTW - MANAGEMENT BENEFITS

- Minimizes productivity losses Minimizes case management Decreases recovery period Decreases WC costs to ECU Preserves skilled/stable worker Promotes communication over litigation
- Improves employee morale



- Employee returns restriction form to supervisor
- □ Contact EH&S, Facilities Services contact
- Transitional Duty Team determines RTW status
- Complete transitional duty plan
- Employee returns to work
- Supervisor/employee responsibilities



#### The Key to Stopping Recurrences

Video "Accident Investigation"

# -ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

- Report all accidents & near misses
- □ Fact finding, not fault finding
- □ Report only facts where, when, how, why
- Identify root cause
- Factors equipment, environment, personnel & management

# ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TIPS

Quick response; contact EH&S for help □ Take care of victims first □ Control scene □ Get names of witnesses Complete forms - be thorough □ EH&S may follow-up

# -EMERGING ISSUES

EPA inspections at universities
NC Environmental Sustainability
JCAHO compliance at SOM
SACS compliance on East Campus
Ergonomics

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Prospective Health
  - SOM Life Sciences Building
  - **816-2070**
  - □ <u>www.med.ecu.edu</u>
- Environmental Health & Safety
  - 009 Ragsdale => Browning in April
  - **328-6166**
  - □ <u>Safety@mail.ecu.edu</u>
  - www.ecu.edu/oehs

# SUMMARY & QUESTIONS

- Summary
- Keep in mind fatalities Francine Teel
- Injuries can last a lifetime
- Commended by OSP & OSHA
- Victims of flood
- **Questions**?