# Maverick Safety Matters

**Environmental Health & Safety** 

Fall 2023









# LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Otu Inyang Director otu.inyang@ uta.edu

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Anthony Murph Assistant Director Research and Lab Safety anthony. murph@uta.edu

Ramon Ruiz Assistant Director Environmental and Occupational Safety ruiz@uta.edu

## 11

Think Broad EH&S Impact | Think Efficiency and Innovation | Collaborate Respectfully | Serve Impactfully

Environmental Health & Safety 5-Year Strategic Plan

Over the next five years, EH&S will challenge itself to reach new heights through the broad impact EH&S of programs and services, increasing efficiency through innovation, collaborating respectfully, and serving impactfully. By adopting a clear strategy, backed by a mission and vision that aligns with the broader mission and vision of UTA, we hope to drive accountability with clear metrics on various programs and services to underscore the value we bring to the community.

# Mission, Vision, Shared Values Strategic Initiatives-High level focus areas Objectives-overarching goals we hope to accomplish Projects-actionable/ operational steps to accomplish the goals and objectives KPIs-how to measure progress towards your strategic objectives



Environmental Health & Safety Office 500 Summit Ave. Box 19257 Arlington, TX 76019 Ph: 817-272-2185 ehsafety@uta.edu <u>Mission Statement</u>: We exist to TrailBLAZE health, safety, and environmental protection so that UTA can become one of the nation's most impactful and inclusive research universities.

<u>Vision Statement</u>: We aspire to be the leader in health, safety and environmental protection programs and services at pre-eminent urban public research universities.

### Shared Values:

Excellence in customer service Cultivate professionalism Enhance team collaboration through trust Proactively establish accountability

### EH&S STAFF:

J. Darren Byington Construction Project Coordinator, Fire Safety james.byington2@uta.e

Jordan Feder Hazardous Waste and Chemical Safety Specialist II jordan.feder@uta .edu

Tracy Gardner Workers' Compensation Claims Analyst gardner@uta.edu

Rose Hall Occupational Safety Specialist vrhall@uta.edu

Candace Hamilton Coordinator I, Special Programs candace.hamilton@ uta.edu

Jared Hughes Fire Safety Specialist jared.hughes @uta.edu

Johnny Jewell Hazardous Waste Safety Specialist johnny.jewell @uta.edu

# UTA/EHS Leadership Attend Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA) Conference



John Hall (VP of Administration and Economic Development) and Otu Inyang, DrPH, MBA, CSP, CHMM, CLSO (Director of EHS) attend the 70th Annual CSHEMA Conference in Boston, MA. Mr. Hall was awarded the Campus Leaders Who Care award during the conference.



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Otu Inyang and Anthony Murph representing UTA at the CSHEMA conference.

### **EH&S STAFF:**

Merja Karwoski Biological Safety Specialist merjak@uta.edu

Harvey Richey Laser Safety Specialist hrichey@uta.edu

Elisabeth Rowlett Chemical Management Specialist rowlett@uta.edu

Laura Warren Radiation Safety Specialist, RSO lwarren@uta.edu

Eric Woods Fire Safety Specialist eric.woods@uta.edu

Amanda Young Administrative Assistant II amanda.young@ uta.edu



# What is Workers' Compensation?



Workers' Compensation Insurance is a type of insurance specifically designed to provide medical benefits and, in some cases, financial payments to employees on the payroll of The University of Texas System who suffer injuries or occupational disease in the course and scope of employment.

Workers' Compensation Insurance is not health insurance, nor does it provide compensation for damage to or loss of personal property.

### There's an injury, what do I do?

If an employee sustains injuries or an occupational disease as a direct result of employment, the employee must inform their supervisor immediately. Both supervisor and employee will complete the required forms below.

Employee: Employee Report of Work-Related Injury and IMO-Network-Acknowledgement

Supervisor: Supervisor Report of Employee Work-Related Injury

For Your Reference: Notice of Network Requirements and Network Employee Handbook

If medical treatment is needed, employees must seek treatment through a network provider for all health care relating to their injury. Employees who have a medical emergency should go to the nearest urgent care center or emergency room; however, follow up treatment, if necessary, must be obtained with a network provider.

Employees will take the <u>Notification of Work-Related Injury</u> form to the medical provider along with UTA ID. This form notifies the medical provider that a work-related injury or Illness has been reported and gives the medical provider the WC insurance information needed to process the medical bills.

UT System has contracted with the *Injury Management Organization Med-Select Network® (IMO)* to provide medical treatment for UTA employees with work-related injuries or illnesses.

For virtual 24/7 work injury care for minor injuries or illnesses, UT System offers telemedicine through RediMD and Concentra.

When purchasing prescription drugs for treatment of the work-related injury, the employee will use the Rx Bridge RX First Fill Form or prescription card. Most pharmacies will submit bills to Rx Bridge upon verification of coverage. Only prescriptions related to your compensable injury will be covered. In addition to the traditional prescription form, Rx Bridge offers a Text2Fill process where the injured employee can receive the Rx First Fill card directly on their mobile phone by using text messages. You choose which works better for you. Except in an emergency, if you receive medical care for a work-related injury which is not by or at the direction of your treating doctor, you may become responsible for payment of any charges associated with that care. Unless the injured employee has received medical treatment from an unauthorized physician, the employee should not be billed directly for health care intended to treat a work-related injury. If the employee receives a bill from a health care provider, the employee must send the invoice to WCI immediately. All medical related expenses are subject to fee guidelines established by TDI/DWC.

For any additional information or questions, please contact workerscompensation@uta.edu



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### Fire Alarm Evacuations

Fire alarm evacuations are critical safety procedures designed to swiftly and efficiently evacuate individuals from buildings when a fire or other emergency threatens their well-being. These alarms serve as a vital early warning system, instantly alerting occupants to potential dangers and prompting them to exit the premises promptly. Successful fire alarm evacuations rely on clear communication, well-maintained alarm systems, and familiarity of EHS provided evacuation plans. Ensuring everyone can evacuate safely and swiftly, with evacuation locations away from the building in alarm as determined by department heads, will help to account for all occupants and reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities in emergency situations.





In a fire alarm evacuation, please do not attempt to grab everything. You must exit promptly.





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# EH&S Supports UTA Oozeball Event



EH&S staff members Johnny Jewell, Merja Karwoski and Jordan Feder enjoy lunch and lend support for Oozeball.



Elisabeth Rowlett, Amanda Young and Jeffrey Omspaugh also represent EH&S at Oozeball event.



EH&S Administrative Assistant Amanda Young prepares a mud pit for the Oozeball event, along with her husband Matthew who is also a University employee.



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Check out EH&S on Facebook to keep up with all our events & training:

UT Arlington
Environmental
Health & Safety
Office

# Mutated Coronavirus BA.2.86 - Variant under Monitoring

COVID-19 testing has picked up a new variant called BA.2.86 in several countries. Below is a link to an article detailing the new variant and offering general information about it's emergence. EH&S encourages our campus community to stay vigilant against all germs by consistently washing your hands and disinfecting frequently touched items such as door handles, keys and phones. Stay safe Mavericks!

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-02656-9

### EH&S Welcomes New Staff Members



**Jared Hughes** joins EH&S as a Safety Specialist I. He supports our Fire and Life Safety Program. Jared is a familiar face to us as a former fire safety vendor. He has transitioned smoothly and has already proven to be a great asset to this department. We wish him great success at EH&S. Welcome to our team, Jared!



**Johnny Jewell** joins EH&S as a Hazardous Waste and Chemical Safety Specialist. Johnny assists with the hazardous waste program at EH&S and also brings knowledge in chemical safety on campus. We're happy to have you, Johnny!



**Anthony Murph** joins EH&S as the new Assistant Manager of Research and Laboratory Safety. Murph, as he prefers to be called, comes to UTA with previous military and higher education experience. He brings a wealth of knowledge in research and impressive leadership skills. Please join us in welcoming him to our leadership team. Welcome to EH&S, Murph!

### **EH&S TRAINING COURSES**

Online safety training is located on the EH&S training management website: https://cems.uta.edu/

Bloodborne Pathogens for Laboratory Research Personnel Bloodborne Pathogens (Non-Research)
BioSafety Level 2
On-Site Biohazardous Waste Management
Vaccinia Virus
Laser Safety
Radiation Awareness
Radiation Producing Machine
Hazard Communication & Waste Mgmt- Academic
Hazard Communication & Waste Mgmt- Non-Academic
Fire Alarm Device

Back Injury Prevention
Confined Space Entry Awareness
Hand & Power Tool Safety
Hearing Conservation
Lockout/Tagout
Respiratory Protection
Class C Underground Storage Tank
Defensive Driving Awareness
12 & 15 Passenger Van
Powered Industrial Truck (Forklift)
Hot Work Safety

### Call us at 817-272-2185 to schedule specific trainings not available online:

Radioactive Materials Fire Extinguisher Respirator Fit Testing Hands On PIT (Forklift)
The Great Escape with Fire Extinguisher Training and Evacuation Chair in person trainings are offered on a bimonthly basis. Please call to sign up for a date.

### **DRIVING UTA VEHICLES**

**Defensive Driving Awareness** - This online course must be completed every 3 years to remain an authorized driver of UTA vehicles. Additionally, an individual driving record check (MVR) must be updated annually.

**12 & 15 Passenger Van Training:** Take the online course first. A behind-the-wheel driving test is also required and will be conducted at the EH&S office, 500 Summit Ave. Drivers must have already passed the Defensive Driving Course and have a current approved driving record check (MVR) to attend. Click the link below to schedule a date and time.

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EH&S Booking Site for 12 & 15 Passenger Van Training