

A Safe Learning and Working Environment

Context

Safety on college and university campuses across the nation has been the subject of increasing attention and analysis in recent years. In particular, the randomness and severity of some violence has raised college consciousness of the need to put in place effective plans and systems to secure our community and property.

At Lane, safety has multiple dimensions: all members of our community have a right to learn and work in environments in which they are safe from discrimination or threats of harassment or physical harm. As an institution of higher learning, Lane is a place where people should feel free to engage in respectful, civil discourse, and where tolerance of alternative views is actively encouraged.

The college also commits to taking an active role in designing and maintaining healthful physical surroundings that are as free as possible from environmental toxins, pathogens and other contaminants

Goals

- Promote the prevention of physical harm to students and employees and deal effectively with safety risks if and when they occur
- Assure the proper handling of, and effective safeguards for, hazardous chemicals and environmental contaminants
- Provide and maintain safe and secure college buildings and infrastructure; prevent loss of property on campus and deal effectively with security challenges when property loss occurs
- Promote wellness among students and employees and deal effectively with health risks if and when they occur
- Promote safety through civil discourse; educate students and employees about the college's standard of not tolerating threats, harassment, or discrimination; maintain a commitment to dealing effectively with such matters if and when they occur in the learning and working environments

While the average cost of a serious workplace injury in Oregon is about \$43,000, the personal costs cannot be quantified so easily. Every hazard that has been eliminated helps bring an employee home safe and healthy to their family. Oregon OSHA, Mark E. Hurliman, VPP. Press Release, 2006