

Develop an annual re-occurring budget for EHS that is specifically to be used at our discretion (in a committee style setting).

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

A annual re-occurring budget for EHS that is specifically our discretion to utilize as we see fit (all of us - in a committee style setting where we all put in our two bits on the topics - maybe we could even include the non-safety folks like the department safety folks after we internally decide what we want to target?) regardless of the department owning a particular space (for example IT or Conley Art) or Facilities Management's/Plant Operations take on the following:

Money to assess the cost for improvements, by contractors or by facilities management at our discretion, in safety in classrooms/shops/labs, where:

Ventilation or building utilities are inadequate: (examples below)

electrical/space constraints/plumbing/HVAC? (example is Dr. Ho's Lab in McLane Hall Physics Department and Denis Bacon's area in)

emergency equipment like safety showers/eyewashes and dust generating from casting room - Conley Art loss wax area,

Equipment (department or otherwise) is no longer fit to be used in the instructional setting for safety reasons or where industry has moved away from equipment/processes for safety related reasons (examples below)

Saw stop or similar guarding of equipment technology exists to replace equipment made in the 40's that should be replaced - Industrial Technology, Engineering West, Conley Art, Trades (plant operations), Biology etc.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

The ability to dispense this funds as we see fit to do any of the following:

To estimate the cost of replacement/upgrade of facilities (if plant/facilities refuse for workload reasons we have the freedom to contract a outside entity)

Replace department owned equipment identified above with the approval and input from the department it would affect including trades/academic areas at our expense from this budget

This may encourage departments to come forward with safety related concerns rather than hide them from us as they undoubtedly do now out of fear of being "shut down".

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

Increases the ability of our department to provide service.

I have increasingly noticed that individuals, not just Susan with the art department, people are being more candid with me about problems they are having related to safety. They look like deer in headlights when they plead for me not to shut them down, but they are being more open. Not only that but the open admission of fear of my/our arrival on site that I will stop their operations for "safety reasons" is almost commonplace. I have literally had people make statement of "oh crap - he/they are here... run" and honestly duck out of offices/classrooms before I engage them in conversation, this is especially true in the Art Department and our trades units. And kidding aside I believe there is an element of brutal honesty in their behavior. It is a bit of a cry for help I believe.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: