

Create a central fund to replace equipment and upgrade facilities directly related to safety.

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

Departments do not typically have budget line items to fund safety related issues or make improvements that will positively impact safety. EHS may become aware of safety related issues during compliance inspections.

Examples:

- Old shop/lab equipment no longer considered industry standard that does not meet OSHA minimum requirements.
- Lack of funding for prudent practice or innovations that improve safety but are not an regulatory requirement.
- Frequently used equipment essential to department operations/instruction that is non-functional or substandard.
- Shop and lab ventilation not meeting current standards.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

Create a central fund to replace equipment and upgrade facilities directly related to safety. Allocations from this fund would be reviewed by EHS and an independent safety panel, and submitted to administration for approval.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

This will improve safety for students and employee in lab and shop learning environments. Employees, knowing that a central fund exist may be more apt to come forward with safety concerns and suggested improvements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

I have noticed that individuals are being increasingly candid with EHS staff about problems they are having related to safety and the associated lack of funding to address these problems.