A Proposal to Reestablish the General Safety Committee

To: Chancellor Rebecca Blank

From: The Chairs of the University Safety-related Committees

The Directors of the University Safety-related Programs

The awareness of the importance of safety in the operation of the University has grown markedly over the last few years, as has the interest in safety in the culture as a whole. Along with the increased interest in safety, the regulatory compliance landscape continues to become more complex and involved. The University has many programs and committees that address various aspects of safety. Many members of the faculty and staff of the University have to address safety in the work they perform through interactions with several of these programs.

Creating a forum for those involved with the safety programs to discuss common issues and problems could improve compliance of faculty and staff and increase efficiency through cooperation between programs and sharing of information in databases.

This proposal would reestablish the General Safety Committee with the membership below.

The chairs of the following committees:

All-campus Animal Planning and Advisory Committee

Biosecurity Task Force

Chemical Safety Committee

Educational and Social Behavioral Science Institutional Review Board

Health Sciences Institutional Review Board

Institutional Biosafety committee

Minimal-risk Institutional Review Board

Non-ionizing Radiation Safety Committee

Occupational Safety Committee

Radiation Safety Committee

Research Animals Resource Center

Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee

The following directors of safety programs:

Biosafety Officer

Chemical Safety Officer

Director of Environmental Health and Safety

Institutional Review Board Director

Occupational Health Officer

Radiation Safety Officer

UW Hospital Safety Officer

Chief of University Police

The members of the Safety and Compliance Oversight Committee

The following from the University Administration

The vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education

The Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Policy

The Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Management

Director of Risk Management

Senior Legal Counsel

This committee would not establish policy for any of the committees represented; rather, it would serve to facilitate communications and coordination among the programs as useful. This committee could also assist any campus task group formed to address campus safety issues that may cut across jurisdictions and responsibilities of the individual committees.

The General Safety Committee would likely meet twice a year, in spring and fall, and handle issues at other times via electronic media.