

MAKING THE WORKPLACE SAFER

CONNECT: WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

PURPOSE

The University of Wollongong is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for its workers, students and visitors. This Policy defines the principles of this commitment and the University's approach to the continuous improvement of health and safety in the workplace.

This Policy sets out the overarching principles for the University's commitment and management of work health and safety requirements and gives effect to the University's Workplace Health and Safety Management Plan, Workplace Health and Safety Management System, procedures and guidelines.

All members of the University community have a collective and individual responsibility to work safely and be engaged in activities to help prevent injuries and illness.

APPLICATION & SCOPE

This Policy applies to all workers of the University of Wollongong as well as students, affiliates and other visitors. Entities of the University are required to outline their commitment to work health and safety through their own Policy and management system.

PRINCIPLES

The University will undertake the following activities in fulfilling its commitment to provide a healthy and safe workplace:

- ◆ Develop, implement and maintain a health and safety management system which includes the requirements of this Policy
- ◆ Comply with applicable health and safety legislation as well as other requirements such as Codes of Practice or Australian Standards
- ◆ Implement a health and safety risk management process to ensure workplace hazards are identified, assessed, controlled and reviewed where they are not able to be eliminated
- ◆ Allocate sufficient financial and physical resources to enable the effective implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Policy
- ◆ Provide, handle and store equipment, structures, substances and systems of work without risk to health
- ◆ Provide and disseminate health and safety training and information to workers, students and visitors
- ◆ Implement arrangements for the consultation of health and safety matters with workers and students
- ◆ Establish measureable objectives and targets for health and safety aimed at the elimination of work-related illness and injury
- ◆ Report on measurements and targets to Council and Central WHS Committee
- ◆ Ensure that the WHS Unit and local area websites are updated with current legislative and University of Wollongong WHS Management System requirements.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice-Chancellor has responsibility for, and is committed to, the effective implementation of the University Workplace Health and Safety Policy.

- ◆ The Senior Executive will support Deans, Department Heads, Managers and Supervisors to fulfil their health and safety responsibilities and accountabilities within their area of responsibility.
- ◆ University Council has the responsibility to oversee the monitoring of the University's workplace health and safety performance against objectives and targets.
- ◆ All workers, students and visitors have a responsibility to take reasonable care for their own safety and the safety of others and comply with any reasonable instruction, policy or procedures of the University in relation to health and safety.
- ◆ The Workplace Health and Safety Unit is available to provide advice regarding specific health and safety matters, update the University on legislative changes and assist with the development, implementation and monitoring of this Policy and the workplace health and safety management system.

Further description of health and safety responsibilities are outlined in the UOW document Roles and Responsibilities for Workplace Health and Safety.

This Policy will be regularly reviewed following legislative or organisational changes, or as a minimum, every five years.



Professor Paul Wellings CBE
Vice-Chancellor
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