

## INJURIES

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Out of 366 injury reports filed since the start of 1990, OPS categorized 20 as repetitive motion injuries.

Half of these repetitive motion injuries were caused in an office setting, while the other half were the result of custodial or kitchen work. Nine of these injuries showed symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome.

A Safety Advisory Committee, consisting of faculty, students and union representatives, reviews the types and frequency of injuries and discusses possible remedies.

One remedy included in the employees' union contract deals with work at a video display terminal. The contract suggests that employers should frequently assign workers at VDTs to other tasks throughout the shift, thus breaking up the tedious keyboard work.

In addition, Coots implements guidelines suggested by

OSHA. These guidelines deal with ergonomics, the adapting of equipment and tasks to promote the worker's comfort.

This includes specific aspects of office work, including the distance a worker should be from the keyboard and monitor, the correct placement of a worker's wrists in relation to the keyboard and the correct angles at which workers should place their backs and elbows.

**'Our number one goal is to return injured workers to work.'**

— Bill Solomon

HRD claims coordinator

At her job in Oregon Hall, Park is using the guidelines to help make sure the injury doesn't recur. The heavy binders she once had to pull from a shelf have been compiled into one binder and placed on her

desk.

Also, Park's keyboard was adjusted to the OSHA guidelines, and she got an electric stapler to replace the manual stapler that hurt her hands.

Coots said the new ideas have not been implemented in all campus offices. Instead, she acts upon a supervisor's request or if she sees or hears of a poorly organized work setting, she'll investigate.

"At this stage we've dealt with individual circumstances as they've come up," said Eric Buckles, chairman of the Safety Advisory Committee. "To say we have a comprehensive program in place — no."

Although the OSHA guidelines relate specifically to VDTs, Coots said she tries to apply the principles of ergonomics to any work setting.

"We try to look at [all work sites] and make them better," Coots said.

To assist injured employees and reduce time lost to injuries, the Human Resources Department

has developed a return-to-work program.

The program finds employment for injured workers unable to return to their jobs. However, this usually means modifying the worker's pre-existing job, said Bill Solomon, HRD claims coordinator.

If this fails, the program tries to find work for an employee in another department and will provide necessary training.

"Our number one goal is to return injured workers to work," Solomon said. "In doing this, we accomplish our other goals of controlling worker compensation costs."

Cammack is pleased with the return-to-work program. After she developed tendinitis, she was trained for work in the accounting office in Oregon Hall where she is currently an accounting assistant.

"We're really lucky to be helped out," Cammack said. "They gave me on-the-job training, and I'm really grateful for that."

## ET ALS

MEETINGS

**Concerned Student for Library Hours** will hold its first meeting for students and faculty interested in increasing library hours tonight at 6:30 in the EMU Oak Room. Call 344-8480 for more information.

**EMU Board of Directors House Committee meeting** will take place today at 2 p.m. in the EMU Board Room. Call 346-3720 for more information.

**Martin Luther King Celebration Committee Task Force** will meet tonight at 7:30 in the EMU Board Room. Call 346-4000 for more information.

**College Democrats general meeting** will be tonight at 6:30 in EMU Century Room A. Call 686-4529 for more information.

**Student Senate** will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Cedar Room D. Call 346-3724 for more information.

**Meeting for students interested in radio news** will take place tonight at 7 in Room 215 Allen. Call 346-4091 for more information.

**Sister University Project** will have a general meeting tonight at 5 in EMU Century Room F. Call 346-3194 for more information.

**Child Care and Development Centers parent council** will meet tonight at 6 in the Brown House, 1533 Moss St. Call 346-1802 for more information.

**Ad Club** will meet tonight at 5:30 in Room 216 Allen. Call 344-6894 for more information.

**OSPIRG**, 346-4377.

• National Toxics Coalition Project meeting tonight at 5 in Room 159 Straub.

• National Toxics Grassroots Project meeting tonight at 5:30 in Room 218 Pacific.

• Recycling Project meeting tonight at 5:30 in Room 314 Pacific.

• Toy Safety Project meeting tonight at 5 in EMU Cedar Room C.

MISCELLANEOUS

**Old Growth Day hikes slide show and presentation** by John Cissel will start tonight at 7:30 in Room 110 Willamette. Call 346-4365 for more information.

**Political Science faculty/staff mixer** will take place today from 3 to 5 p.m. on the ninth floor of PLC. Call 683-8415 for more information.

**The World Order of Baha'ullah** will have an informal fireside discussion tonight at 7 at the Baha'i center, 1458 Alder St. Call 344-8619 for more information.

**Mainstream and alternative school teachers** will be involved in a panel discussion tonight at 7 in Room 152 Education. Call 346-4351 for more information.

**Women in Politics** will be the topic of a forum sponsored by the College Republicans today at noon in the EMU Walnut Room. Call 344-1183 for more information.

**Military Discrimination** will be the topic of a discussion sponsored by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Alliance tonight from 6 to 8 in the EMU Maple Room. Call 346-3360 for more information.

SPEAKERS

"The Other Side of the Frontier From This Side: Perspectives on Post-Colonial Australia" is the topic of a speech by David Headon of the University of New South Wales to be delivered today at 4 in the EMU Gumwood Room. Call 346-3934 for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES

**U.S. Air Force recruiting table** will be in the EMU lobby today from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Bidding for the following companies** will take place today through Friday in Room 244 Hendricks:

- Xerox Corp.
- Kraft General Foods
- Sherwin Williams
- U.S. Department of Commerce Office of the Inspector General

**Open sign-up begins today for:**

- U.S. General Accounting Office
- Ford Balck and Co.
- Russ Berrie Co.
- Enterprise Rent-a-car
- Radio Shack
- Livingston Security
- National Life Insurance Co.
- Precision Castparts

**Sign up for kayak roll sessions** on Friday in Leighton Pool any time this week at the outdoor program office, EMU Room 23, behind the video arcade.

**CD-ROM Tutorial: ERIC (education).** Learn to use the library's computerized database to find information on education today at 2 p.m. in the reference desk of Knight Library. Call 346-2368 for more information.

**Free Cholesterol Screening** today from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Health Education Center in the Student Health Center. Call 346-4456 for more information.

RELIGION

**Praise gathering** sponsored by the Restoration Campus Ministry will take place tonight at 8 at the Wheeler House, 955 Alder St. Call 343-4914 for rides or more information.

**Campus Crusade for Christ's Prime Time** will take place tonight at 7:30 in Room 123 Pacific.

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