

**Class C Resolution: Support for the Continuation of the Lab Safety Initiative and for Granting of Legal Enforcement Authority for Environmental Health & Safety**

WHEREAS, there are more than 1,000 laboratories at the UW and laboratory safety is a major financial risk to the University; and

WHEREAS, Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) is responsible for ensuring compliance with good laboratory safety practices in all laboratories at the UW with limited resources and personnel and without the authority to legally enforce laboratory compliance; and

WHEREAS, while there has been a gradual increase in the laboratory safety performance ratings of all laboratories at the UW, there has not been an acceptable level of improvement especially in high risk laboratories; and

WHEREAS, EH&S has successfully piloted in 90 higher risk laboratories at the UW a 2 year Laboratory Safety Initiative to identify and overcome barriers to safety in the UW's most complex research laboratories with funding from the Provost. Funding for the Laboratory Safety Initiative ended in June 2018; and

WHEREAS, the EH&S Laboratory Safety Initiative has successfully increased the laboratory safety performance rating from 53% to 75% in these 90 high risk laboratories; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the UW Faculty Senate applauds the successful efforts of EH&S in improving laboratory safety at the UW and requests the following:

1. That the Provost work with faculty to develop protocols on how EH&S can enforce compliance with best laboratory safety practices in all laboratories at the UW.
2. That the Provost fully fund the EH&S Laboratory Safety Initiative for improving laboratory safety in all laboratories at the UW.
3. That faculty conducting laboratory research have the responsibility to create and maintain the safest possible working conditions for other faculty, students, and staff.
4. That laboratory safety performance ratings should be considered as part of the assessment of faculty professionalism.
5. That EO55 be amended according to changes implemented with this resolution.

*Approved by:*  
Faculty Senate  
January 24, 2019