ELECTION TO THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ORGANISATION 2018 – STAND FOR ELECTION AS AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE

The election to the occupational health and safety groups is just around the corner. The first elections will take place from 11 January 2018. As an employee, you are already eligible to stand for election as an occupational health and safety representative. The nomination period has begun (6 December 2017) and will continue until 8 January 2018. The senior management team and the occupational health and safety organisation at AU encourage all interested parties to stand for election.

Make a difference and help promote well-being and cooperation
As an occupational health and safety representative at AU, you have a unique opportunity to make a difference for and together with your colleagues in relation to well-being and cooperation at work. Occupational health and safety representatives and managers are close partners, providing the impetus for projects and initiatives that help to reinforce the local work environment. If you feel that you have even more to offer, you can go one step further and get involved in strategic efforts as part of an occupational health and safety committee in the unit where you are employed. But before you get that far, you have to be elected by your colleagues.

How to stand for election
All staff members who have worked at AU for at least nine months are eligible for election as occupational health and safety representatives. All you have to do is stand for election in the area where you work, and which is covered by the occupational health and safety group – such as part of a department/school. Occupational health and safety representatives are elected for three years at a time (1 March 2018 to 28 February 2021).

Fill in a nomination form and send it to the AU HR election mailbox: amovalg@au.dk

Read more about the election on AU’s election website.

WPA 2019 – THE OVERALL SCHEDULE IS NOW IN PLACE

The next workplace assessment (WPA) will take place in the spring of 2019. For the first time, the physical and psychological workplace assessments will be performed at the same time. Preparations for the 2019 WPA have begun, and the overall schedule for WPA 2019 has been approved.

Schedule:

- In the course of the spring of 2018, AU’s workplace assessment advisory group will prepare a draft of a simplified questionnaire and determine the framework for reporting, etc.
- In autumn of 2018, the occupational health and safety committees and liaison committees will prepare a small number of local questions which will be incorporated into the final questionnaire. The committees will be able to draw on the local occupational health and safety contact persons for assistance in this.
The WPA system will be supplied by Rambøll
On the recommendation of AU’s WPA advisory group, the senior management team has selected Rambøll A/S as a supplier of the WPA system for the 2019 WPA. Rambøll has many years of experience in performing workplace assessments.

Read more about the schedule and find further information on workplace assessments here.

THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ORGANISATION PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE AT AU

The occupational health and safety organisation’s role is to plan and coordinate the collaboration on a safe and healthy work environment. The senior management team has decided that managers and employee representatives in the occupational health and safety committees should review and relate to the local emergency response and hold evacuation drills annually, e.g. as part of the annual work environment discussion. To support the work, material targeted at the occupational health and safety organisation has been prepared – the material is available on the emergency response website.

The Faculty Occupational Health and Safety Committees (FAMU), the Administration Occupational Health and Safety Committee (AAMU) and the Main Occupational Health and Safety Committee (HAMU) are responsible for creating an overview of the emergency response initiatives and any incidents which may occur. Information can be obtained via the heads of building services and/or the central emergency response coordinator who, in February of each year, prepare an annual report for the emergency response. The annual report will, among other things, include any major incidents, completed evacuation drills and new emergency response initiatives.

Very soon, elections to the occupational health and safety organisation at AU will be held. In order to ensure that the new occupational health and safety committees are well-prepared for the emergency response tasks, a number of information meetings will be held in April about the occupational health and safety organisation’s role in the emergency response. At the meeting, you will go through AU’s emergency response plan, the current threat scenario against AU will be presented and you will be introduced to ways in which the local occupational health and safety committee can work with focus areas and risk analyses in order to identify current risks and threats.

AU EVACUATE

AU has developed an emergency alert app, AU Evacuate, as a supplement to the existing emergency response. Aarhus BSS Building Services can send out emergency alerts via AU Evacuate in critical situations where either specific buildings need to be evacuated, or where other critical circumstances require that a message must reach everyone in a specific area as fast as possible.

So far, AU Evacuate only covers Campus Fuglesangs Allé, so if you spend time at Campus Fuglesangs Allé, it is recommended to download the app to your smartphone.

The app gives a warning sound, keeps you informed about the situation and gives you a message when the crisis is over.

The app is being tested as a pilot project at Aarhus BSS. Future development and possible roll-out of the app to the rest of AU will be assessed after the trial period.
ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

‘News about work environment’ is a newsletter with information and news about work environment for AU staff. Here you will find a selection of current news.

Read more about work environment and safety at Aarhus University.

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WORK ENVIRONMENT?

If you want to know more about work environment and keep up-to-date on the latest knowledge as well as be inspired in relation to the work in the occupational health and safety groups and committees, you can subscribe to free newsletters by clicking the links below:

- Branche Fællesskab Arbejdsmiljø – Velfærd og offentlig administration (professional association for work environment) (in Danish)
- The Danish Working Environment Authority's newsletter (in Danish)
- Videnscenter for arbejdsmiljø (the Danish work environment knowledge centre) - Newsletters (in Danish)
- Arbejdsmiljørådet (the Danish work environment council) - News (in Danish)

CONTACT US

If you have comments or suggestions for the next newsletter, please send an email to arbejdsmiljo@au.dk.

If your colleagues wish to subscribe to the newsletter, they can sign up on the website.

Kind regards,

AU HR, Development and Work Environment, Team Organisation and Work Environment