

Lab Safety Committee Agenda November 20, 2017

Attendees

John	Bartmess	Chemistry
Kristen	Bass	GSM
Alex	Bruce	EHS
James	Cantu	EHS
Christine	Cheney	Physics
Lori	Cole	UTIA
Steve	Crouch	UTIA Safety Office
Paul	Dalhamier	Chem. and Biomolecular Eng.
Bill	Dunne	College of Engineering
Scott	Emert	Nuclear Engineering
Clayton	Frazier	Risk Management
Gong	Gu	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Linda	Hamilton	Biosafety
Mark	Wagner	Facilities Services
Terry	Hazen	CEE, Micro, EPS
Greg	Jones	Materials Science
Pam	Koontz	EHS
Mariano	Labrador	BCMB
Scott	Moser	EHS
Brian	Ranger	Biosafety
Mark	Smith	EHS
Erin	Tucker	Art

Absentees

Matthew	Cooper	Psychology
Will	Farrell	MABE
Chris	Fedo	Earth and Planetary Science
Butch	Irick	MABE
Lee	Jantz	Anthropology
Jacob	Payne	UTIA Safety Office
Susan	McMillan	Theatre
Rosie	Metallo	Plant Science
Chris	Boake	Arts and Sciences
Darcy	Rathjen	JIAM
Robert	Nobles	ORE
Mike	Rotella	EHS
John	Salasin	GSS
Marsha	Smith	Radiation Safety
David	White	UTIA
Ling	Zhao	Nutrition

Guests: Ian Miller (Facilities Services), Jennifer Lane and Angie Skeen (Risk Management)

- I. **Minutes From Last Meeting** – Minutes from the last meeting with approved by members in attendance with a few minor changes to the attendance list.

- II. **Introduction of New EHS Lab Staff** - Alex Bruce joined the EHS lab staff on November 1. He came from UTIA and has a master’s degree in Entomology and Plant Pathology. Alex provided a brief overview of his background. He will focus heavily on lab safety audits.

- III. **Accident and Incident Report – Risk Management** – Angie Skeen discussed the workers compensation reporting process. Jennifer Lane reported on how claims are handled.
- IV. **Ian Miller – Facilities Services Survey** – The handouts contained a survey that was developed by Ian Miller from Facilities Services. The goal of this survey is to determine what level of cleaning is necessary in various labs on campus. The lab door signs may provide valuable contact information for this survey. Having a target survey was discussed as opposed to one that is broad.
- V. **Eyewash Survey Results** -The handouts contained survey results of an eyewash survey that was conducted by Environmental Health and Safety. The main weakness illuminated by the review was weekly testing (and documentation). Posting inspection logs at the eyewash was suggested. Testing of the “pull-down, tray-type” eyewashes in Strong Hall results in significant spills on the floor. Having a small fitting on the discharge from the units, repositioning the nozzles and training were offered as solutions. EHS will follow-up on the type of eyewashes being installed in the Mossman Science Building. In addition, electrical outlets and equipment should not be located near eyewashes or safety showers.
- VI. **Lab Safety Review Report** – Pam reported on the activities conducted by the EHS lab staff and the process used to schedule safety audits.
- VII. **Lab Coat Laundering**- Mark met with representatives from Cintas regarding laundering lab coats. An estimate should be available soon. The University of Texas, at Dallas, has a program with Cintas where lab coats are dispensed from a vending machine. *Mark will follow up with the EHS staff at this institution.*
- VIII. **Occupational Health Program** – A group has formed and is proposing that two individuals be hired to oversee this program. These positions would report to Human Resources. Additional information will be brought to this committee at the January meeting.
- IX. **Multiple Occupant Labs and Door Placards** – This subject arose with the opening of Strong Hall, and it’s anticipated that future lab buildings will contain multiple occupants per lab. All occupants should have a basic knowledge of the hazards in the lab. It was suggested that a single person in the lab be used as the primary contact on the lab door sign.
- X. **Lab Safety Awards** - Three names were submitted and approved for safety awards. The individuals are: Audrey Paterson, Sharon Hale and Dr. Ampofo Darko. These awards will be made during the February awards ceremony sponsored by the Office of Research and Engagement. *In addition, these awards will be publicized.*
- XI. **Near Miss – Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)** - Scott Moser discussed this event. A partially used container of calcium gluconate was noted during a fume hood inspection. The

lab occupants indicated it was used earlier in the fall when an employee spilled HF on their clothing. The acid did not come in contact with the individuals' skin and the substance was listed as hydrochloric acid in the workers compensation file. *EHS will notify all HF users on campus of the various program elements.*

- XII. **Electrical Safety Training** – James Cantu discussed three levels of electrical safety training being developed by EHS, and noted the other Skillsoft elements that need to have an alternative training option for students to access. James determined that of those modules, many were addressed (or very nearly were addressed) by the current General Lab Safety Modules in Canvas. Significant updates were made to the General Lab Safety Module to accommodate the many requested Skillsoft topics. It was noted that Canvas does not have strong reporting features and users must print or print to PDF their “Grades” for a permanent training record. Training elements that are being developed will be shared electronically with the LSC.
- XIII. **System Safety Policy Drafts** - There are two system safety policies that are being developed, which are 1). Eyewashes and Safety Showers and 2) Equipment and Chemicals Requiring Approval to Purchase. Draft copies should be available within the next two weeks and will be circulated to committee members for comments.
- XIV. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be Monday, January 22, 2017 starting at 1:30 p.m. in the Mary Greer Room of Hodges Library. *Mark will send e-mail reminders.*