Laboratory Safety Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2020, Zoom Meeting

**Attendance according to sign-in:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<td>Doug Aaron</td>
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<td>Mariano Labrador</td>
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<td>Michael Allen</td>
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<td>Yingkui Li</td>
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<td>Andy Baker</td>
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<td>Brian Long</td>
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<td>Shawn Campagna</td>
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<td>Bryan Lord</td>
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<td>James Cantu</td>
<td>EHS</td>
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<td>Larry McKay</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
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<td>Christine Cheney</td>
<td>Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
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<td>Ahmad Mitoubsi</td>
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<td>Lori Cole</td>
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<td>Scott Moser</td>
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<td>Matthew Cooper</td>
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<td>Steve Crouch</td>
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<td>Bill Dunne</td>
<td>Vice Chair-Tickle COE</td>
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<td>Darcy Rathjen</td>
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<td>Gerald Egeland</td>
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<td>Scott Emert</td>
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<td>Andre Zeumault</td>
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<td>Ling Zhao</td>
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<td>Terry Hazen</td>
<td>Chair-CEE/EPS/Micro</td>
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<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Grad Student Rep</td>
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<td>Randy Huelsman</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
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<td>Liz Fozo</td>
<td>New DSO-Micro</td>
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<td>Lee Jantz</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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<td>Kim Harmon</td>
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<td>John Kobza</td>
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<td>Jennifer Ferris</td>
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<td>Jessica Woofter</td>
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**Agenda:**

I. Introduction of Jennifer Ferris & Liz Fozo—DSO  
II. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting  
III. Laboratory Operations – Emergency Contingency Plans  
IV. Laboratory Incidents  
V. Safety Escalation  
VI. New Business  
VII. Next Meeting

**Attachments and References:**

- Meeting Attendance Sheet  
- JIAM Lab Flood  
- Fluorine Cylinder Removal & Accidental Release  
- Cadmium Cut/Exposure  
- EPS Glass Plate Incident & Glass-lined Dewar Incident  
- [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eKQe8UVTzT_vgo_VS-xWDl9rglH8Bqlo?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eKQe8UVTzT_vgo_VS-xWDl9rglH8Bqlo?usp=sharing)
Due to COVID-19 the university is decreasing the number of essential individuals on campus. This will continue until further notice. We will continue to have zoom meetings throughout the summer as our in-person meeting locations have canceled.

Topic Summaries

I. Introduction of new DSO’s: Jennifer Ferris -DSO for Graduate School of Medicine (GSM) and Liz Fozo – DSO for Microbiology.

II. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting
Minutes from the 2-17-2020 meeting were approved.

III. Laboratory Operations – Emergency Contingency Plans (Bill Dunne) (0:01 - 28:44)
   a. Update and discussion on who and what is essential on campus
   b. Going over all 500 contingency plans that they have received
   c. Trying to figure out how much time labs need to be able to shut down
   d. Working on locations freezers, liquid nitrogen, gas cylinders, animals care facilities, greenhouses, growth boxes, all those sorts of things.
   e. Feedback for Bill on this whole situation
      i. Hazen – gave update on Oak Ridge and the drastic view they have taken on the situation. Departments should really think about who other than facilities services that would be essential to oversee some of the stuff that goes on.
      ii. Fedo – Microscopes – what’s labelled essential? Encouraged to turn off they are not essential.
      iii. McKay – PhD students wondering what to do if can’t get on microscope. Send to all Arts & Sciences heads that there is a procedure for borrowing equipment from the university. For portable equipment that is research critical.
      iv. Dunne – do not take-home mice, cockroaches and those types of research. It is understood that when you are looking to reduce your research activities that this is a declining number and not stopping altogether. Then have a small number of essential members. No one knows just yet.
   f. We are on a “safer at home order” not a “shelter in place order”.
   g. IACUC committee sent out message about absolutely irrepleaceable animals can be adopted out.
   h. No chemicals to go home.
   i. Human subjects research with direct contact complete stop.
   j. You can listen to this update on the recorded zoom video.

IV. Laboratory Incidents – (Scott) (30:25 – 1:05:40)
   a. JIAM lab flood – 2/14/2020
      i. An unattended overnight experiment using house water the connection popped off
      ii. Flooded 2 lab spaces on the 1st floor and ground floors
iii. Did not have proper controls in place – SOP’s or prior approval forms for overnight unattended experiments. Did not have the correct paperwork in place
iv. Findings and corrective actions put in place
v. Lessons learned
vi. Estimated at $100k+ for major event and go from there
vii. Terry – how many is too many incidents?
b. Fluorine cylinder removal & accidental release 2/18/2020
   i. Dabney-Buehler - gas cabinet did not meet specs
   ii. Tanks out of hydrostatic testing for multiple years
   iii. Emeritus Professor Dr. Adcock came back to take down the system. This was set up for her when she was over that lab.
   iv. Issue was communication. EHS and upper level admin new about the situation but the information did not make it to connecting labs.
v. Findings and corrective actions
vi. Lessons learned
c. Cadmium cut/exposure – 3/5/2020
   i. Graduate student was cutting cadmium with tin snips one of the snips slipped and he ended up scraping a finger. Very minimal cut, but understood the potential hazards associated with heavy metals.
   ii. Went through Corvel notification process and they did send him to a walk-in clinic to have it looked at and they cleaned it out and gave antibiotic and a 7 day follow up.
   iii. Communication was good
   iv. Findings and corrective actions
   v. Lessons learned
d. EPS glass plate incident and Glass-lined dewar incident
   i. Just happened on Friday March 20th not investigated it yet.

V. Safety Escalation (Terry) (1:05:45 – 1:06:06)
   a. Suggested during the lab incidents by Dr. McKay that Sandra call a meeting with the PI, Departmental Leadership – Head and Associate Head and DSO, Chair of LSC, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, JIAM representatives, Associate Dean of Research Arts & Sciences. Kim will work on getting a zoom meeting together with all representatives.

VI. New Business (1:06:07 – 1:21:18)
   a. Nominations/elections for Vice Chair of LSC – Terry said that Bill is willing to continue as Vice Chair but send any nominations to Terry by email.
      i. Send any nominations to Kim by the end of the week. (Kim received no nominations)
   b. Will distribute the policy on animals by email but you can get to the website by the link below - https://iacuc.utk.edu/adoptions-of-research-animals/
   c. Lori Cole is sending emails about animals
   d. EHS department is telecommuting but we are available through phone, email, one call number 974-9586 and by the LiveSafe app.

VII. Next Meeting – April 20, 2020, 1:30-3:00 pm; Zoom Meeting
Chat information from the zoom meeting:

13:56:59  From campagna: We are under a "safer at home" order. Here is a link to what has to be curtailed:
14:30:55  From Rathjen-laptop: Sandra please include me and Alan.
14:31:02  From Rathjen-laptop: I’m here. No audio
14:31:29  From Sarah Pruett: definitely include me too
14:45:54  From EPD: https://iacuc.utk.edu/adoption-of-research-animals/
14:51:21  From Brian Long: updated link to "Safer at Home" order from Knox County Health Department:
14:55:00  From EPD (Elizabeth Derryberry): A spot for collection of donations of PPE for the Knoxville health care working community has also been set up in SERF near 639.