

**MINUTES**  
**LABORATORY AND CHEMICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, March 19, 2014 (3005 Michael Hooker Research Center)

**Members Present:** Lorraine Alexander, Catherine Brennan, Bruna Brylawski, Kimberlie Burns, Nita Eskew, Anthony Hackney, Ron Howell (for Pat Boone), Michael Long, Courtney Roberts, Kirby Zeman

**Visitors Present:** Christina Lebonville, Jonathan Moore

**Members Absent:** Karen Hogan, Mary Beth Koza, Rihe Liu, Kathryn Reissner

Meeting commenced at 3:05 pm.

**2013 CLIP Annual Review**

Moore delivered the annual review of the Collaborative Laboratory Inspection Program (CLIP). For 2013, it appears that the number of BSL2 laboratories has plateaued and the number of labs using radioactivity continues to decrease. Some of the citations that are most frequently cited in UNC laboratories include issues with chemical storage, improper handling/collection of broken glass and other sharps, failure to complete annual Bloodborne Pathogens Training, failure to wear eye protective devices and lab coats and not completing the required GHS training. The number of citations for not updating lab safety plans continues to trend downward since instituting the online lab safety plan in 2008. Overall the categories for the top 20 citations have not changed much over the last ten years.

**Green Labs Committee**

Brennan passed out an informational flyer on the Green Labs Committee whose goal is to reduce the environmental impact of labs and reduce the life cycle cost of operating labs at UNC. Successes of the group were discussed including lab plastics recycling, the chemical fume hood "Shut the Sash" campaign (in partnership with RESPC) and a 5 gallon steel solvent can recycling pilot. Committee members had several questions about recycling rules in labs and the Green Labs Committee is working on a poster for distribution that covers this topic in more detail.

**Asset Trading Post**

Lebonville gave an overview of the [Asset Trading Post](#) sponsored by UNC Procurement Services. The online trading post allows lab managers to find equipment available in other departments or post equipment they would like to sell or donate. Capital equipment tags are tracked when equipment is transferred. Christina has used the service and would like to encourage others since the program encourages reuse among labs. As is the case with submitting items for Surplus Property, items on the Asset Trading Post should be cleaned and decontaminated and posted with a [safety clearance form](#) before being traded.

**Injuries and Incidents, January-February 2014**

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from January through February, 2014.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee developed potential lab animal allergy over many years of working with animals.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee was off-site and had potential radiation exposure.
Cut, Puncture Scrape	Employee was going to inject a mouse with Pertussis Toxin and accidentally stuck left long finger.
Cut, Puncture Scrape	Employee cut right thumb while using microtome during histology.
Cut, Puncture Scrape	Employee was opening a box with a razor blade and hand holding blade slipped and cut opposite hand.
Cut, Puncture Scrape	Employee cut middle finger of left hand while opening a scalpel during processing of juvenile Rhesus Macaque samples inside hood of tissue culture room.
Strain	Employee developed wrist pain and finger numbness after excessive lifting of rat cages accompanied by continual data entry.
Strain	Employee twisted left ankle after exiting building to proceed to next job.
Struck or Injured By	Employee was bit by a rat during handling protocol.

For incidents, there was 1 fume hood malfunction, 1 natural gas leak, 1 miscellaneous, 9 odor complaints, and 5 chemical spills.

### **Other Committee Business**

Brennan passed out an article from the Science Careers web site from the journal *Science* entitled "[Empowered Students and Postdocs Drive Lab Safety](#)". She also updated the committee that 12 safety supervisors have responded that they would be interested in participating in a safety supervisor roundtable. EHS will schedule the event for some time in the late spring or early summer.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.