MINUTES
HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE, LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT
Tuesday, April 3, 2001 (2101G McGavran-Greenberg)

Members present: Lorraine Alexander, Bonnie Taylor-Blake, Bruna Brylawski, Mike Fisher, Todd Gambling, James Gilbert, Ray Hackney, Kathrine Hamil, Liska Lackey, Diane Shugars, Sheldon Wiggins, Kirby Zeman

Members absent: Richard Hanes, Jim Morken, Paula Murphy, Lola Reid

Minutes for the meeting held on December 5, 2000 were approved.

REVIEW OF INCIDENTS/INJURIES IN THE LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT
During September through November there were 5 laboratory injuries, which are listed below:

- Cut nerve in middle finger while attempting to place bulb on glass Pasteur pipette
- Exposure to xylene from spill. Xylene container was knocked over while sitting on the floor
- Injured toe when container of liquid nitrogen slipped out of hands and fell on right big toe.
- Glacial acetic acid fell and broke, spilling contents on right foot.
- Boiling media from autoclave spilled on wrist.

Twenty-one laboratory incidents were also reviewed. There were 4 chemical spills, 8 mercury spills, 8 odor complaints, and 1 leaking carbon dioxide tank.

LABORATORY CLIP INSPECTIONS SUMMARY
A summary of the laboratory CLIP inspections for June through August 2000 was reviewed. The most common violation was not providing and documenting the annual training on the lab safety plan. The results are summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Percent of Labs Inspected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>2 or more consecutive inspections with no violations</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>1 inspection with no violations or only 1 de-minimus</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>1 non-serious violations and/or &lt; 5 de-minimus</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>2 or more Non-serious or ≥ 5 de-minimus; repeat violation</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unacceptable</td>
<td>1 or more serious violations (corrected immediately)</td>
<td>1%</td>
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EATING AND DRINKING POLICY IN LABORATORIES
Sheldon Wiggins presented a summary of regulatory, consensus standards, and policy statements on eating and drinking in labs. The OSHA Laboratory Standard does not allow eating and drinking in lab areas. Some universities have policies that do not allow eating and drinking in the laboratory. To successfully remove food and drink from the laboratory it is necessary to provide acceptable alternatives, such as nearby break rooms. At the next meeting representatives from the planning offices will come to discuss issues related to providing break rooms in new laboratory facilities.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYEES WHO SHIP HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
John Worthington and Debra Howard from the Health and Safety Office reported on the training requirements for laboratory personnel who prepare packages for shipment, such as diagnostic specimens or biological materials containing infectious agents. Each employee who prepares packages for shipment must have documented training in the classification, identification, labeling, and packaging requirements for hazardous materials. The Health and Safety Office is preparing a program to provide this training to laboratory personnel on campus.