

MINUTES

LABORATORY AND CHEMICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 24, 2013 (2101G McGavran-Greenberg)

Members Present: Lorraine Alexander, Pat Boone, Catherine Brennan, Kimberlie Burns, Nita Eskew, Anthony Hackney, Mary Beth Koza, Kirby Zeman

Members Absent: Bruna Brylawski, Jacob Forstater, Rita Fuchs-Lokensgard, Karen Hogan, Rihe Liu, Michael Long

Meeting commenced at 3:05 pm.

EHS Annual Report

Koza went over the [2012 EHS annual report](#) which the committee had received previously in the mail. She also mentioned that EHS recently won the Campus Safety, Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA) *Complete Safety Award* and thanked the committee for being an integral part of the safety structure at UNC.

Minors in Labs Policy – Annual Review

The committee was asked to review the policy prior to the meeting but had no changes. Burns gave feedback that the coordination between UNC Human Resources and EHS needs to be more consistent in regards to forms from each department and obtaining PIDs and ONYENs for minors and high school students so they are able to take required lab safety trainings. Koza commented that she sits on a new University task force, *Minors on Campus*, and will be sure to address these issues. Another suggestion was made that links to the HR forms should be included on Minors in Labs webpage for ease of use.

Injuries and Incidents, May-June 2013

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from May through June, 2013.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee felt light headed and ill while in office due to unknown contaminant in air.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee was cleaning a spilled powder of N-(1-naphthyl)ethylenediamine dihydrochloride (NED) with a brush. The powder became airborne and the employee experienced respiratory irritation and possibly ingested some of the material.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee was autoclaving hazardous waste and when they opened autoclave a strong phenol odor released causing employee respiratory irritation.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee was opening a vacuum oven with an unknown sample inside and vapor went into face upon opening oven. It was later discovered that the sample contained osmium tetroxide.
Animal Bite	Employee was attending training on mouse handling and was bitten by a mouse.
Animal Bite	Employee was practicing ear punch technique on a mouse and was bitten on left middle finger.
Blood Exposure, Needlestick	Employee was euthanizing an animal infected with a BSL2+ agent and animal kicked needle which struck employee and punctured thumb through gloves.
Cut, Puncture, Scrape	Employee was removing glass pipette from rubber tubing and suffered cut to hand.
Cut, Puncture, Scrape	Employee was capping a needle after mouse injection and stuck thumb.

Fall, Slip or Trip	Employee was checking a freezer alarm and slipped on water, hitting head on floor.
Rubbed or Abraded By	Employee experienced irritation around skin of eyes following respirator and goggle use.
Strain: Repetitive Motion	Employee does repetitive motion during animal surgeries and experienced strain in hand due to grasping thumb with index finger.
Striking Against or Stepping On	Employee was moving a piece of equipment with a coworker and machine slipped and fell onto employees fingers.
Struck or Injured By	Employee was injecting a rat with anesthesia and the rat kicked resulting in the needle slipping. The needle punctured the employee's glove to finger.

For incidents, there was 1 fire, 4 fire alarms, 2 fume hood malfunctions, 1 miscellaneous, 2 odor complaints, 2 chemical spills and 2 mercury spills.

Other Committee Business

Brennan mentioned that Jacob Forstater is graduating and will need a replacement. The committee was asked to make recommendations for a graduate student member to take his spot.

Eskew asked what the process is for fume hoods that do not function. EHS is responsible for verifying the issue and placing a Facilities work order for repair.

Koza mentioned that EHS has switched to VOIP phone system and that you now have to dial ten digits to reach EHS (main number 919-962-5507).

Brennan mentioned that the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) will be discussed at next meeting. Hackney made a request that updated trainings are in place prior to new students arriving.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.