

MINUTES

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE, LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, September 26, 2000 (2101G McGavran-Greenberg)

Members present: Lorraine Alexander, Bonnie Taylor-Blake, Bruna Brylawski, Todd Gambling, James Gilbert, Ray Hackney, Kathrine Hamil, Richard Hanes, Liska Lackey, Jim Morken, Pete Reinhardt, Diane Shugars, Sheldon Wiggins, Kirby Zeman

Members absent: Mike Fisher, Paula Murphy, Lola Reid

Pete Reinhardt was introduced as the new Director of the Health and Safety Office. Bruna Brylawski was welcomed as a new member.

Minutes for the meeting held on June 20, 2000 were approved.

REVIEW OF INCIDENTS/INJURIES IN THE LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT

During June through August there were 6 laboratory injuries, which are listed below:

- While plugging pipettes, glass broke and shard entered thumb.
- Rat bite on left index finger during animal experiment.
- Mouse bite on left middle finger during experiment.
- Dried HIV positive blood on arm with dermatitis of Research Tech.
- Needlestick in thumb while attempting to draw blood from pig.
- While cutting open a tube of ethidium bromide (EB), tube burst and EB squirted on face and hair.

Twenty-three laboratory incidents were also reviewed. There were 6 odor complaints, 6 mercury spills, 7 chemical spills, 1 blood spill, and 3 natural gas leak.

REVIEW OF NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION TRAINING

James Gilbert presented a portion of the new laboratory employee orientation program. The committee suggested showing pictures of accidents. More of the program will be reviewed at the next meeting

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:

| Rating | Definition | Percent of Labs Inspected |
|--------------|--|---------------------------|
| Outstanding | 2 or more consecutive inspections with no violations | 37 % |
| Excellent | 1 inspection with no violations or only 1 <i>de-minimus</i> | 31% |
| Good | 1 non-serious violations and/or < 5 <i>de-minimus</i> | 27% |
| Poor | 2 or more Non-serious or ≥ 5 <i>de-minimus</i> ; repeat violation | 3% |
| Unacceptable | 1 or more serious violations (corrected immediately) | 2% |

IMPROVING CUSTOMER SERVICE

The committee continued its discussion of improving Health and Safety Office customer service for the laboratory environment. The following ideas were discussed:

- Complete and submit Lab Safety Plans on-line.
- Post inspection checklists with explanations of each item on web. Post inspection results on web.
- Implement an automated, formal notification system to inform new faculty of HSO policies and information.
- Provide lab ergonomic training.
- Provide listserve for PIs to disseminate safety information.
- Posting laboratory safety plan dates on web.
- Notifying investigators prior to inspections.
- Having a refresher course on Laboratory Safety
- Improving the HSO website.