

MINUTES

LABORATORY AND CHEMICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 (0015 Michael Hooker Research Center)

Members Present: Lorraine Alexander, Catherine Brennan, Kimberlie Burns, Nita Eskew, Stephanie Murray, Todd O'Buckley, Jim Potts, Kathryn Reissner

Members Absent: Pat Boone, Anthony Hackney, Mary Beth Koza, Rihe Liu

Meeting commenced at 3:05 pm.

PI Sign-off Page

Brennan presented the final changes for the PI sign-off page regarding annual lab safety training. This will be a new requirement where the PI verifies that they have held at least one laboratory specific safety training during the year. The PI will verify what topics were covered and can upload sign-in sheets or training materials to document training. The new sign-off will be rolled out as soon as final changes are completed by ITS.

AAALAC Site Visit

Brennan made the committee aware of the upcoming Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) site visit that is occurring May 30th through June 2nd. There will be 4 site visitors who will be auditing our animal care and use program which includes the occupational health and safety program for animal handlers. EHS will be involved in the site visit and will report back to the committee if there were any lab safety issues identified.

Ventilation Policy

Potts presented statistics related to the ventilation program prior to summarizes minor changes made to Laboratory Ventilation Policy. Currently, there are 1275 chemical fume hoods on campus with more than half of them located in the Chemistry Department buildings. EHS is responsible for ensuring that fume hoods are installed properly, tracking locations of fume hoods and performing the annual certifications of all fume hoods. The Laboratory Ventilation Policy covers the installation, removal, modifications, transfer and monitoring of ducted and non-ducted local exhaust equipment. The updates made to the policy this year included replacing dead hyperlinks, minor text changes, and correcting outdated contact info. EHS will post the updated policy to the website.

Injuries and Incidents

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from March through April, 2017.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
ABSORPTION, INGESTION or INHALATION	Employee was culturing BSL2 agent and spilled a few drops on pants.
ABSORPTION, INGESTION or INHALATION	Employee was using needle to pin down infected animal tissue and grazed joint in middle of thumb, breaking skin.
ABSORPTION, INGESTION or INHALATION	Employee cut thumb using while changing out blade during mouse tissue sectioning procedure.
ABSORPTION, INGESTION or INHALATION	Employee forgot to turn on exhaust for laser cutter and acrylic fumes entered area and hallway and potential inhalation exposure.
ANIMAL BITE	Employee was handling mouse and received bite to hand.
ANIMAL BITE	Employee was handling rat and received bite.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Broken glass pieces were left under knob of faucet at sink and employee cut hand when trying to turn on faucet.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Employee cut knuckles on hand with scalpel being used during animal procedure.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Employee punctured right ring finger with dissecting pin while cleaning up after mammalian anatomy lab.
FALL, SLIP or TRIP	Employee was wearing plastic shoe covers and slipped on oily patch on floor of facility.
FALL, SLIP or TRIP	Employee tripped on 4L bottle of hexanes that was being kept on floor. Employee had glass beaker in hand and fell backwards causing glass to shatter which resulted in a cut to thumb.

FALL, SLIP or TRIP	Employee was working in lab and slipped on wet floor, injuring knee,
STRAIN	Employee developed pain in fingers and hand from repetitive pipetting.

For incidents, there was 1 fire, 5 odor complaints, 2 chemical spills and 1 mercury spill.

Other Committee Business

No other committee business discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.