



JULY 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – MEETING MINUTES

**Members Present:** Lorraine Alexander, Catherine Brennan, Nita Eskew, Anthony Hackney, Todd O’Buckley, Jim Potts, Kathryn Reissner, Sarah Scarry, Nick Tsihlis

**Members Absent:** Mary Beth Koza, Rihe Liu

Meeting commenced at 3:05 pm.

**LCSC Policy Process**

Brennan presented an overview to committee members regarding current policies that the Laboratory & Chemical Safety Committee (LCSC) oversees and last dates reviewed and/or updated. The University’s safety committee structure was reviewed and the University’s new [Policy on Policies](#) was introduced. As a result of this new policy, the Policy Review Committee will be a part of LCSC policy approval/update process. In addition, [Policy Stat](#) will be used to upload new policies and edit existing ones.

**Building Outage DRAFT Policy**

Brennan presented a draft policy related to building outages as they impact lab buildings. Currently, there is no University policy or standard related to building outages. Building outages are especially important to laboratory buildings and animal facilities due to sensitive research and potentially hazardous situations. The building outage policy’s purpose is to safeguard building occupants and resources by proactively managing all outages to minimize operational impacts in addition to defining roles and responsibilities in requesting, coordinating scheduling, and executing utility outages and restoration of services. During discussion of the draft policy, committee members had several suggestions on what types of utility systems to include, notification procedures and timelines and implementing contact personnel for questions or issues. EHS will continue to work on the draft policy and bring back to the committee for final review at a future meeting.

**Injuries and Incidents**

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from May through June, 2018.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee with known allergies had severity of symptoms increase while performing experiments with rats and wearing N95 respirator.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee bare right arm brushed against an open chemical bottle (RNA Stat-60). Employee was not wearing a lab coat at the time which led to exposure.
Absorption, Ingestion or Inhalation	Employee splashed BSL2 infectious agent onto feet while wearing open toed shoes (sandals).
Animal Bite	Employee was bitten by a mouse while handling to transfer to lab.
Animal Bite	Employee was handling rat for acclimation exercise and sustained bite.
Animal Bite	Employee was handling infected mouse during experiment and was bitten after reaching into cage and removing a mouse.
Animal Bite	<b>Near Miss:</b> Employee was handling mouse with tail restraint when employee sustained bite but did not puncture through glove or skin.
Burn or Scald - Chemical	Employee splashed 1M Sodium Hydroxide (NaOH) into eye while injecting into tube. Employee was not wearing eye protection.



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Burn or Scald – Heat	Employee burned hand on hot plate used for boiling water – did not realize it had been left on.
Cut, Puncture, Scrape	Employee cut left middle finger while scraping tissue off glass slide with razor blade.
Rubbed or Abraded By	Employee developed rash and was concerned it was related to handling biohazard waste bags.

For incidents, there were 3 fire alarms, 2 gas leaks, 1 miscellaneous, 9 odor complaints, 1 request for investigation, and 4 chemical spills.

### **Other Committee Business**

Two new committee members, Sarah Scarry and Nick Tsihlis, were introduced at the beginning of the meeting.

UNC Chemistry Department Undergraduate Laboratories and UNC EHS are receiving an award at the American Chemical Society August National Meeting in Boston from the Division of Chemical Health & Safety regarding UNC's comprehensive laboratory safety program. Two members of the LCSC, Nita Eskew and Cathy Brennan, will be in attendance to receive the award.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.