



JANUARY 16th, 2019 – MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Lorraine Alexander, Pat Boone, Catherine Brennan, Nita Eskew, Mary Beth Koza, Michael Liang, Todd O’Buckley, Jim Potts, Kathryn Reissner, Sarah Scarry, Nick Tsihlis

Members Absent: Anthony Hackney, Rihe Liu

Meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.

Mercury Free Policy

Brennan presented the annual review of the Mercury Free UNC policy to the committee. Minor changes were made to clearly define mercury as elemental mercury, updated PI responsibilities to include essential use mercury within the Lab Safety Plan and Chemical Inventory and define EHS spill clean-up responsibilities. The committee voted in favor of approval with changes discussed.

UCLA Fatality: 10 Years Later

A review of the 2008 UCLA lab accident fatality was presented. A summary of the accident, regulatory enforcement and legal proceedings was discussed. Also discussed was how UNC has strengthened the lab safety program since the incident ten years ago. Chemical & Engineering News has a special section on the accident and related to safety culture and committee members were encouraged to review.

Injuries and Incidents

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from November through December 2018.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
BURN OR SCALD	Employee was cleaning NMR tubes earlier in day while wearing required PPE. That afternoon saw mild irritation on left thumb. Reported to UEOHC for evaluation.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Employee dropped glass bottle due to condensation and glass shattered, cutting hand.

For incidents, there was 12 fire alarms, 1 gas leak, 11 odor complaints, 1 blood spill and 1 chemical spills.

Other Committee Business

Discussion of new lab buildings that will be coming online in next few years. Committee asked for tour of renovated Mary Ellen Jones once opened at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.