



MAY 15th, 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

Visitors Present: Nick Caligari, Drew Nicholson

Members Absent: Anthony Hackney, Rihe Liu

Meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.

Dangerous Gas Policy

Caligari presented the annual review of the [Dangerous Gas Policy](#) to the committee. There were no changes to the policy and the committee voted in favor of approval. Caligari gave an overview of what is covered in the policy, reviewed what types of dangerous gases are found on campus and demonstrated EHS specific reports which can be run to track dangerous gas users.

Tar Heel Mission Ready

Nicholson gave an overview of the new [Tar Heel Mission Ready](#) software that is being rolled out across campus to capture business continuity plans. His presentation focused on the risks to research organizations and what types of information could be included in a plan related to laboratories and continuity of operations. A notice will be going to campus in the next 3-6 weeks regarding the new software and lab committee members are encouraged to discuss with their department and units and volunteer to participate during the initial roll-out phase.

Injuries and Incidents

The Committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from March through April 2019.

INJURY TYPE	INJURY
ANIMAL BITE	Employee was restraining a rat to remove a wound clip from its flank.
ANIMAL BITE	Employee was taking tissues off the mouse and got a bite from it. There was a cut through on the gloves and there might be direct contact between the wound and the mouse’s teeth.
ANIMAL BITE	Mouse bit right index finger
ANIMAL BITE	Employee was dropping off biohazard bags in the bin located at the loading dock outside. Employee was bit by something on right hand index finger.
BLOOD EXPOSURE - NEEDLESTICK	Employee stuck left thumb with a needle while extracting human saliva from an Eppendorf tube.
BURN OR SCALD, HEAT OR COLD	Chemical splash to eye and upper arm of employee from hot agarose solution.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Employee was cleaning off the work area of my microtome after trimming into liver sections when I grazed the tip of my finger with the edge of microtome blade.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Cutting biopsies on microtome, slipped and cut thumb.
CUT, PUNCTURE, SCRAPE	Employee cut left ring finger on a microtome blade while loading the paraffin block.
FOREIGN MATTER IN EYE	The employee was working inside of the chemical fume hood. They were transferring a mouse tissue sample from a specimen cup that was filled with formalin into a sample cassette. The employee tipped the cup towards the front of the fume hood causing the formalin to



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	splash out of the cup and into the employee's right eye.
STRUCK OR INJURED BY	Employee was taking the cap off a preloaded syringe (biological toxin) when the needle stuck into left hand.
STRUCK OR INJURED BY	Employee sustained a right-hand lancet puncture wound while collecting blood from a mouse.
STRUCK OR INJURED BY	Employee was in diagnostic training and went to recap of syringe and sustained needlestick.

For incidents, there were 1 fire alarm, 2 gas leaks, 3 miscellaneous, 17 odor complaints, and 3 chemical spills.

Other Committee Business

Koza discussed the WHO/CDC polio virus survey that was recently sent out to all Principal Investigators.

Brennan updated the committee on the new "[Flag the Hazard](#)" state safety campaign which replaces the Hazard Hero initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.