



January 18th, 2023 – MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Pat Boone, Kristine Barnette, Catherine Brennan, Michael Davern, Kathryn Harper, Kathleen Nevins, Kathryn Reissner, Steven Tereniak

Visitors Present: Nick Caligari, Patrick Truesdell and Rachael Turner

Members Absent: Lorraine Alexander, Rihe Liu, Todd O'Buckley

Meeting commenced via Zoom at 3:00 pm.

Safety Moment: Compressed Gas Safety

Caligari presented a safety moment focused on Compressed Gas Safety. This included an overview of proper labeling and storage and handling guidance. For more information about compressed gas safety see [EHS webpage](#) and [Lab Safety Manual: Chapter 3](#).

EHS Updates: Campus Drinking Water

Brennan gave an update on the current campus drinking water testing taking place in all campus buildings. The project is currently in Phase 4 (post-1990 buildings). All phases should be complete by end of Spring Break and remediation of impacted fixtures in coordination with Facilities Services is already taking place. For more information and specific building results see the [EHS drinking water webpage](#).

Safety Supervisor Training

Truesdell reviewed survey responses received from two Lab Safety Supervisor trainings that were held in October 2022. The majority of participants felt very positive about the training. The participants found it to be very helpful and found the chemical waste, chemical inventory and incident reporting and investigation most helpful. Specific comments from participants were reviewed with the committee and the plan is to offer this type of training once or twice a year moving forward. EHS will also review the current lab safety supervisor guidance in the Lab Safety Manual and on the EHS website.

Injuries and Incident Report

The committee reviewed the log of injuries and incidents from October through December 2022.

INJURY TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ABRASION	EMPLOYEE TRIPPED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING WHILE ENTERING WORK.
BITE	EMPLOYEE WAS BITTEN WHILE PICKING UP MOUSE AND TRANSFERING MOUSE TO ANOTHER CONTAINER DURING EXPERIMENT IN LAB.
BITE	EMPLOYEE WAS HANDLING MOUSE AND SUSTAINED BITE.
BITE	EMPLOYEE PERFORMING MOUSE HANDLING FOR EXPERIMENTS, POOR TECHNIQUES LED TO MOUSE BITE.
BURN	EMPLOYEE SUSTAINED CRYOGENIC BURN FROM LIQUID NITROGEN.
BURN	EMPLOYEE SUSTAINED LIQUID NITROGEN BURN FROM MOVING/HANDLING FLASH FROZEN 1.5 ML TUBES FROM A FOAM BUCKET WITH 1/2 INCH OF LIQUID NITROGEN INTO A CARDBOARD BOX.
CONTUSION	EMPLOYEE WORKING ON NOTES FOR PRODUCTION. GOING DOWN SHIP ALDDER STAIRCASE IN DARK, SLIPPED AND FELL.
EXPOSURE	EMPLOYEE WAS PROCESSING A RESEARCH BLOOD SAMPLE, EMPLOYEE WAS CHANGING A GLASS PIPET TIP AND IT SLIPPED AND PUNCTURED MY HAND.



UNC-CH LABORATORY AND CHEMICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE

EXPOSURE	EMPLOYEE WAS TRYING TO FILL SYRINGE USING BUTTERFLY NEEDLE AND STUCK SELF. NO HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL.
EXPOSURE	POTENTIAL BIOHAZARD EXPOSURE. EMPLOYEE SPILLED 15 ML OF THE 101/25 VACCINE STRAIN OF A VIRUS.
LACERATION	EMPLOYEE WAS LOADING A COLUMN AND REACTION MIXTURE WAS DISSOLVED IN DMSO AND WITHDRAWN INTO A SYRINGE. THE NEEDLE SLASHED EMPLOYEES THUMB
LACERATION	EMPLOYEE WAS WIPING THE FLOOR UNDERNEATH A FREEZER WITH A PAPER TOWEL. EMPLOYEE WAS WEARING LATEX EXAMINATION GLOVES. A PIECE OF GLASS CUT THE LONG FINGER ON RIGHT HAND NEAR THE TOP.
LACERATION	EMPLOYEE WAS TAKING THE TRASH OUT OF THE BIOHAZARD BINS SO THAT THEY MAY BE AUTOCLAVED, WHILE RAISING THE BAG EMPLOYEE FELT SOMETHING POKE WRIST AND BREAK OFF.
LACERATION	EMPLOYEE WAS TIGHTENING A SCREW CAP VIAL, GLASS VIAL BROKE UNDER PRESSURE AND CUT THUMB TWICE.
PUNCTURE	EMPLOYEE WAS RINSING THE FORCEPS IN THE LAB AND SUDDENLY POKED SELF.
PUNCTURE	EMPLOYEE WAS PLACING WASHED DISSECTION TOOLS BACK INTO THE LOCKER. THE TOOL POKED THROUGH THE BAG AND TWO PAIRS OF GLOVES AND PUNCTURED EMPLOYEES SKIN.
STRAIN	EMPLOYEE WAS PRYING INVASIVE PLANTS AT PENNY'S BEND NATURE PRESERVE IN THICK VEGETATION AND TRIPPED ON A HIDDEN FALLEN BRANCH.

Other Committee Business

Brennan announced that the committee schedule will move back to quarterly meetings so the next meeting will be held on April 19th. This meeting will be held in-person and an invite will sent out closer to date. Brennan also advised that the Chemical Hygiene Officer position is currently posted and EHS is actively recruiting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.