

## Chemical Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Date and Time of Meeting: December 13, 2017, 9:00 - 10:00 AM Engelmann Room 206/208

Attending: Pat Anderson, Alexander Arnold, Ben Church, PJ Egan, Jennifer Herriges, Rick Koehler, Jamie Kuenzi, Elizabeth Liedhegner, Zack Steuerwald.

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**Call to Order:** 9:05am

**Approval of Minutes from last meeting:** approved

**Announcements:**

Jenelle Reick has taken another position and PJ Egan will replace Jenelle on the Committee.

**Incidents review:**

- Formic Acid – Chemistry
  - **Safety investigation corrective actions to be taken to prevent a similar accident in the future?**
    - Set up an experiment where you will not need to reach across a vial to reach pipette tips for use.
    - Wear the all of the PPE recommended and handle Formic Acid in the hood. PPE includes: chemical eye protection, Chemical Resistant lab coat, Nitrile gloves and appropriate closed-toe shoes.
    - When administering first aid for chemical exposures: Rinse the area for 15 min under running water and use soap. The use of topical skin treatments (i.e.: applying bicarbonate solution) should only when a SDS indicates the use of topical treatments. Performing chemical reactions on skin, even if it is intended to neutralize the reaction, could further damage the skin or cause adverse reactions.
  - Group discussion
    - They should create an SOP for the process or any other processes (i.e. TFA) – indicate “Use in Hood”
    - Not wearing a lab coat – can be too hot in the lab. Look into lab coats that are lighter fabrics yet chemical / flame resistant. Wear layers to accommodate lab conditions and temperatures
- Natural Gas evacuation – Chemistry.
  - Group Discussion:
    - A safer alternative to the use of the burner would be the use of a heat gun to disinfect glass plates, take out possibility of gas use.
    - Have retraining for lab safety yearly or every two years as a refresher in addition to the introductory safety training.
    - Lab safety training / presentations on safety situations in labs and how to handle.

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## Old Business:

- **Backup Members**
  - Elizabeth Liedhegner: Brad DePons
  - Ben Church: a possible backup in line. Will let us know when confirmed.
- **Finalize Highly Hazardous Chemical Use Approval Process (Review and Comment) – flow charts.**
  - Approved.
- **Purchasing Process Review Announcement to UWM – Purchasing Process** Waiting until we receive responses from all areas as to who does the purchasing

## New Business:

- **Determining which chemicals need SOPs via the use of Chemical lists.**
  - **Example of Chemical list.**
    - US&A took the lists from the Chemistry Department – filled them in using the Duke University spreadsheet that self-fills with hazards based on CAS#: List was not perfect as there are chemicals that do not self-fill in but This was liked. Updates would be yearly during lab inspections. **Most** chemicals are on the list.
    - Suggested that once the lists are created and the chemicals that need SOPs are known, the labs should put a visual cue on the containers, i.e.: red dot.
    - Team also Suggested
      - SOPs can be printed and posted on the walls or placed on table tops somewhere in the labs.
      - Maybe a 3X5 laminated card with hit points.
      - A picture of the PPE needed for the process- simple steps
      - Put the printed SOP inside a cabinet door for easy access/ use.
      - Easy access therefore easy use of SOPs
      - Facilities chemical use is few and far between but they do have some: boiler treatments, Sulfuric Acid, SOP postings would possibly be OK for where store the chemicals rather than where they use them.
- **Creating consistent/ similar templates for general Lab use, IACUC and bio toxins).**
  - Jennifer working on consolidating templates. Would like one for all chemical uses. Consistency between practices would make it easier on PI/ Lab Personnel. Jennifer is also Presenting this topic at IACUC meeting in December for more feedback and buy in.

**Next Meeting:** January 10, 2018, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, ENG 206

**Adjournment:** 9:56 am