CHMS Safety Committee  
March 11, 2013  

Minutes  

Present: de Ropp, Gage, Gates, Hayes, Kim, Stroeve, Tseregounis (Chair)  

Guests: Jeff Feerer (COE), Veronica Thron (EH&S)  

I) Veronica Thron, new EH&S Safety Reviewer for COE, was introduced to the Committee.  

II) New UC System-Wide Safety Policies  

Jeff Feerer, COE safety coordinator, presented the attached summary of where we stand with regards to new UCOP policies concerning PPE, SOPs, and classification of chemical hazards. His recommendations are on the second page of the attachment. He noted that in addition to system-wide safety regulations we can implement our own departmental regulations in areas where we would like to be stricter than UCOP; a possible example was policy concerning contact lenses.  

Jeff F further said that we don’t know exactly when UCOP will actually implement the new policies. The target date had been March 1 but faced with push back from the campuses the target date was delayed, and there is no definitive info on the new date. Some say a couple weeks, other say “by summer”.  

The Committee agreed we need to use faculty meetings to frequently inform/educate about the new safety regulations.
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Updates on UCOP Safety Policies

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Policy is being revised based on comments received from faculty and staff
2. The PPE required will be based on three hazard assessments:
   a. PPE required by everyone who occupies the room (hazard assessment to be completed by the CoE Safety Assessor with PIs)
   b. PPE required for various hazardous activities in the room (hazard assessment to be completed by PI in conjunction with SOPs for the activity). “Adjacent area” still to be defined.
   c. Are flame-resistant lab coats required? (to be completed by CoE Safety Assessor with PIs)
3. Hazard assessment does not apply to “storage” of hazardous materials, only “use”
4. Most labs in CHMS will require lab coat, safety glasses, covered legs, and closed toe/heel shoes at all times
5. UCOP will be supplying 2 lab coats/person at no cost to the department; laundry supplied by Mission Linen
6. For those who cannot wear the “over glasses” safety glasses, prescription safety glasses will be provided by UCOP at no cost to the department (included in “Phase 2” of the implementation)

Lab Safety Training

1. Three types of training will be required by everyone who “occupies” a laboratory
   a. “Fundamentals of Laboratory Safety” – online version should be issued within the next couple of weeks
   b. Laboratory–specific safety orientation
   c. Training on lab–specific SOPs
2. Tours will be exempted
3. SOPs are required for hazardous chemicals and for hazardous processes in a lab
   a. SOPs for hazardous chemicals – RADICAL program is being implemented; chemical inventories will be input into the software, and output will be the SOPs that are needed to be completed. The SOPs will be 80% completed on arrival. Documented training is required on these SOPs
b. SOPs for hazardous processes -- need to be written if not already done so; a template is available. Documented training is required on these SOPs

Minors in Laboratories

No changes to this policy is anticipated at this time

Recommendations:

1. Use the lab coats on hand for those working on hazardous processes; PIs take some risk in waiting for the UCOP-supplied lab coats to be provided
2. Implement a department policy that safety glasses, long pants, closed toed/heel shoes must be worn by those working on hazardous processes. Further guidance will be coming from UCOP on attire for others in the immediate area, but common sense should be used
3. Write process-specific SOPs if they do not yet exist, update training on these SOPs
4. Write a Chemical Hygiene Plans (CHP) for each lab if they do not yet exist; update training on the CHP
5. Wait on the chemical-specific SOPs for the RADICAL program and associated rollout