

**The University of Western Ontario
University Biosafety Committee Meeting
October 4, 2007
10am-noon, SLB 330**

Minutes

Present: G. Kidder (Chair), J. Stanley, G. Margaritis, N. Huner, G. Dekaban, G. Kent, T. Dzialoszynski, A. Watson, S. Warnock, G. Ryder, G. Qubty
Regrets: L. Hertel, G. Thorn, S. Damjanovski, S. Yee, T. Rugar, S. Dhaubhadels, V. Smith, U. Trivedi, J. Tucker, V. Smith, T. MacFarlane

1. Introductions (G. Kidder)

Self Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes, June 22, 2007 (G. Kidder)

Motion: G. Margaritis N. Huner

All in favour

June 22, 2007 minutes approved

3. Business Arising (G. Kidder)

3.1 Biotron Update (N. Huner)

Initial drafts of SOPs will be ready by end of the month. Most of the Biotron will be operational by spring 2008. The Biomes will be operational by spring 2009 to allow for a full year of testing prior to any experimental work commencing. Experimental work in the Biomes will begin in the summer of 2009. The Imaging facility will be running by Christmas. Some commercial industries have shown interest in some aspects of the Biotron.

3.2 Biohazard Subcommittee Update (G. Kidder)

3.2.1 Voting Membership

The Terms of Reference for Biohazard Subcommittee were discussed. There are currently three voting members on the committee. The recommendation to make the Director of Staff/Faculty Health Services a voting member on the committee was made.

Motion: G. Margaritis G. Kent

All in favour.

Director of Staff/Faculty Health Services is now a voting member.

4. New Business (G. Kidder)

4.1 Update on Biosafety Program (J. Stanley)

4.1.1 Graphs

Graphs presented: Researchers Starting to Work with Biohazards, Biohazardous Agents Registry Forms by Year and Institution, Purchase Orders and Material Transfer Agreements, and Containment Level 2 Laboratories.

4.1.2 & 4.1.3 Communication to Researchers, Frequently Asked Questions

Discussion of ways to improve the Biohazardous Agents Registry Forms followed. There was agreement that not all researchers know about the Biosafety program, or do not think they work with Biohazardous materials. A communication will go out directing all researchers to the website that details what agents are Containment Level 1, 2 and 3.

4.2 Microbial Toxins – Draft Guidelines (J. Stanley)

Draft guidelines for Laboratories Working with Microbial Toxins were released by Health Canada. Members of the committee were asked to review the draft and email any uncertainties or questions to Dr. G. Kidder. These will be forwarded on the Health Canada.

5. Other Business

No other business.

6. Next Meeting

February 7, 2008, 10 am-noon, SLB 330

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:32am.