

Environment/Laboratory Safety Committee Meeting
Monday October 27, 2008

Present: A. Acott, K. Baines, P. Charpentier, J. Dickey, K. Galil, G. Kidder, R. Maslen, A.M. McCusker, S. Mittler

- 1.0 New members: J. Dickey replaced J. McMullin and S. Mittler replaced K. Griffiths.
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda.
- 3.0 Approval of April 14th and June 24th minutes. Motion to approve by R. Maslen. Seconded by P. Charpentier. All in Favour. Minutes approved.
- 4.0 **New Business**
 - 4.1 A.M. McCusker discussed the Chemistry Explosion incident. It was a result of nitric/sulfuric acid mixed in a waste container. Since the incident: Moved wet lab to CHB 125. The Ministry of Labour investigated. As a result of their investigation: a safety alert was circulated to all departments, stickers were placed on all fumehoods, HF inventory across campus, tubes of calcium gluconate were distributed to any labs working with HF, and a section for handling corrosive materials was added to the Laboratory Safety Manual. Eyewashes and safety showers will need to be tested to ANSI standards. A.M. McCusker distributed section 10.7 and 10.8 which was added to the Laboratory Safety Manual as a result of the MOL investigation.
 - 4.2 Recommendations for TEB 24 following a nanotechnology risk assessment were not fully implemented prior to using equipment resulting in a large amount of dust that contained nanoparticles being released in the lab. Operations were suspended in the lab until clean-up was complete. Lab users have been instructed in correct PPE and equipment will not be used until HEPA-filter installed.
- 5.0 **Business Arising**
 - 5.1 A.M. McCusker discussed how the nanoparticle registry will work. The researcher submits a registry form, they are given a registry number, their information is inputted into the database, and then a risk assessment of the lab will be conducted based on their form.
 - 5.2 A. M. McCusker updated the committee on the three trials labs where the NIOSH and the BSI risk assessments were used. The new risk assessment to be used at UWO was presented.
- 6.0 Liquid nitrogen dispensing was discussed.

7.0 Motion to adjourn by P. Charpentier. Seconded by J. Dickey. All in favour.
Adjourned.