

# Laboratory Safety Committee Meeting

## Minutes of Friday February 25, 2011

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM, SSB 4220

Present: J. Dickey, R. Maslen, A.M. McCusker, J. Millar, S. Mittler, S. Salisbury, J. Sparks,

Regrets: K. Galil, Y. Huang, G. Qubty, J. Stanley, J. O'Brien

Recorder: E. Gray

### **1.0 Approval of Agenda**

Motion to Approve: J. Dickey            Seconded by: J. Sparks  
Agenda Approved.

### **2.0 Approval of October 22<sup>nd</sup> Minutes**

The word department should be corrected in item 4.1. J. Stanley should be moved from regrets to present.

Motion to Approve: S. Salisbury        Seconded by: J. Dickey  
Minutes Approved.

### **3.0 New Business**

#### **3.1 Lab Safety Inspections**

##### **3.1.1 Inspections 2010**

A.M. McCusker discussed the compliance graph for 2010. More than half of the labs inspected needed some sort of attention. Common non-compliance violations include improper labeling, chemical storage issues, lack of personal protective equipment and out-dated MSDS'.

##### **3.1.2 New Inspection Process**

A.M. McCusker discussed changes to the Lab Safety Program that will be implemented to improve compliance and data collection. From now on, all labs will be inspected within the calendar year. The number of labs will be reduced from 546 to 354. A.M. McCusker will inspect only high risk and medium risk labs. The low risk labs will be taken out of the program. The risk level of labs is based on the contents of the labs and their compliance history. Some low risk labs will stay in the program if they have had a problem with violations in the past. A.M. McCusker showed the committee a graph of the risk level of labs in each department. Other changes to the program sending inspection report to all PI's, not just those

with violations. The reports will now be PI specific and include all the rooms the PI is responsible for.

### 3.1.3 Compliance Enforcement

Edits to the Compliance Enforcement Policy need to be made to reflect the changes to the Lab Safety Program. A.M. McCusker will edit the document and send it to the committee for review.

## 3.2 Cryogenic Liquids

A.M. McCusker showed the committee the calculation of the percentage of oxygen in the air after evaporation of a volume of liquid nitrogen. She will post this information on the secure webpage. This calculation proves that elevators cannot be used to carry more than 1L of cryogenic liquids.

Stickers and signage will have to be put in place so that individuals do not enter an elevator that is carrying more than 1L of a cryogenic liquid. The individual obtaining the delivery is responsible for making sure the proper signage is in place. A. M. McCusker will add this procedure to the Lab Safety Manual and will draft signs. The procedure and signs will be sent to the committee for review.

## 4.0 New Business

### 4.1 Nanotechnology

International and CSA standards are being developed for working with nonmaterials to ensure there is as little exposure as possible.

## 4.0 Other Business

None to report.

## 6.0 Adjournment

Motion to move:        J. Sparks                                J. Dickey

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.