POLICY 1.31 – Hazardous Chemical Waste

Policy Category: General

Effective Date: May 9, 2002

Supersedes: (NEW)

PURPOSE

1.00 The purpose of the Hazardous Chemical Waste Policy is to ensure that hazardous chemical waste at The University of Western Ontario is handled and disposed of safely and properly.

ACCOUNTABILITY

2.00 Those who generate hazardous chemical waste, and their supervisors, are accountable under this policy. Deans and Chairs must ensure that all chemical users in their respective areas have attended a "Hazardous Waste Management Seminar" at the beginning of their employment. Deans and Chairs are accountable for monitoring the storage, handling and disposal of all hazardous chemical waste in their laboratories, and must report all chemical spills or hazardous release incidents to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), even if assistance is not required.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

3.00 The following pieces of legislation are directly applicable:

(a) Ministry of the Environment and Energy, Regulation 347, under the Environmental Protection Act.
(b) Regulations under the Ontario Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990.
(c) Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations, Schedule II, List II.
(d) Designated Substances Regulations, under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
(e) Pesticides Act, Regulations 914, R.S.O. 1990.
(f) The City of London Sewer Use By-law.

DEFINITIONS

4.00 Hazardous Chemical Waste: any unwanted substance generated as a result of working with chemicals, and is known, or potentially capable of causing injury to humans, animals, property, or the natural environment if spilled, released, or disposed of in an improper manner.

PROCEDURES

5.00 Hazardous chemical waste must be handled in accordance with The University of Western Ontario's "Hazardous Materials Management Handbook".

6.00 Teaching Assistants, Lab Demonstrators, and Technicians in undergraduate laboratories must attend a "Hazardous Waste Management Seminar" prior to handling chemicals.

7.00 In "undergraduate" laboratories, it is the responsibility of the Lab's Demonstrator(s), Teaching Assistants, and Technicians to ensure that the requirements of this policy are met by the students under their supervision.

8.00 Hazardous chemical waste must not be left unattended at any location on campus without the prior approval of Occupational Health & Safety.

9.00 Decommissioning of Laboratories: Where hazardous chemicals have been left in a laboratory, or any location in a building, due to retirement, graduate students leaving, or the relocation of laboratories, proper disposal of these materials (including labeling and packaging) is the responsibility of the immediate supervisor, and ultimately of the Chair of that particular faculty/department.

10.00 The cost of disposing of abandoned, unlabeled containers of chemicals will be charged to the faculty/department where they were produced.

11.00 **OHS must be notified of any hazardous material spills. All calls must be directed to (519) 661-2036; if there is no answer do not leave a message; call Western Special Constable Service at 911 immediately.**