

UNBC LAB SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: November 18, 2024

Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm Meeting hosted via MS Teams

Attendees:

Kaila Fadock – Committee Chair, Sr Lab Instructor (FSE)

Alina Constantin – Co-Chair, Sr. Lab Inst (FOHHS)

Saphida Migabo – ESM (FOE)

Hossein Kazemian – Assoc Prof GEES (NALS)

Sydney Cruch – Manager, Animal Care and Welfare

Logan Cochran – NUGSS Rep

Oliver Iorhemen – Asst Prof EENG (FOSE)

Maik Gehloff – Sr. Lab Instructor WIDC Lab (FSE)

Scott McMillan – Manager of OH&S

Thya Warren – Safety Officer

Jordan Wilbey – Chemical Safety Officer / RSO

Mike Bell – Lab Operations & Infrastructure

Harpreet Johnson – Recording Secretary

Absent:

Angus Modum – Grad Rep

1. Meeting Called to order – 1:01pm

2. Territory Acknowledgement – Kaila

3. AGENDA

- Approved by Hossein and Maik. Approved

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 2024

- Approved by Sydney and Oliver. All in favour.

5. SAFETY OFFICER REPORTS

a) Chemical Safety Report – Jordan

- Nothing to report.
- Minor spill of Bromide solution – no report yet, a student was running and some of the buffer solution splashed onto their wrist, beyond their gloves. Printed off the SDS for the buffer and the Ethidium Bromide and advised that they should seek medical attention even though it is a very dilute concentration. Waiting for them to send Jordan a report.
- Double checking that the student was wearing PPE. Were they wearing their lab coat? If not, is their lab coat efficient?
- Yes the student was wearing a lab coat, but it wasn't elastic at the wrist.
- Table this until next meeting or until we have the incident report.

b) Biological Safety Report – Mike

- Nothing to report.

6. BUSINESS ARISING - Jordan

a. Update on Lab inspections – progress and expectation of completion

- Lab inspections will be 82% complete by the end of the week.
- There are a few in building 10, in the health sciences and psychology.
- That includes QRRC. Terrace and the other ones do not have any labs.
- Kaila: When can we expect inspections for 2025?
- Not until summer 2025

b. Update on BSC Cabinet repairs - Mike

- They were completed. Three hoods that were down and the one from fire damage were certified and back up and running.
- All BSC's on campus are good to go!

c. Mercury Thermometers Replacements

- Has that been completed? Or is there some follow up?
- Jordan: Still working on it. Just waiting on the coding for billing. Who are the funds going to come from?
- Mike: We have replaced the ones that we have been notified about. We just need to do the reimbursements.
- Waiting for paperwork and internal funding with the safety office. Once we receive those, this action item will be completed

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

- Safety policies of students working in research facilities outside of campus, graduate students and post-docs doing site visits or performing research at other institutions.
- WorkSafeBC only covers Employees of UNBC. Non employees may be covered by UNBC.
- Scott to confirm if there is any insurance/liability with UNBC for these students when working on and offsite of UNBC.
- Thya: During walk arounds, noticed a lot of the hand sanitizers and soap dispensers empty, if you notice these in your labs, please send out a friendly request to have these filled.
- Next meeting date: Kaila will not be able to attend. If Alina could take over to co-chair.
- Alina: Will let everyone know if she can make it.
- We will have to look at everyone's schedule for the winter semester.
- Hossein will be on sabbatical leave starting in January for a year. He will find someone to be on the committee in his absence and have that person to connect with Kaila.

9. MEETING AJOURNED AT: 1:35pm

ACTION ITEMS

Item #	Description	Who	Action
1	Options for replacing mercury thermometers. Send out notices to labs regarding usage of thermometers and phasing them out.	Mike/Jordan	completed
2.	Safety policies of students working in research facilities outside of campus	Scott	
3.			
4.			

NEXT MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 16TH, 2024

TIME: 1:00PM – 2:00PM – MS TEAMS - UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

UPCOMING MEETING DATES: