CHEMICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
May 7, 2014
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Rudman G04

1. Introduce Chemical Safety Committee Members, Staff, and Guests
2. Approve Last Committee Meeting Minutes
3. Hazardous Waste Updates (Marty McCrone)
4. UNHCEMS Updates (Ken Brown)
   A. Biennial chemical inventory verification
   B. UNHCEMS software updates
5. Laboratory Safety Updates (Andy Glode)
   A. Laboratory Safety Renovation Projects
   B. Laboratory Safety Inspections
   C. Evaluation of 2,4-Dinitrophenol Inventory
   D. Laboratory Safety Plan Updates
6. New Business
7. Next Meeting (Date/Time)
8. Adjourn

The Chemical Safety Committee (CSC) was created to assure the safe acquisition, use and disposal of all hazardous chemicals at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). It is the responsibility of the CSC to establish appropriate health and safety policies in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and guidelines that cover chemical safety and evaluate research being conducted at UNH for chemical safety considerations.

For more information about the UNH Chemical Safety Committee, please visit http://www.unh.edu/research/chemical-safety-committee-0
1. Introduce CSC Members, Staff, and Guests

Cheryl Whistler called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM. Chemical Safety Committee (CSC) members were introduced. Eight of the twelve voting members were present. Therefore, the membership did constitute a quorum (>50%).

2. Approve Last Committee Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the last meeting, and it was accepted unanimously.

3. Hazardous Waste Updates
Member Glode provided hazardous waste updates for the committee on behalf of Marty McCrone. Marty has submitted annual paperwork to the State of NH for renewal of the hazardous waste transporter registration. He has also been working with Andy Glode on picking up unwanted 2,4-dinitrophenol from labs.

Marty has been working with Noel Carlson, other Coastal Marine Laboratory staff, and NOAA staff on management of chemical waste from the ship Ferdinand Hassler. The ship is not owned or operated by UNH, but its home port is at the Coastal Marine Lab, so there are gray areas about regulatory status of chemical waste that comes from the ship. Marty will continue to work with this group to determine regulatory status and UNH responsibilities.

Also, Marty is working with Andy Glode and others on plans to renovate the acid etch room in PCAC. Marty is taking the lead on evaluating waste generation so the new facilities are designed to efficiently manage waste streams generated in the room.

4. UNHCEMS Updates
   Ken Brown provided the following updates to the committee.

   A. Biennial chemical inventory evaluation

      The biennial chemical inventory verification is in progress. The chemical inventory has been verified in Gregg Hall and the team is currently working in Spaulding. Soon, two of the students will be leaving and two new students will start. This will slow efforts to verify inventory as the new students are trained.

      Ken will contact departments to schedule inventory scans. He will do his best to notify labs about when he will stop by, but it will be hard to predict how long it will take in each location.

   B. UNHCEMS software updates

      We are continuing to work on creating a training platform in CEMS so we can transition away from Blackboard. Blackboard is not meeting OEHS needs because it is only available to UNH users, and it is cumbersome since we have to track many more people than a normal academic course.

      Member Whistler asked if a PI will be able to track training requirements for lab staff and when the system is going to go live. Ken responded that will be possible for a PI to track training and we are hoping to have the system go live prior to the fall semester.

      Member Whistler asked if we can assign multiple levels of supervision in the system such as PI level and lab manager level. Ken responded that this would be possible.

5. Laboratory Safety Updates

   Member Glode provided the following updates to the committee.

   A. Laboratory Safety Renovation Projects
Member Glode is providing input on renovation projects initiated by findings during laboratory inspections and also those that are initiated by PIs and departments to improve research facilities. Some of the projects Andy is involved in include:
- Renovation of Morse 104 to house new analytical instrumentation;
- Installation of emergency eyewash and shower in James Hall 181 and G72;
- Installation of ventilation in a film developing area in Barton Hall;
- Renovation of Demeritt 217 to facilitate use of a excimer laser with fluorine gas;
- Installation of an air flow monitor in Parsons N148;
- Renovation of the acid etch room in PCAC; and
- Installation of an emergency eyewash and shower in the Research Greenhouse.

B. Laboratory Safety Inspections

Laboratory safety inspections have been performed most recently in Gregg Hall and PCAC. Buildings that will be inspected before the next meeting include Spaulding and Parsons.

C. Evaluation of 2,4-dinitrophenol inventory

Member Glode performed a search in CEMS for explosive materials and noticed several people owned old containers of 2,4-dinitrophenol. Information in MSDSs for these items was inconsistent, some had warnings of explosive properties of this compound, and others didn't. These owners were contacted owners and asked if they needed the chemical. All but one owner replied that they did not need the chemical, and agreed to dispose of it. This is a good example of the value of an accurate chemical inventory. Many of the owners did not know they had this chemical, and once they understood the hazards of the chemical, agreed to dispose of it.

Member Harris asked what would initiate an explosive reaction with this compound. Member Glode responded that Glen Miller had speculated a significant shock would be required such as violently dropping a bottle. Member Harris added that this chemical is similar to picric acid, 2,4,6-trinitrophenol, which must be handled by experts when dry.

D. Laboratory Safety Plan Updates

OEHS is hiring a third-party consultant to perform required updates to the UNH Laboratory Safety Plan. The initial review of the plan will occur over the summer. Edits to the plan will be presented to UNH Safety Committees in the fall. This update is necessary because the State of NH passed a law administered by the NH Department of Labor that requires all state entities to update safety plans at least every two years.

6. New Business

Member Glode invited Matt O'Keefe to discuss ideas for promoting energy conservation in laboratories. A recent article in a safety newsletter discussed a project at NC State where an intern visited unoccupied labs and closed fume hood sashes to save energy. Member Glode and Matt have discussed the possibility of performing a similar project at UNH.

Matt O'Keefe stated that large energy conservation projects have been recently completed in Rudman and Gregg Hall. These projects rely on alarms and sensors to notify users that fume
hood sashes are open. Buildings that may benefit from an effort to keep sashes closed are Kingsbury and Parsons Hall. If UNH decided to take on a project to remind labs to close sashes, what would faculty concerns be? How would an intern gain access to the lab?

Member Rohwer responded that faculty should be consulted at an upcoming faculty meeting about possible project ideas. Member Harris added that faculty would likely have significant concerns with someone coming into their lab and closing a sash.

Member Denis voiced concern over a notice posted on laboratory windows in Rudman. The notice described the new energy conservation alarms in Rudman. O'Keefe responded that he posted the notices and was not aware of restrictions against the postings, and he said they may be removed.

Member Harris requested that a new alarm is not added in Parsons until the current alarms work better. Member Kalnejais added that an educational effort aimed at promoting better hood sash management must be more cost effective than installing alarms. O'Keefe agreed and stated that as long as there is long-term follow-through, it could be very effective to train people with proper sash management.

7. **Next Meeting**

   The next meeting will be September 11, 2014 at 2:00 PM in Rudman G04.

8. **Adjourn**

   The committee meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.