

Science Safety Committee**Date:** 03.25.26**Time:** 9:00am -10:00am**Location:** BI104**Committee Chairs:** Michael DeSalvio
Minutes Prepared by: Lia Quintanilla

Topic	Speaker
Meeting called to order & Roll Call	Chair
Agenda Topics	Chair
Open Forum	Open Discussion

1. Roll Call

Committee Members
Michael DeSalvio
James Pelley
Alexis Solis
Saul Rodriguez
Lia Quintanilla
Pinthusorn Pattayakorn
Doug Smith
Jeremy Dosworth
Beth Jaworski
Benjamin Virzi
Claire Todd

2. Call meeting to order by:

Chair Michael DeSalvio called the meeting to order at 9:03am

3. Introductions and approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes:Approved Motion:Beth Jaworski Second:James Pelley Oppositions: none

Add Doug on the roster for last meeting Minutes

Committee meeting minutes were approved unanimously

4. Teams Channel

The Chair reminded committee members about the Science Committee Teams channels, which are used to share minutes, agendas, presentations, and other relevant resources. The channels also serve as a communication tool for updates and information regarding upcoming meetings.

Additionally, the Chair introduced the safety committee worksheet that has been distributed across all safety committees.

5. First Aid Kits

A walkthrough was conducted with Cintas to identify locations across Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Performing Arts, and Visual Arts for first aid kit installation. The plan is to install kits in monitored areas to ensure staff access while limiting student access. The kits will include various medical supplies, with Cintas responsible for restocking. Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) will cover the initial installation costs, while individual departments will be billed for future replenishments. The committee also noted that additional locations may be considered for installation. A member suggested equipping department vehicles, particularly in Geology and Biology, with smaller first aid kits, recommending compact box-style kits for this purpose.

6. Chemical Inventory

From a regulatory perspective, chemical inventory has been identified as an area of exposure. With CSU Buy, all chemical purchases will now require individuals to create and maintain an inventory. Support will be provided by walking through labs, assisting with conducting inventory, and guiding departments on how to maintain it moving forward. Additionally, the team is in the process of acquiring a scanner to make the inventory process more efficient.

7. Chemical Purchases

CSU Buy is expected to streamline processes once fully implemented; however, pre-approvals are no longer permitted under the P2P system. The Chair expressed concern that some purchases may be delayed and advised that if an order is urgent or not progressing, members should contact the chair directly for assistance with expediting chemical purchases. A member also noted issues with purchasing items from Fisher, and the Chair requested to be informed if this problem continues. Additionally, the Chancellor's Office has granted the Fire Marshal access to the chemical inventory, and they have begun reviewing it and raising questions on certain items.

8. Research Safety Program

A new program has been developed in the form of written documents for areas such as radiation, biosafety, laser safety, and research. These documents are designed to be visually appealing and provide a clear roadmap outlining what success looks like. The goal is to support users by offering clear instructions, guidance, and a practical toolkit to help them navigate requirements effectively.

9. Fume Hood Updates

Regarding fume hoods, a roadblock was identified due to several units being out of service, with limited guidance on how to bring them back into compliance. Ben is currently working on a solution to address these issues. At present, there is one maintenance issue and two storage-related issues affecting the fume hoods. Once all units are restored to compliance, efforts will be made to maintain them properly to prevent similar challenges in the future. The Chair also requested feedback on the fume hoods.

10. Lab Inspection Roll Out

The Lab Inspection Rollout will begin soon, with the EHS Research Officer planning to release the inspection schedule. Inspections will be split, with half conducted now and the remaining half in the fall. Principal Investigators (PIs) are expected to be present during the inspections, and the EHS Research Officer will follow up afterward to address and close out any identified items. The Chair noted that faculty have not always been present during past inspections and emphasized the importance of their participation, encouraging involvement to support collaboration with EHS in achieving compliance. EHS Research Officer will contact departments to schedule and coordinate inspections, and he noted that there will be a focus on Research Safety Services (RSS), particularly ensuring that all hazard assessments are completed.

11. Recent Laboratory Incidents

The EHS Research Officer reported a recent lab incident in the Chemical Sciences building in which a student sustained burns after holding a hot test tube and was treated at the Student Health Center. Another incident involved a student being bitten by an aggressive rat, resulting in minor bleeding; the student was reported to be okay. The Chair emphasized the importance of identifying the root cause of all incidents to help prevent future occurrences, noting that these investigations are not intended to assign fault but to improve safety and prevent recurrence.

12. Biosafety

For biosafety, EHS Research Officer provided an update on protocol reviews, noting that four protocols were submitted and three have been approved. Additionally, sharps containers in the Health Center have been replaced with a new product after the previous supplier discontinued them, and all new containers have now been installed. The team has also been working with Dr. Mallary to set up a designated room to support biosafety needs.

13. Radiation Safety

A three-day training was conducted covering Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) and Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. The EHS Research Officer has been undergoing training and is a candidate for the RSO role on campus. A recent

inspection was completed and overall went well. Additionally, protocol reviews were conducted for biology and EHS, with a focus on maintaining proper control of sources.

14. Hazardous Waste Pickups

Palm Desert Campus: Semiannual

June 8th

December 18th

San Bernardino Campus: Quarterly

March - 24th and 25th

June 25th

September – 23rd and 24th

December - 21st and 22nd

Regarding hazardous waste pickup, it was noted that a biannual report and the County Business Plan for hazardous waste, required by the Fire Department, were both completed in February. The campus has been averaging approximately 15,000 pounds of hazardous waste per year. If additional waste pickups are needed throughout the year, departments are encouraged to notify EHS.

15. Open Forum

The EHS Research Officer noted that the County Fire Department will be on campus Friday, so Ben may be seen conducting inspections. The Palm Desert visit is scheduled for the following Friday, April 3. Additionally, a medical waste inspector may be on campus within the next month.

Regarding Job Safety Analyses (JSAs), a question was raised about the appropriate review timeframe. The Chair advised that JSAs should be reviewed annually and explained that they function similarly to a position description, helping to identify and analyze the hazards associated with a role.

A member shared that they appreciate these meetings and expressed that they feel like a strong partnership between EHS and the various departments. The meetings help support collaboration and ensure job safety across the organization.

16. Adjournments

No additional items were brought to the committee, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 am by Michael DeSalvio.