

### Science Safety Committee

**Date:** 04.09.2025

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** BI -104

**Committee Chairs:** Michael DeSalvio

**Committee Members:** Jeremy Dodsworth, James Pelley, Douglas Smith, Guillermo Escalante, Ken Shultz, David Maynard, Jason Burke, Christina Hassija, Cynthia Crawford, Beth Jaworski, Clair Todd, Bo Xu, Mahmood Nikbakhtzadeh, Pinthusorn Pattayakorn, Sastry Pantula, Susan Henriquez, Terezie Tolar Peterson, Thomas Benson, Michael Gillespie.

**Minutes Prepared by:** Lia Quintanilla

Topic	Speaker
Meeting called to order & Roll Call	Chair
Lab Safety Week Recap	Chair
Compliances & Inspections	Open Discussion
Supervisor's Incident Report	Open Discussion
Open Forum	Open Discussion

#### 1. Roll Call

Committee Members
Michael DeSalvio
James Pelley
Alexis Solis
Doug Smith
Ken Shultz
Jeremy Dodsworth
Michael Gillespie
Guillermo Escalante

## 2. Call meeting to order by:

Chair Michael DeSalvio called the meeting to order at 9:07AM

## 3. Introductions and approval of Meeting Minutes

*Minutes:* Approved    *Motion:* Ken Shultz    *Second:* Jeremy Dodsworth    *Oppositions:* None

## 4. Teams Channel

Chair reminded committee members about the Science Committee team channels, where they post minutes, agendas, presentations, and all relevant resources and documents for discussion topics. The channels are also used for communication about upcoming meetings.

## 5. Lab Safety Week Recap

Chair recapped Lab Safety Week, which took place in February, highlighting the various events and training sessions that were held during the week.

Michael asked for feedback, and James Pelley suggested making it an annual event due to its success. Alexis Solis expressed interest in having fire extinguisher training next year. Michael confirmed that the first fire extinguisher training would take place later this month and would be available in the future. Guillermo Escalante suggested holding a fire extinguisher training on April 25th from 10 AM to 12:30 PM, coinciding with Science Carnival Week, when 300 high school students would be on campus. Michael responded that he would check on the availability of fire extinguishers and follow up. Lastly, Michael invited the committee to reach out to the EHS department for any demos or support.

## 6. Fume Hood Compliance

Michael mentioned that the EHS department has been and will continue conducting fume hood inspections for those with fume hoods in their workstations. He expressed interest in using a laser system that creates colored smoke, which would assist in the inspection process and improve record-keeping. Michael also reported that the campus has 82 fume hoods in total, with 20 out of compliance. Of those, 3 have excessive clutter or large items, while 17 have mechanical issues.

## **7. Hazard Assessment Compliance**

Michael mentioned that the hazard assessments are progressing well, with 89 assessments completed, of which only 10 are past due, and 5 have no hazards identified. He explained that everyone working in a lab must define and complete a hazard assessment. Based on the assessment answers, individuals will receive a PPE recommendation and a list of hazards they need to be aware of in their workplace. This same list must also be shared with students to ensure they are aware of the hazards as well.

## **8. Lab Inspection: Top 5 Finds**

Michael discussed the top 5 findings from recent lab inspections with the committee. He emphasized that the team is working on ways to address these issues and focus on practical solutions. He expressed a desire to ensure that labels are provided during inspections and that the team becomes more proactive in offering directions and solutions immediately when issues are identified.

## **9. Laser Use Authorization**

Michael mentioned that the campus has been receiving many requests for laser use. He noted that the department has laser use authorization, which includes important information and resources for individuals who wish to use lasers.

## **10. Supervisors' Incident Report**

Michael introduced the new system for supervisors' incident reporting. Supervisors are now required to report injuries through RSS. When an employee reports an injury, the system notifies the EHS department, the workers' compensation manager, and the supervisor. It also alerts supervisors to conduct an investigation into the injury after the report is filed. The platform generates action items to assess how to prevent similar injuries in the future.

## **11. Open Forum**

- Committee members discussed trip hazards on campus and emphasized the importance of reporting them when spotted. Various solutions to address these hazards were mentioned, including grinding pavement or using a jackhammer to cut tree roots and repair the pavement. The EHS department, along with Facilities, conducted a walk-through of the campus and spray-painted areas that need fixing. A comprehensive list of these areas exists, but members were encouraged to report any unmarked trip hazards they encounter. The

committee also proposed sending a campus-wide hazard reporting email to increase involvement in identifying and reporting these issues. Additionally, the idea of using the CSUSB mobile app for reporting hazardous areas was suggested, as students can drop pins and submit photos, making it a resourceful tool for the community.

- The committee discussed the issue of reporting aggressive wildlife on campus, citing incidents involving aggressive hawks and squirrels. It was advised that the Facilities Department contacts the appropriate specialists to handle these situations. The committee also highlighted that the use of drones on campus might trigger wildlife, so it was recommended that drone regulations be implemented whenever drone authorization is requested to ensure they do not disturb or harm wildlife.
- Michael Gillespie announced that the Radiation Safety Committee will be transferred to the EHS department for management. Michael DeSalvio mentioned that a Radiation Officer has been appointed to assist with this transition and support related tasks.
- A conversation took place among committee members regarding export control and research compliance.
- Committee members raised the issue that student lab training is no longer available. The chair explained that CSU discontinued Learning Bridge. However, he has created modules on Canvas for the Kinesiology and Nursing departments. He hopes to develop additional modules, including one for lab safety for students, as there is already one for employees. This would relieve faculty from covering the basics repeatedly, and students would be able to take quizzes, assessments, and upload their certificates on Canvas.

## **12. Adjournment**

No additional items were brought to the committee, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 by Michael DeSalvio