

A Laboratory Safety Newsletter

A publication by Environmental Health and Safety and the Laboratory Safety Committee

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www.bu.edu/orc

BUMC- (617) 638-8830 • CRC- (617) 353-4094

Lab Safe is a quarterly newsletter written and distributed by Environmental Health and Safety and the Laboratory Safety Committee.

Laboratory Safety Coordinators: Passing the Torch

Winter is over and the semester is winding down. You need to prepare for those leaving the lab, especially if it is the L.S.C., and those about to join in the upcoming months.

Thanks to the Laboratory Safety Coordinator Program, Environmental Health and Safety has seen great improvements in creating a positive relationship with the laboratories, improving inspection results, and increasing our safety culture here at Boston University. During any change of duties we can prepare to keep these relationships current and up to speed if we take the proper steps.

- Talk with your Principal Investigator to find a replacement L.S.C. that demonstrates responsibility as well as a willingness to assist the lab with needs regarding safety.
- Introduce them to your EHS Research Safety Specialist!
- Updated information may be needed for your door placards and emergency contact information for the laboratory.

- The Lab Safety Coordinator information should be updated on RIMS www.bu.edu/rims.
- Will this affect your IBC/IACUC protocols? Make the appropriate amendments.

Will members of your lab be leaving?

- Members that are leaving should be removed from the applicable protocols, such as IBC and IACUC.
- Members should also be removed from the RIMS system.

Are you anticipating new members?

- EHS has create a Lab Safety Coordinator Tool Box which will give a checklist with items your new members need to accomplish before they can start research in the lab. Check www.bu.edu/ehs
- You or your PI add them to www.bu.edu/rims and any protocols and permits IBC, IACUC, Controlled Substance.

If you are having trouble at any point contact the EHS Research Safety Specialist assigned to your lab (names on the door placards!). **They will be happy to assist your lab!** **LS**

Laboratory Safety Coordinator Toolkit Now Live

The Boston University Laboratory Safety Coordinator (LSC) Program was initiated in Fall 2010. The primary goals of the program are to increase awareness, communication, and collaboration between the research community and the research safety team, and to ultimately promote a culture of safety and trust at Boston University.

This toolkit is meant to provide quick access to information, guidance, and helpful tips for Laboratory Safety Coordinators (LSCs). The program, website, and many tools offered on the website rely heavily on communication and aim to constantly improve our programs, so check back often to see what has been added! Take a look below at the type of information found on the website; www.bu.edu/ehs/lsc-toolkit.

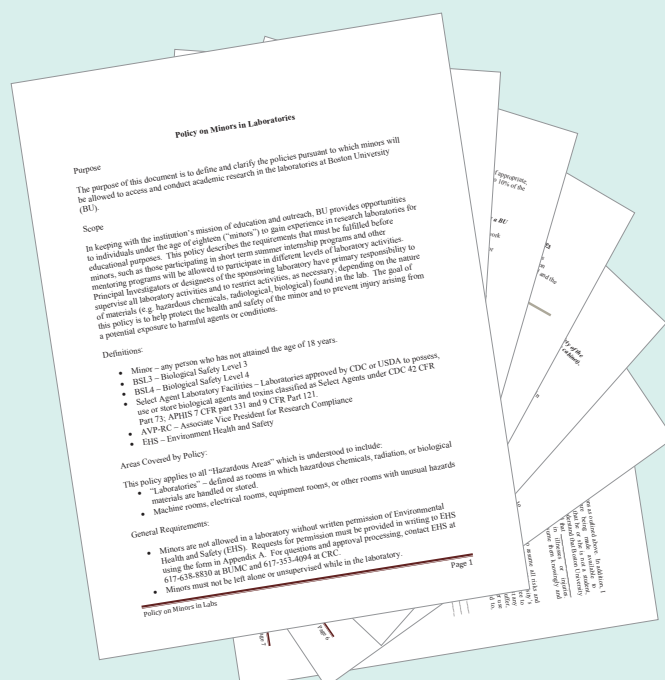
- Role & Responsibilities
- Log Book Management
- New Lab Personnel
- Lab Training Resources
- Learning from the Past
- Featured Lab
- Updates
- LSC Meeting Archive
- Directory
- LSC Suggestion Box



If you have questions or suggestions about the toolkit contact your Research Safety Specialist. **LS**

Taking on Summer Students

- View policy at www.bu.edu/ehs
- Click on programs, scroll down to research safety, and click on standard operating procedures.
- The visitor policy informs you of all the requirements and necessary documentation for minors in laboratories. For more information contact your Research Safety Specialist. www.bu.edu/ehs/programs/laboratory-safety/sops/



Eye Protection

Safety glasses look very much like normal glasses but have lenses that are impact resistant and frames that are stronger than standard streetwear glasses. Safety glasses with proper impact and shatter resistance meet the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) "Z87" standard. Safety glasses in compliance with the standard are marked "Z87" on the frame or lens. Safety glasses must have side shields and should be worn whenever there is the possibility of objects striking the eye, such as particles, glass, or metal shards. Many potential eye injuries have been avoided by wearing safety glasses.

Standard streetwear eyeglasses fitted with side shields do not meet the ANSI "Z87" standard and are therefore not sufficient. Safety glasses come in a variety of styles to provide the best fit and comfort, including some designed to fit over prescription glasses. Should you need assistance selecting adequate safety glasses contact your Research Safety Specialist.

Safety glasses may be adequate when the potential splash is minimal, such as when opening endpordorf tubes.

On the other hand ,safety glasses do not provide adequate protection from significant chemical splashes. They do not seal to the face, resulting in gaps at the top, bottom and sides, where chemicals may seep through.

So, **Chemical Splash Goggles** should be worn when there is potential for splash from a hazardous material. Like safety glasses,

goggles are impact resistant. Chemical splash goggles should have indirect ventilation so hazardous substances cannot drain into the eye area. Some may be worn over prescription glasses.

Goggles come in a variety of styles for maximum comfort and splash protection. Visorgogs are a hybrid of a goggle and safety glasses. They offer more splash protection than safety glasses, but not as much as goggles. They fit close to the face, but do not seal at the bottom as goggles do.

Face shields are in order when working with large volumes of hazardous materials, either for protection from splash to the face or flying particles. Face shields must be used in conjunction with safety glasses or goggles. **LS**



Summer is here! And the weather is warmer!

Summer weather always brings a more relaxed atmosphere. The dress is looser, and the mind-set less serious. Do not let this influence your culture of SAFETY.

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) recommends a few best practice guidelines regarding dress to follow this Summer.

Here are a few guidelines to follow:

Do you like to wear:

- Tank Tops or Short Sleeves Shirts
- **Wear a lab coat, gown or uniform**
- Shorts, Skirts or Dresses
- **Wear a lab coat, gown, or long pants**
- Sandals, Open toed shoes, Crocs (perforated), or FLIP FLOPS
- **Wear closed toe shoes made of sturdy material to protect the foot**

Feel free to leave a pair of shoes or long pants in your office/laboratory for use in the lab. If you have questions contact your laboratory's assigned Research Safety Specialist or Environmental Health & Safety. **LS**

Training Corner (Summer 2011)

Lab Safety Training:

Tue, 6/7/2011 . . . 10:30am-12noon . . . CRC, BRB-113
Wed, 6/8/2011 . . . 9:30am-11am . . BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Wed, 6/22/2011 . . 1:30-3pm BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Tue, 6/28/2011 . . 10:30am-12noon . . . CRC, BRB-113
Thur, 7/6/2011 . . 10:30am-12noon . . . CRC, BRB-113
Thur, 7/14/2011 . . 9:30am-11am . . BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Tue, 7/26/2011 . . 1:30-3pm BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Thur, 7/28/2011 . . 10:30am-12noon . . . CRC, BRB-113
Tue, 8/9/2011 . . . 10:30am-12noon . . . CRCBRB-113
Wed, 8/10/2011 . . 9:30am-11am . . BUMC, Keefer Aud.
Thur, 8/18/2011 . . 10:30am-12noonCRCHO-901
Thur, 8/25/2011 . . 1:30-3pm BUMC, Keefer Aud.

Biological Shipping Training:

Thu, 6/9/2011 . . . 9:30am-12:00pm
Tue, 7/12/2011 . . 9:30am-12:00pm
Thu, 8/11/2011 . . 9:30am-12:00pm

All occur on the BUMC at the Houseman (R-Bldg), Room R-108

Questions, call BUMC EHS, 617.638.8830; and Charles River Campus, (CRC) EHS 617-353.4094

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