ACC Science Safety Committee
Minutes from the meeting of April 25, 2008

Attending: Debbie Sackett; Bob Blodgett, Physical Sciences Safety Coordinator; Sarah Strong, Biology Safety Coordinator; Alice Sessions, Biology Department Chair; Paul Nacozy, Physical Sciences Safety Coordinator-in-Training; Charles Freeman, Lab Technician.

1. Notification Issues

   a. The water supply to safety showers at CYP were turned off after it was found that only the hot water supply to the showers was working.

   b. Two problems were associated with a gas leak that was reported in RVSA 2223 by an evening chemistry instructor.

      1) The instructor did not fill out an incident form. She did report the problem to the campus administrative office (evening supervisor), who left a message for the day staff, who told a biology lab technician to tell the biology safety coordinator about the problem.

      2) Someone from the RVS campus administrative office put a sign on the classroom door stating that the gas had been turned off in the room and that classes the next day would be scheduled in a different room. However, the next day the biology lab technician found that the gas had not been turned off and that no effort had been made to move the classes into another room.

2. Shared Rooms

   The committee briefly discussed designating one of the science lab coordinators at each campus to be responsible for shared rooms, but decided that problems relating to shared rooms are not usually caused by this situation.

3. Lab Coordinators

   The committee discussed the need for more lab coordinators due to the increased number of labs at new or renovated campuses:

   CYP has only one lab coordinator for all Biology, Chemistry and Physical Sciences labs
   SAC has only one lab coordinator for all Biology and Chemistry labs
   PIN has only one lab coordinator for all Biology and Chemistry labs

   The Dean should include funding for new lab coordinators in his next budget request.
4. Lab Self Inspections

a. It was difficult to finalize the document because we were working with different versions.

b. edits

#8 – omit cap statement

#16 - The committee discussed the requirement for corrosives to be stored less than 4 feet from the floor; we do not know the source of that requirement. We decided to change the requirement to “within 5 feet of the floor”

#20 – In the third bullet, change “2 gallons (or 8 liters)” to “5 gallons (or 20 liters)”.  

#21 – Delete “Is the annual inspection up to date”. Change to “Are all cabinets in good condition? If cabinet has vent fan is it working?”

#24 – Add “Are all canisters of flammable gas stored in areas that are adequately ventilated and away from electrical sparks?”

#27 - Ken Hoffmann sent samples (NOTICE, DO NOT DUMP CHEMICALS DOWN THIS DRAIN) to Debbie; they are large but that makes them more visible. We will install them in the sink basins. Debbie has requested 250.

#30 – signs:

4. The seizure posters were sent to lab technicians but have not been posted; we will try to find out who Susan Dudley sent them to.

add a number 6. Satellite Waste Accumulation Area

add a number 7. NFPA signs on all chemical storage cabinets containing 5 gallons (or 20 liters) or more of a hazardous chemical and on any door leading into an area where significant quantities of chemicals are used or stored.

c. timing – We will do the lab self inspection annually in late January or early February (by 2/15) so that problems can be included in the next year’s budget requests.
5. Sulfur at CYP

The source of a sulfur smell at CYP has not been discovered. It could have been sewer gas from a floor or sink drain. The committee recommended that all drains have water added periodically to fill the traps.

6. Summer HazCom Training

Thursday May 22: Ken Hoffman 6 to 7 pm in HBC 301.0
Department-specific training 7 to 9 pm: Biology in 301.2, Chemistry in 301.7, Geology in 301.0

7. Field Trip Passenger Manifest

The form works well and should be used on trips that are not “local”. The use of the form will be optional in Physical Sciences.

8. Travel Rule and Procedures

Bob has split the former proposal into a rule and procedures and has sent it on to Paul Williams. Paul will forward it to David Fonken.

9. PPE

We will send our suggestions to Ken again on a tracking changes document.

10. Eyewear in Physics

Protective safety eyewear must be used in all physics projectile activities.

11. Next Meeting

The date will be determined later. Topics include new questions for the HazCom online quiz, the OSD statement, field first aid training, and revisions to hourly work-study training.