OP 60.17: Chemical Hygiene Plan

DATE: October 9, 2012

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Operating Policy/Procedure (OP) is to implement the Texas Tech University (TTU) chemical hygiene plan as directive guidance for all TTU laboratories.

REVIEW: This OP will be reviewed in September of even-numbered years by the managing director of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) with recommended revisions forwarded through the associate vice president for research to the assistant vice president and controller and then to vice president for administration & finance and chief financial officer and the provost and senior vice president.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

1. Scope

The provisions of the chemical hygiene plan shall apply to all TTU laboratories where chemicals are used, stored, or handled.

2. Intent

The intent of this OP is to:

a. Comply with the provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's standard for occupational exposure in laboratories;

b. Establish other laboratory safety guidelines regarded as essential to a minimum safe program by nationally recognized organizations such as the American Chemical Society, National Research Council, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, and others; and

c. Provide the safest laboratory workplace that can reasonably be achieved.

3. Responsibilities

a. EH&S will provide a university chemical hygiene officer (UCHO) who will monitor all departments for compliance with the chemical hygiene plan, perform all required personal exposure monitoring, and offer guidance and suggestions concerning actions necessary to gain compliance status.

b. Each department having laboratories where chemicals are used, stored, or handled will identify a departmental chemical hygiene officer (DCHO), in writing, to EH&S.
c. Each DCHO will act as the point of contact within the department for the UCHO.