

Texas Tech University Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Safety Committee Meeting

27 April 2012

Members Attending:

Eileen Judkins, Paul Paré, Dominick Casadonte, Amanda Boston, Justo Adame, Sunil Paladugu, Geneva Peterson, Edward Lee, Cole Seifert

Absent: Rachel Behrens, David Birney, Yunli Hu, Jared Martin, Brandon Mount (EH&S), Lian-Jie Xue, Jon Thompson, Bruce Whittlesey

The meeting was begun at 13:02

Minutes for the previous meeting on 30 March were approved, with Amanda Boston retracting her statement about abbreviated safety inspections in the spring.

1. Announcements/Discussion

- a. There are now two finalists for the position of Director of EH&S. One of the finalists, Dr. David Breeding, will visit campus April 30-May 2, and a town hall meeting will be held with him on Monday, April 30 from 2:00-3:00 PM in room 153 of the TLPDC.
- b. Another deal on solvent vent caps must be waited for. Also, we are still looking for funding for the new chairs.
- c. Proper procedures for the frequency and rigor of lab inspections were again discussed. The decision was made to make full inspections once every semester.

2. Chemical Hygiene Plan

- a. Dom Casadonte converted the Chemical Hygiene Plan from a PDF file to a word document, to better facilitate updating the document.
- b. It has been noted that physical hazards must be included in the Chemical Hygiene Plan
- c. A sub-committee has been formed to direct the update of the Chemical Hygiene Plan. Members include: Dom Casadonte, Amanda Boston, and Edward Lee.

3. Make Up of Peer Safety Committees

- a. For the most part, the current make up will remain the same. In the organic division, it was decided that the lab's safety captains and Venkatesh will walk the organic labs and check for proper safety conditions.

- b. For Dr. Li's labs, Justo Adame will participate in the walk-through.
- c. The possibility of Faculty Participating in the walk-through is discussed, with the decision that Faculty participation could be highly beneficial and is therefore recommended.

4. Training for Safety Captains

- a. Safety captains are now STRONGLY recommended to attend both fall and spring inspections of their labs
- b. The possibility of requiring the safety captains to attend the TA training was discussed.
- c. Possibility of mandatory safety class for all 1st year graduate students was also discussed.

5. Summer Meetings and Committee Changeover

- a. Possibility of an associate chair to the committee is discussed (David Birney?)
- b. Meeting every two weeks will continue over the summer
- c. Current graduate student and faculty committee members will look for new members to take their place on the committee by fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:58