

Fall Term 2014 Safety Memorandum

Name Change

The *Departmental Safety Committee* name has been changed to *Departmental Safety Advisory Group* in order to better reflect the role of the group, especially as defined by OSHA. The function of the group within the Department of Chemistry will remain the same.

New Standard Wording for Chemistry Teaching Laboratories

The previously-used wording adapted for teaching laboratory attire contained some ambiguity regarding what constitutes acceptable laboratory attire. To alleviate this, the older wording:

"...clothing covers body from shoulders to ankles, closed toed shoes, no short pants or short skirts..."

Has been superseded by the following text:

"All students must wear closed shoes and be dressed such that there is absolutely no exposed skin below the waist. Students should consult the instructor of record if they have any questions about meeting the standards for attire."

All chemistry teaching faculty members are asked to include this wording in syllabuses for wet chemistry laboratory courses and to ensure their students comply with these requirements. If instructors wish to impose additional attire requirements these should also be made clear in the syllabus.

Note that clothing above the waist is not mentioned since it is assumed all students in teaching laboratories will wear laboratory coats (and, of course, goggles and any other necessary PPE).

Chemical Safety Seminar Class for First-Year Graduate Students (CH607)

First-year graduate students are reminded to register for CH 607, *Chemical Safety Seminar* (Section 010, CRN 33363) for the upcoming winter term. The class will meet once a week during Monday lunchtimes (12:00 – 12:50) and begins on January 5, 2015.

Reminder: Chemical Inventory and Proper Chemical Storage/Labeling

Please note that all laboratories are required to maintain an accurate online chemical inventory and to ensure that chemicals are properly labeled and stored. The online chemical inventory system has been improved and now includes the following features:

- ONID logins
- Sharing of records within the department

- View “used chemical exchange” items
- Includes Hazardous Materials Identification System (HMIS) numbers
- Generation of reports (*e.g.*, chemicals by hazard class)
- Printing of labels (including bar codes and HMIS data)

Please take this opportunity to your inventories are fully updated. Chemical labeling and storage was covered in detail in the Fall 2013 safety memorandum (available via the Department of Chemistry website). The main points are as follows (note that most commercial supplier labels satisfy labeling requirements):

- Labels must include accepted chemical names and not just acronyms or structures
- Labels must include hazard information (HMIS or NFPA system)
- Store chemicals in appropriately sized screw capped containers
- Store chemicals according to hazard class, provide secondary containment underneath
- Waste containers must be clearly labeled as such and must remain capped except when new waste is being added; request waste pickups by EH&S as soon as needed

http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/sites/default/files/pdf/si/chemical_storage_guidelines_si030.pdf

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/waste>

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/sites/default/files/pdf/hwlabel.pdf>