



Robert C. Byrd
Health Sciences Center Safety Committee
Meeting Notes
Thursday, April 28, 2011
1:30pm-2:30pm

Present:

Stephanie Graham-Sims	Kim Bryner	Serena Straight	Nina Clovis
Smitha Brown	Frank Ali	Susan Clacko	Teresa Fisher
Brenda Moran	Lt. White		

Absent:

Carrie Smith-Bell	Tom Hussion	Debbie Piktel
Andy Cockburn	Dan Vagird	Barbara Foster
Grove Pennington	Dianne DeAngelis	Cindy Dalton
Lana Bunner	Amanda Ammer	Rena Bouchal
Patrick Callery	Jeff Kerns	Brad Fansler
Mike Cain		

I. Welcome:

- Stephanie Graham-Sims –
- During a recent Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting the Monongalia County Health Department informed the community that at some point during May – June (exact date is un-disclosed) there will be military nuclear waste being transported through north central West Virginia. They have developed response plans in the event of an incident involving radioactive materials.
- On April 20, 2011 the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection at West Virginia University. It is anticipated that the DEP will come back to WVU within the next 3-5 months and inspect the Health Science Center laboratories for compliance. The two areas that the WVDEP focused on were Engineering, on

the Evansdale Campus and Chemistry (Clark Hall and Chemistry Research Laboratory) on the downtown campus. The focus of the inspection was on hazardous waste management. Specific issues addressed by the WVDEP included the following:

- container management (labeling, closed containers, dates of accumulation, condition of container waste compatibility)
 - waste determinations
 - spill response (spill kits, eye wash, safety showers, material safety data sheets)
 - employee training
 - contingency plan
 - generator status
 - P-waste management
 - used oil and universal wastes
 - manifest requirements and land disposal certification
 - material storage
 - inventory control
 - spill response (emergency contact information)
 - chemical hoods and NFPA 704 door postings
- On April 27, 2011 and May 3, 2011 the WVDEP returned to review paperwork associated with hazardous waste management. Paperwork reviewed included the following: manifests, land disposal records, training records (EHS Staff, CHO's, PI's and students), waste determinations, contingency plans, universal waste recycling records, weekly inspection logs, used oil disposal records, high hazard waste disposal records, Chemical Hygiene Plans, generator status notifications and incident reports.
 - Violations and concerns noted during the inspection included the following: overhead storage of chemicals, food in laboratories, waste stored in incompatible containers, chemicals stored in alphabetical order not by hazard class, leaking containers, open containers (waste and materials), expired chemicals (main concern is peroxide formers), stock not rotated (some old stock was found with dates as far back as 1988 but new materials had been purchased), materials not stored or handled in a "product like manner",

unlabeled radiation source, container labels not legible or missing, flammables not stored properly, empty containers of P-Wastes not managed properly, small hazardous material and waste spill not cleaned up, waste being evaporated under a hood, aerosol cans not handled as hazardous waste, containers not labeled with the a description of the waste and bottles of product with crystals growing out from under the closure.

- **The WVDEP indicated during the post-inspection meeting that they would be back to inspect the Health Sciences Center,** used oil collections points and universal waste management. Also, the WVDEP indicated that there would most likely be a fine assessed as a result of the inspection.
- In response to the inspections on campus, WVU HSC has issued a memo from Dr. Butcher to Deans expressing the continuous need for vigilance and attention to compliance. In addition, mandatory Chemical Hygiene Officer training sessions were offered to provide inspection information and updates. Departments are encouraged to contact the HSC Safety Office with any questions regarding hazardous materials compliance and laboratory safety.
- Recycling – Recyclable materials have been recycled successfully since February. Materials Include: cans, paper, plastic, and cardboard. Also, the monthly collection of recycle batteries has been successful and will continue. Recycling bins are located near the service elevators on HSC south, and near the elevators on HSC North. Existing recycling bins located near the food service areas will remain in their current location.
- Facility Management shops will be moving to the former laundry facility area on the basement floor of HSC South and Radiation Safety will also be moving. All of the moves should take place in June.
- Construction on the traffic light at the entrances of area 81 will begin soon and is projected to be completed in August, 2011. The project will add a traffic light to the south entrance and make the north entrance left turn only and widen both entrances.

Nina Clovis

- Since the DEP inspection began Orthopedics has been reviewing all of their laboratory chemicals for proper labeling and storage requirements. They have also properly disposed of portable X-Ray units that are no longer used as well as other outdated equipment.

Frank Ali

- OLAR recently visiting other research institutes to benchmark and review their facilities and operations in preparing for the new facility.

Lt. White

- Public Safety authorities are concerned by a trend that has previously caused deaths or serious injury, people smoking or inhaling bath salts to get high. “They snort, ingest, smoke and inject the salts. The effects are similar to the high of methamphetamine. Some of the side effects of taking the drug include hallucinations, rapid heart rate, anxiety, and convulsions. And these bath salts are legal. People can purchase the product at truck stops, head shops and convenience stores. There are many names for bath salts since this is such a new trend. Some of the names include: ivory wave, white ivory, star dust, and ocean burst.” Please inform your family, friend, and coworkers about the dangers of this new trend.

Teresa Fisher & Susan Clacko

- Radiation Safety is communication with various groups relating to the potential Nuclear Pharmacy to be located in the HSC.

The next Health Sciences Center Safety Committee Meeting will be Thursday, September 29th, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. to 2:30pm in the Biomedical Facility 2nd floor Conference Room.

Have a wonderful and SAFE summer!