August 3, 2012

RE:  Laboratory Safety

In conjunction with the campuses, UCOP Risk Services is working to develop improvements in laboratory safety. A key component of this initiative involves sharing information and keeping stakeholders engaged and informed as things develop.

To accomplish that, UCOP Risk Services is hosting and moderating the UC Laboratory Safety SharePoint site. It is the single repository for information and materials related to laboratory safety within the University of California. University employees with a UC email account have access to the site, may download material, and participate on the discussion boards. This site will be regularly updated with new information and documents as they become available.

While the Sharepoint site is new, we have been hard at work populating it with relevant information including a training webinar, reference material and other documents.

The home page spotlights a recent webcast presented, “Lab Accidents In the News”, which featured a panel of researchers, safety professionals and attorneys from major institutions discussing the impact of such accidents.

There is also a link to an on-line searchable version of the National Academy of Science publication “Prudent Practices in the Laboratory”. “Prudent Practices”, updated in 2011, is considered the pre-eminent guide to the management of chemical hazards and laboratory safety.

Also posted are the documents reviewed during the systemwide Laboratory Safety stakeholders meeting held at UCOP on Friday July 27, 2012. Included is an executed copy of the settlement agreement related to the December 2008 accident, new safety policies and a UC’s detailed plans for laboratory self-assessment and peer reviews.

If you have any questions regarding the content of the Sharepoint site, please contact UCOP EHS Director Erike Young: 510.987.0170 erike.young@ucop.edu.

To access SharePoint, click on the applicable link below and use your campus/location ID and Password to login.

UCOP users:  https://sp.ucop.edu/sites/risk/ehs/systemwidewg/biosafety/Default.aspx

Locations other than UCOP:  https://spssso.ucop.edu/sites/risk/ehs/systemwidewg/biosafety/Default.aspx
Once you access the site, please bookmark the page for easier access.

If you have problems accessing SharePoint, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Archuleta: jarchuleta@ucmerced.edu 209.228.4751.

I encourage you to share this information with your campus and thank you for your support as we work together to make the University of California the recognized leader in laboratory safety.

Grace Crickette
Chief Risk Officer