### **Chantene Zichterman-Delgado**

From: laboratory-safety-request@lists.uchicago.edu on behalf of Office of Research Safety

<researchsafety@uchicago.edu>

**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2022 4:02 PM **To:** 'laboratory-safety@lists.uchicago.edu'

**Subject:** [Laboratory-Safety] SAFELab Newsletter



# **SAFELab Newsletter**

(Safety Advisory Forum for Experimental Laboratories)



Spring Qtr 2022

# **Contents:**

UChicago Forward
Research Safety Undates

Research Safety Updates
Chemical Safety Blog

Biological Safety Blog

Radiation/Laser Safety Blog

**Around Campus** 

Just for Fun

**Related Links** 

Contact



### **Upholding Public Health Requirements**

Use the <u>UCAIR online form</u> to anonymously report concerns about compliance with COVID-19 health requirements.

### **University of Chicago Accident and Incident Reporting (UCAIR)**



<u>UCAIR</u> provides a user-friendly mechanism for reporting work-related accidents and incidents to <u>EHS</u> and <u>ORS</u>. For more information about UCAIR, visit the <u>FAQs page</u>. We also encourage the reporting of unsafe conditions observed on campus.

Please remember to first call 123 (on-campus phone) or 773.702.8181 (off-campus phone) for accidents requiring emergency response to ensure the appropriate emergency response personnel are notified.

Involved individuals, supervisors, affected persons, or witnesses can submit reports. Anonymous reporting is available for events that do not require medical treatment.

For more information about **current COVID-19 public health guidelines**, please visit the <u>UChicago Forward website</u>.

# Research Safety Training









To satisfy social distancing efforts, all training for the following are accessible online either via live Zoom training or a webinar. Click <a href="here">here</a> to sign up.

- Radiation Safety
- Chemical Hygiene Plan (Lab Safety)
- Comprehensive Biosafety
- IATA Shipping Dangerous Goods

Please note, a valid CNET ID is required to access the EHSA training sites. Please contact the <u>EHSA administrator</u> with any related questions or to request access.

### Training Module in Environmental Health & Safety Assistant (EHSA)

- To access online training modules: <a href="https://ehsa.uchicago.edu/training">https://ehsa.uchicago.edu/training</a>
- To register for live training sessions: <a href="https://ehsa.uchicago.edu/trainingregistration">https://ehsa.uchicago.edu/trainingregistration</a>

Contact the EHSA Administrator for technical assistance.

### **HAZWOPER Certification**

(Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response)

**ORS offers a HAZWOPER Certification course specifically for work at UChicago.** There are 2 courses available:

- 8-hour refresher for those who already have a certification (must show proof).
- 40-hour course for new trainees.

If anyone is interested in this course, please contact the ORS Administrator.

### **Training Lab**

By: Christopher Delgado, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

We are excited to be expanding our program! Members from the ORS team have been very busy preparing our very own laboratory space to use in the near future. The following activities are just a few examples of what we plan to do:

- Relevant location to conduct in-person or Zoom training;
- Mock laboratory for training purposes;
- One-on-one or small group demonstrations:
  - o proper set up and use of a biological safety cabinet (BSC);
  - o proper set up and use of a fume hood;
  - donning and doffing of personal protective equipment (PPE);
  - o chemical segregation and storage;
  - transferring solvents
  - hazardous material spill clean-up;
  - hazardous waste handling;
  - o chemical storage;
  - o laser eyewear storage, laser alignment, Class 3b and Class 3 laser safety
  - o decontamination of radioactive material;
  - o radiation survey meters
  - o and more!
- Applied biosafety research for the purpose of streamlining biological safety practices;
- Prepare training videos for lab-related activities described above.

# Research Safety Updates









## **UChicago Chemical Hygiene Plan Update**

The annual update of the Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) has been completed and available on our website. <u>Click here for the 2022 version of the CHP</u>.

### **Updates include:**

- 1. Hazard communication
  - a. Types of chemical labels
    - NFPA 704 fire diamond

- ii. OSHA HazCom 2012
- 2. Introduction
- 3. Hazardous waste
- 4. Guidance documents (SOP template, Fume hood, and more)

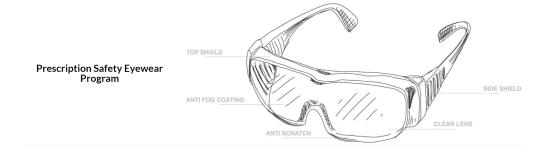
### **Staff Updates**

- 1. The Office of Research Safety would like to congratulate <u>John Bivona</u> on his promotion to Director of Biosafety and Biosecurity at the <u>Howard Taylor Ricketts Laboratory (HTRL)</u>, which is located on the campus of Argonne National Laboratory. Active research began in 2009 as one of 13 Regional Biocontainment facilities located throughout the United States through partnerships between the National Institute of Allergy, Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and local academic institutions. John leads all <u>research safety initiatives</u> at the HTRL and manages University of Chicago's <u>Federal Select Agent Program.</u> Congrats John!
- 2. **ORS** would also like to congratulate PSD Laboratory Safety Specialist, Ian Hoppie, on his achievement of becoming a certified Associate Safety Professional! Congrats Ian! "Associate Safety Professionals (ASP) are safety practitioners who have proven knowledge of safety, health, and environmental (SH&E) fundamentals. Earning your ASP shows others you are serious about safety, confirms your knowledge and skills, and advances your career. The ASP meets the credential requirement for the Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®)."

### **Prescription Safety Eye Glasses**

By: Ian Hoppie and Chantene Zichterman-Delgado

The Office of Research Safety is working on a Prescription Safety Eye Glasses program with Eyelation, but we need a head count. If you are interested, please complete a quick Google form to let us know if you are interested.



### **Travel Toolkit Website**

By: Chantene Zichterman-Delgado

UChicago Global hosts a useful website for University faculty, students and staff who travel. The website includes a checklist, links to country specific information, contacts, policies, other resources, and hazard assessment tool to help identify risks and help prepare you for a safe adventure. The Office of Research Safety will provide a consultation to determine what you will need if your travel includes laboratory research. All information is available



Contact the ORS Administrator with any questions or to set up a consultation.

# Educational Assignments and Visiting Researchers

By: Chantene Zichterman-Delgado

Please note that in-person Educational Assignments have resumed. Here are some common Q&A's:



- 1. What is an Educational Assignment or Visiting Researcher?
  Educational Assignments are students from an external organic
- Educational Assignments are students from an external organization who are coming to campus for an educational experience. However, UChicago students who are participating in projects outside of their coursework are also considered educational assignments and are required to complete the request forms. A Visiting Researcher is a professional coming to campus to assist with a project or further enhance their skills for their home institution.
- 2. Why should UChicago students complete the forms if they're already enrolled at the University? UChicago students are enrolled in classes, but not laboratories. Completing the forms will trigger human resources and Research Safety to know who is in our labs, provide mandatory lab safety training, and ensure the lab is in compliance and safe for a student or visitor.
- 3. What are the most current forms to complete? https://researchsafety.uchicago.edu/programs/educational-assignments-and-other-research-

### activities/.

For Visiting Researchers doing professional work, please <u>complete the forms</u> to initiate the process.

- 4. Are there COVID-19 guidelines for Educational Assignments or Visiting Researchers? Yes, there are COVID-19 guidelines for all students and visitors at UChicago. Click here to view the new guidelines. All visitors must comply with the COVID-19 visitor guidelines.
- 5. Where do we send the completed forms?

Please submit all completed forms to <u>ELRelations@uchicago.edu</u>. The process begins with Employee & Labor Relations to ensure the project is educational in nature, then if a research laboratory is involved, it is routed to Research Safety.

Please submit the request forms <u>available on our website</u>. <u>Contact the ORS Administrator</u> with any questions.

### **Hazardous Waste Pickup**

By Chris Delgado, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

The Office of Research Safety is always happy to assist labs with waste pickup requests. Our process for assisting with hazardous waste follows the following guidelines:

- Routine disposal of 10 items or less should be submitted by the lab using EHSA. If training is needed in submitting waste requests, please let our department know so that we may assist you.
- Assistance and/or guidance with bulk waste disposal between 10 50 items can be
  facilitated by the Office of Research Safety using EHSA waste requests. When
  managing hazardous items, the nature of the hazard (Corrosive, Flammable, Toxic, etc.)
  needs to be assessed. The Office of Research Safety is happy to assist with this.
- Bulk requests greater than 50 items necessitate a consultation by Office or Research
  Safety to determine if a bulk pick up request needs to be completed by a hazardous
  waste provider. Not every bulk waste pickup is the same and a consultation provides
  labs with various solutions to eliminate hazards.

Not all solutions to hazardous chemicals involve eliminating the hazard. We welcome the opportunity to find safe processes to mitigate all hazards in the lab.

\*\*

Campus laboratory hazardous waste pickups regularly occur on Thursday's. Medical Center research laboratory hazardous waste pickups occur on Wednesday's.

For campus locations, enter waste pick-ups through EHSA. If you need access to the EHSA, contact the  $\underline{\text{EHSA Administrator}}$ .

Thank you for your continued cooperation with ensuring safety at the University of Chicago. Please feel free to contact Environmental Health and Safety at <a href="mailto:safety@uchicago.edu">safety@uchicago.edu</a> or 773.702.9999 with any questions.



- <u>Click here</u> to learn more about Hazardous Waste handling.
- <u>Click here</u> to view the Hazardous Waste Disposal Flow Chart

# **Chemical Safety Blog**



### **RAMP Up Continued:**

by Chandra Man Karki, Chemical Safety Officer

R = Recognize Hazards

A = Assess the Risks of Hazards

M = Minimize the Risks of Hazards

P = Prepare for Emergencies



In our last edition of Newsletter, we discussed "M" "Minimize Risks of Hazards." In this edition we will discuss:

"P" = "Prepare for Emergencies"

In our previous editions, we discussed how to recognize hazards, assess the associated risks, and minimize them using hierarchy of controls. We always try our best to minimize the hazards but there is always the potential in laboratory work for unwanted events to happen. Human error is still possible in a laboratory even when hazards are recognized, assessed, and minimized. Preparing for emergencies is critical for mitigating the effects of any exposure or damage that might occur. Make sure following emergency safety equipment/documents are present and in working order:

- 1. Chemical Hygiene Plan binder (SOPs, chemical Inventory, SDSs, etc.)
- 2. First aid kit
- 3. Fire extinguishers
- 4. Safety showers and eyewashes
- 5. Spill kit
- 6. Emergency shut off valves and many more....

Ensure the emergency equipment is inspected/tested regularly. Practice to know the procedures for handling common emergency scenarios such as cut, burns, spill, exposure to chemiclas, fires, etc.

With this we wrap up our significant section of CHP: RAMP up for safety!

For more info go to ACS chemical and laboratory safety page (https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/chemical-safety/basics.html).

Next ChemSafety TIP will be on "What to do in case of Injury?"

#### Shut the Sash

By Ian Hoppie, PSD Lab Safety Specialist

Chemical Fume Hoods are an important engineering control here at University of Chicago and research labs around the world. When used properly, fume hoods offer a significant degree of protection for users in labs. They prevent the release of hazardous substances into the laboratory space by controlling and then exhausting hazardous and/or odorous chemicals.

Influenced by other Universities nationwide, the Physical Sciences Division put forth a *Shut the Sash* campaign in Searle which has rapidly reduced fume hood energy consumption by 35%. These savings, along with other building energy efficiency measures, have reduced total building energy consumption by 18%. The Office of Research Safety, Physical Sciences Division and Pritzker School for Molecular Engineering have partnered to encourage people to *Shut the Sash*. You may have already seen *Shut the Sash* reminders on the sides of hoods throughout the campus, but it is up to the users of the hood to *Shut the Sash* when not in use.

**Why?** To promote a healthier, greener campus. Shutting the Sash of a fume hood you can reduce energy consumption, create a safer lab environment, and make it more comfortable in a lab...

### Conserve energy:

Although some labs have newer models of fume hoods that can be programed to shut themselves after some time, this is not true for older fume hoods which can unfortunately be a significant energy drain. An open fume hood can use as much daily energy as 4 average homes. They also use ten times more electricity than a hood with the sash closed. Shutting the sash is the best way to combat the energy waste.

### Safety:

When the hood is not in use, a researcher is not physically working on an experiment under a hood, but items can remain inside. This not only reduces the energy needs of the hood but also isolates the hazards that can be found in the hoods. Simply just shut the sash.

### Healthy climate:

There are also other advantages besides safety and energy savings when shutting the sash. A closed hood can make a lab more comfortable. It can help control humidity in a lab, reduce the overall noise in a lab, and reduce overload on a buildings HVAC system. This can be especially useful in a building such as Gordon Center for Integrative Science.

If you have any questions about Chemical Fume Hoods you can contact the Office of Research



### Safety.

For more information about the **Shut the Sash** Program:

https://physicalsciences.uchicago.edu/news/article/cutting-the-carbon-footprint-in-uchicago-labs/

### **Hazardous Waste Policy**

By Ian Hoppie, PSD Lab Safety Specialist

Creation and collection of hazardous waste is an unfortunate downside of the wonderful research done at University of Chicago. As researchers, safety professionals, and waste generators, we all strive to dispose of hazardous waste in safest way possible to prevent accidental releases into the environment or negative health effects. The proper disposal is of the waste is University wide initiative.

The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) group has developed procedures on how to handle the waste and the Office of Research Safety (ORS) has outlined the policy in the **Chemical Hygiene Plan**. Hazardous chemical waste must be collected in containers appropriate for the waste, properly labeled, and picked up by the University's hazardous waste disposal contractor. Only the vendor currently under contract with the University is legally allowed to remove waste from this campus. The waste must remain in lab/point of generation. It is to never be relocate waste or place in a corridor. ORS and ESH encourage the use of Satellite Hazardous Waste Locations in the generator's lab.

Hazardous waste regulations come from two major legal acts. These include the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Cradle-to-the-grave system to keep track of waste, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the Superfund program. These two programs, working in tandem, provide the framework for hazardous waste disposal. The legal framework allows Waste Generators, such as the University of Chicago, to develop proper waste handling and disposal policies. This in turn allows for a healthier and happier environment both inside and outside of the laboratory.

Advantages of proper disposal of hazardous waste

- Reduces the overall volume of waste sent to landfills
- Segregates hazards from the general public and the environment
- Reduces the cost of onsite/in lab storage
- Increases space in laboratories for other uses

Both EHS and ORS always welcome questions and concerns about hazardous waste. If you have questions always feel free to reach out to you division's Laboratory Safety Specialist or you can contact EHS at <a href="mailto:safety@uchicago.edu">safety@uchicago.edu</a> and ORS at <a href="mailto:researchsafety@uchicago.edu">researchsafety@uchicago.edu</a>.

### Helpful Links

- UChicago EHS Hazardous Waste <a href="https://safety.uchicago.edu/environmental-health/hazardous-waste-and-handling/">https://safety.uchicago.edu/environmental-health/hazardous-waste-and-handling/</a>
- UChicago ORS Policies and Manuals <a href="https://researchsafety.uchicago.edu/policies-manuals/">https://researchsafety.uchicago.edu/policies-manuals/</a>
- EPA: Learn the Basics of Hazardous Waste <a href="https://www.epa.gov/hw/learn-basics-hazardous-waste">https://www.epa.gov/hw/learn-basics-hazardous-waste</a>
- RCRA https://www.epa.gov/rcra
- CERCLA https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cercla-overview

# **Biological Safety Blog**



### **Laboratory Safety Self-Inspection Checklist**

By Chris Delgado, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

Safety Practices Highlight of the Month: Sharps are properly disposed of in a puncture resistance container. When we reference the Laboratory Safety Self-Inspection Checklist for deficiencies, we often check to make sure all sharps are properly disposed of in a red plastic sharp container. By disposing of sharps properly, it reduces the likelihood of accidental needle sticks for both the laboratory and other personnel who may come near the sharps. Needles should not be recapped prior to disposal.

The nature of this type of practice identified in the checklist is not limited to sharp containers. Plastic and glass pipettes used near a biosafety cabinet can create a hazard if the disposal container becomes overfilled. Placing a used pipette in an overfilled container creates the hazard of puncturing the hand. If work performed in the biosafety cabinet is biohazardous in nature, the magnitude of an injection exposure will be increased. It is very important to create practices that eliminate these types of hazardous scenarios regardless of the nature of work being performed.



Please reach out to the Office of Research Safety at <u>researchsafety@uchicago.edu</u> if you have any questions about the Laboratory Safety Checklist, or need assistance obtaining a sharps container.

# Radiation Safety Presents: Laser Faire (Laser Safety Blog)



### **Packages Containing Radioactive Material**

By Jim Marsicek, Director of Radiation Safety

Researchers approved for radioactive material use must ensure the shipping box and packaging materials are not discarded as normal waste unless all the following have been met:

- 1) All radioactive material has been removed from the package,
- 2) Shipping box and packing materials are surveyed with GM meter to confirm no contamination is present; and,
- 3) The radioactive material shipping labels have been defaced (e.g., obliterated or crossed out with a marker).

Please remember to deface all radioactive material labels on the shipping boxes prior to disposal.



Please note: If anyone finds a package or other item with a radioactive material label that is not defaced outside a laboratory identified for radioactive material use (Lab door labeled with Caution Radioactive Material sign), please contact the Radiation Safety Office On-call Pager 773-753-1880, Pager 9130. If you have any questions, please contact us via email at radsafety@uchicago.edu

**Please note:** For Biological or Chemical package labels you should confirm no contamination is present on the box or container and labels are defaced prior to placing in the trash.

# **Around Campus**









### Joint Research Safety Initiative (JRSI)

UChicago's student-led safety team
By Elizabeth Kelley, Student, JRSI Member



The Joint Research Safety Initiative (JRSI) is excited to announce that we're back for our 4th annual Peer Lab Walkthrough Competition — and once again this year, it'll be virtual! We are looking for volunteer judges and participating labs! This competition is run by researchers, for researchers. It is a non-punitive opportunity to collaborate with peers to share safety know-how and to facilitate conversations within the PME and the Department of Chemistry. Sign your lab up now for your chance to win or sign up as a volunteer judge for a chance to formally interface with safety and distinguish your CV. No prior knowledge or experience is required!

How the competition works: Volunteer peer judges will remotely "walk through" (aka

Zoom through) participating labs along with a member of JRSI, chat with the lab safety contact (LSC), and fill out a safety rubric. The virtual walkthroughs will take place between May 18<sup>th</sup> - May 27<sup>th</sup>, and we will work closely with you / your lab to schedule the training and walkthrough times. You may volunteer as a judge even if your lab is participating in the walkthrough. Participating labs do not need to provide a volunteer judge. **The highest-scoring labs win prizes** for their commitment to safety!

### Participating labs will receive:

- A chance to win some serious money to spend on a fun event of your lab's choosing!
  - Up to \$1,000 grand prize to the safest lab overall
  - Up to \$500 to the best-in-department labs in the PME and Chemistry Department
  - Up to \$250 to the best-in-subdiscipline labs (8 total will be awarded)
- Refreshments for all participating labs during the optional hybrid Award Ceremony in June

 Recognition of your lab's commitment to a safe work environment and non-punitive peer feedback

### Expectations for participating labs:

 A representative of the lab will use Zoom to show their lab environment to a peer judge and JRSI member and answer questions as the judges fill out a scoring rubric

### Volunteer judges will receive:

- Swag!
- Free lunch during one of the virtual training sessions (held the week of May 9<sup>th</sup>)
- · Refreshments during the optional hybrid Award Ceremony in June
- Valuable experience to distinguish your CV, especially for industry and national labs

### Expectations for volunteer judges:

- Time Commitment: No more than 3 hours total
- Attend one hour of remote training (no prior knowledge or experience required)
- Observe one or two participating labs through Zoom and fill out a scoring rubric, accompanied by a JRSI member

Please visit our <u>website</u> to sign your lab up for the competition, to volunteer, or to find more information like a detailed schedule and an up-to-date list of participating labs. Contact us at <u>jrsi@uchicago.edu</u> with any questions.

### Sign up now for your chance to win!

JRSI is currently recruiting interested students to join their team! Check them out here: <a href="https://jrsi.uchicago.edu/">https://jrsi.uchicago.edu/</a>



Interested in joining JRSI? Please contact the ORS

Administrator.

### Which Safety Unit Do I Call?

Have a question or need help but are unsure who to contact? Visit the new "Who Does What?" page available on the Environmental Health and Safety's website (direct link also available on the ORS website) where you will find a comprehensive list of activities, definitions and who to contact.

There is a search function that will help make navigation easier. If you have any questions, please contact us at <a href="mailto:researchsafety@uchicago.edu">researchsafety@uchicago.edu</a>.

For emergencies, always contact campus police at 123 (campus phone), or 773-702-8181.

### **Surplus Equipment or Reagents**

By Anita Guedea, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

A Listserv was created to assist researchers in the Biomedical Sciences who are in need of specialized lab resources or who would like to share excess supplies. It may also be used to inform the group of candidates interested in summer research, entry level positions, postdoctoral positions, etc. To subscribe, go to: <a href="https://lists.uchicago.edu/web/info/labshare">https://lists.uchicago.edu/web/info/labshare</a>













### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

By Jeff Melton, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

With Earth Day this past weekend, it is a good time to consider ways that you can reduce the environmental impact of your lab. Here are a few ways that you can act without harming your research, based on the three Rs of the environment: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Reduce: One of the largest sources of energy usage in University laboratories are fume hoods. While these fume hoods provide vital controls on hazardous vapors and dusts, they force lab buildings to vent lots of heated or cooled air. It is a bit like running the air conditioner in your car with the windows open. Fortunately, most fume hoods on campus are variable air flow, allowing them to reduce air usage while still providing protection. All you must do is lower the sash or close the sliding panels when the fume hood is not in use. This also increases safety in case of a violent reaction in the fume hood.

Another area where you reduce waste is to limit the amount of chemicals that you order. This especially applies to chemicals that expire. I have taken part in lab cleanouts where thousands of dollars' worth of *unopened* chemicals were sent for disposal. Some chemicals, such as diethyl ether and tetrahydrofuran (THF), become more unstable over time. Expired unstable chemicals are more costly to dispose in both energy and money, as well as being potentially explosive.

**Reuse:** It is amazing how you can use old lab supplies and containers. Pipette tip boxes, screwtop plastic jars and metal shipping cans all get plenty of reuse. Boxes used to ship chemicals

make for great storage containers, and most labs use old chemicals containers for waste storage. Just make sure that chemicals containers are clean and have their original labels removed or defaced - channel your inner preschooler and scribble all over the old label with a marker. This prevents any confusion about the contents when you relabel the container with a UChicago hazardous waste label.

If you have surplus unopened chemicals or lab supplies, please consider letting your neighbor labs or others in your department use the chemicals. This saves money and reduces waste. There are services like the <u>LabShare listserv</u> where you can offer the chemicals or lab supplies to the wider University community.

Recycle: Clean containers of non-hazardous lab chemicals (like buffers, sodium chloride, dextrose, etc) are just as recyclable as their kitchen counterparts. Just like in reuse, make sure to deface the label of the empty bottle before recycling it - same with boxes that have hazard symbols on them. Consider recycling old papers, references, and catalogs if you have digital versions already. Fluorescent and UV light bulbs can be recycled by our hazardous waste vendor or by Facilities, preventing the release of toxic mercury into the environment. Make sure these bulbs do not end up in the trash! Generally, the more information you provide on chemical waste pickups, the better the chance that the material can be recycled by the hazardous waste vendor, especially in the case of pump oil.

Hopefully, these ideas will help you reduce the energy usage and waste generation from your lab, and maybe even save some money as well.

Please reach out to the Office of Research Safety at <u>researchsafety@uchicago.edu</u> if you have any questions.

### Medical Payments for UChicago Student Injuries (MedPay)

### What is covered?

Out-of-pocket costs incurred for emergency medical care for accidents or injuries sustained during assigned responsibilities while in laboratories or other research activity, regardless of fault.

### Who is covered?

UChicago students injured during assigned responsibilities in laboratories or other research activity. Includes enrolled UChicago graduate and undergraduate degree students.

The program is set up for covering emergency care at UCMC and would not apply to non-degree visiting students or injuries that occur in field research. In these instances, students should utilize their health insurance. Additionally, students who are injured abroad can call International SOS for assistance.

Submitting a timely report of the injury via <u>UCAIR</u> will route resulting medical bills for payment by the Office of Risk Management. It is important that UChicago students identify themselves as UChicago students when submitting via <u>UCAIR</u>.

If a student receives bills for related treatment, they should contact the Office of Risk Management at risk@uchicago.edu.

Any additional questions or concerns should be directed to the Office of Risk Management.

### Vacuum Filters 101

By Anita Guedea, BSD Lab Safety Specialist

Vacuum Filters prevent contaminants from entering the building vacuum system, which keeps the vacuum system working and protects the maintenance staff from potential exposure to hazardous substances. If you use a vacuum in the lab, please be sure to always use a trap and an in-line filter. Nothing should be aspirated directly into the building vacuum system.

The Fisher GCIS W143 stockroom has Whatman Vacu-Guard filters available for purchase 2/pk (Fisher Part Number: 0974475PR).



# **Just for Fun**



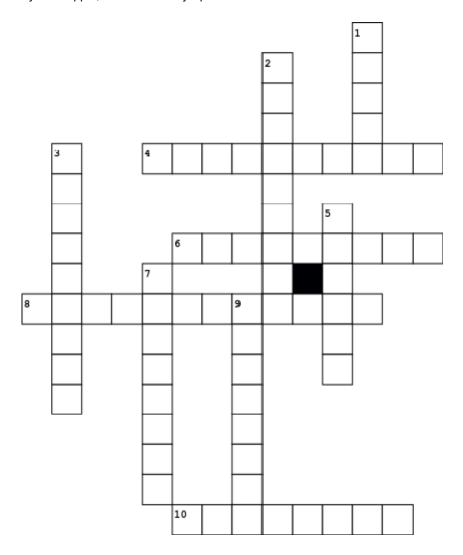






### Crossword Puzzle (click for pdf)

By Ian Hoppie, PSD Lab Safety Specialist



### <u>Across</u>

- 4. Hazards including bacteria, viruses, parasites and molds or fungi
- 6. May cause fire if exposed to ignition sources, sparks or heat
- 8. Hazards that include those that can have an adverse effect on an employee's mental health or wellbeing
- 10. Chemicals that cause reversible damage to skin or other organ system

### <u>Down</u>

- 1. Material which may cause life threatening effects, even in small amounts and with short exposure
- 2. Hazards that are a result of physical factors that can result in musculoskeletal injuries

- 3. Material which may cause skin burns and permanent eye damage
- 5. A potential source of harm to a worker
- 7. A (non-biological) substance that has the potential to cause harm to life or health
- 9. Can burn even without air, or can intensify fire in combustible materials

### Answers:

- 1. Toxic
- 2. Ergonomic
- 3. Corrosive
- 4. Biological
- 5. Hazard
- 6. Flammable
- 7. Chemical
- 8. Psychosocial
- 9. Oxidizer
- 10. Irritant

# **Related Links**

Office of Research and National Laboratories
Howard Taylor Ricketts Laboratory
Environmental Health & Safety
Medical Center Environmental Health & Safety
Animal Resources Center
Institutional Care & Animal Use Committee
Institutional Biosafety Committee
Marine Biological Laboratory

**Duke Infectious Disease Response Training** 

Joint Research Safety Initiative

# **Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Love?**

Does your department have any information to share in our newsletter?



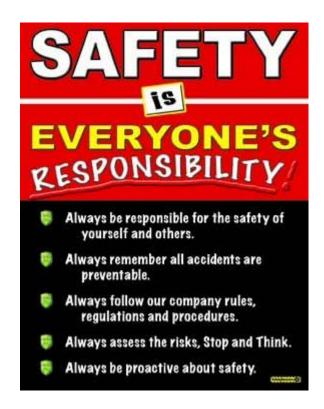
Would you like to see something specific? Contact the ORS Administrator

Learn more about the Office of Research Safety or our partners by  $\underline{\text{visiting our}}$  website.

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