Safety Committee Meeting 9-9-2014

1. Present:

Rick Rupp - Chair
Dory Lohry-Birch - Food Sci Rep
Sheila Brooks - CAHNRS Office of Research
Karen Hansen - USDA
Jeb Owen - Secretary
Bruce Davitt - S of Environmental Sc.
Mike Costa - IBC
Dan Edge-Garza - Horticulture
Jonathan Lomber_BSE

2. Comments on last May meeting minutes. Approved as written.

3. NIFA safety stand-down

USDA Lab PIs expected to review inventory in facilities and safety training protocols. Karen Hanson says they are running this down all levels of the Federal labs. Federal people have to do a physical sweep of storage areas and reconcile with records. Must also have biosafety training. Deadlines are in place for Federal employees. Phase with ARS involvement will include chemical safety and workplace hazards. There is also supposed to be a formal request of collaborators that they do the same.

Q- is there an organized way of documenting compliance, or effort?

There is documentation for Fed employees, but for collaborators it is only informal.

Q- Will WSU be formally involved?

Only specific USDA researcher-to-researcher communication will stimulate participation. So far state entities are not involved.

Q- What is the web access to this USDA information?

Access is Fed only. Perhaps through EH&S, PI’s could coordinate this kind of effort.

4. Safety recommendations for Moyer-

i. New faculty orientation materials in safety.
ii. Online safety training resources.
iii. Training checkbox in annual review.
iv. Tenure track faculty expected to participate in safety committee.
v. CAHNRS safety compliance officer.
- Revised safety website started.
- Unclear if EH&S or HRS tracks participation and/or compliance with safety regulations and training.

- Discussion that Administration have EH&S take a more proactive role in safety.

Q- Discussion re: CAHNRS web techs to incorporate a safety and training web component or OGRD? Exploration of OGRD training warranted before reinventing a wheel already struck.

Q- Are faculty required to put safety information into syllabi?

5. Plan for next month

- Discuss what will be in the new faculty orientation. *Consider responsibility of faculty for the safety of their employees.

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Addendum: The settlement terms and backstory links for the UCLA accident involving a research assistant:

SETTLEMENT TERMS
Harran must:
Acknowledge and accept responsibility for lab conditions
Make no public statements denying responsibility
Adhere to state employee safety standards
Cooperate with state worker safety agency
Pay $10,000 to Grossman Burn Center
Create and teach an organic or general chemistry course for South Central Scholars
Perform 800 hours of nonteaching community service to UCLA Hospital System/UCLA Health Services
Speak to UCLA chemistry and biological sciences undergraduate students about the importance of laboratory safety

The website I got this from was:
http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/i26/Patrick-Harran-L-District-Attorney.html

A more comprehensive overview of what happened, including the university's settlement is at:

http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/previous_issues/articles/2014_07_09/careedit.a1400176