Winter Term 08: Safety Memorandum

• New laboratory hazard warning signs

EH&S is in the process of producing improved laboratory hazard warning signs to replace the yellow cards currently in use. PI's are asked to complete a hazard warning information form for each of their laboratories by the end of winter term such that the new signs are accurate and informative.

The required form was distributed with this memo and is also available to download from the URL below. Completed forms should be forwarded to: Matt Philpott, Environ. Health & Safety, 130 Oak Creek Building [or e-mail to: matthew.philpott@oregonstate.edu]

http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/bulletin/si28.html

• Laboratory attire policy: reminder

Please remember that the recently introduced new laboratory attire policy calls for shoulder to ankle clothing coverage and closed toe/heel shoes for ALL laboratory workers within the Department of Chemistry. Users of chemistry stores are now also required to comply with this chemical safety policy or their issue requests may be declined.

• Safety shower & eye washer testing

Testing of all safety showers in Gilbert Hall will commence during the coming weeks. Please contact Kristi Edwards if you have any concerns or specific test scheduling requirements.

Eye wash stations release less water than showers and are straightforward to test. Please remember to regularly test all eye washers in your vicinity and run water through them until any rust discoloration dissipates. Weekly flushing is recommended to avoid stagnation of the water in the pipes feeding eye washers.

http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/bulletin/si76.html

• Fire extinguisher training for non-chemistry registered graduate students

A recent fire in a Gilbert Hall laboratory has highlighted the fact that graduate students may be working in this building that did not receive fire extinguisher training upon arrival because they are registered outside of chemistry. PI's, please alert the safety committee to any and all co-workers affiliated with your research groups (or individuals using your space) that may not have completed the standard fire extinguisher familiarization exercise.

• Cardboard waste

Accumulated waste cardboard within the building constitutes a fire hazard and should be minimized. Please remember to break down & flatten unwanted cardboard boxes before promptly removing the waste to the recycle bins outside.

• Deionized (DI) water not for consumption

The DI water supply in Gilbert Hall is not rated for human consumption and should not be used as drinking water. Please use the drinking fountains only for this purpose.