

WSU Spokane CORES Newsletter

March 2018

Lab Safety

With the approach of warm weather, the issue of proper lab apparel should be reviewed with all research staff. The following guidelines are from the WSU Lab Safety Manual, Section II.F:

1. General Requirements and Recommendations for Laboratory Apparel

- a. Appropriate clothing must be worn, including a protective apron or laboratory coat to protect against chemical splashes or spills, cold, heat, moisture and radiation. Use protective apparel, including face shields or goggles, gloves, and other special clothing or **footwear as needed.**
- b. Skin, eyes, and respiratory tract should always be protected from possible exposure by use of appropriate laboratory clothing, goggles/ face shields and respirators. For additional information see the Fact Sheet - [Eye and Face Protection](#).
- c. Jewelry should be removed from wrists and hands to prevent chemicals from collecting underneath, contacting electrical sources, catching on laboratory equipment, and/or damaging the jewelry itself. For the same reasons, jewelry which loosely dangles from neck or ears should not be worn.
- d. To prevent spreading contamination to family and friends, laboratory coats should be removed before leaving the laboratory.
- e. Loose apparel should be confined.
- f. **Long pants should be worn at all times.**
- g. **Open-toed shoes or sandals should not be worn in the laboratory. For additional information, see the Fact Sheet - [Foot and Leg Protection](#).**
- h. If laboratory coats are contaminated with hazardous chemicals, they should be removed immediately, and properly laundered, or disposed of as hazardous chemical waste.
- i. If laboratory clothing is cleaned by a linen service contractor, contractor employees must be informed if contamination of laboratory clothing presents a danger to cleaning service employees.

IACUC Updates

The new template is now in use. While some glitches continue to be identified, the system is working well. One of the biggest improvements is the ability of the system to tracking the amount of time allowed for each step and to send reminders to reviewers and PIs of deadlines.

Alan Ekstrand has accepted the position of Assistant Director, IACUC. His expected start date is Mid-May. He comes from UC Davis, a program similar in size and diversity.

Vivarium CORE

The IACUC Semi-Annual Inspection has been scheduled for April 27th. Please inspect reagents for expiration dates and appropriate labeling. These two issues are common citations.

AAALAC will be conducting the tri-annual inspection this year. A date has not been set but it will likely be in October.

Vet Corner

Beginning this month, we have our first United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) covered species housed on campus. This means we will be subject to **unannounced** site visits from USDA inspectors. For all PI's, please be advised that while they do not specifically inspect rodent areas, they do look at the vivaria as a whole (including all support areas), and if they see things they do not like happening with non-USDA covered species they will report this to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). So as always, please ensure you are following your protocol and all policies/guidelines while conducting your animal research.

Having USDA covered species also means we may face increased scrutiny from animal rights groups. As a reminder, do not let anyone you do not know follow you into the vivarium as you enter or exit. Also, if you see any suspicious activity or believe someone is in the vivaria that should not be, report it immediately to vivarium staff or the security office. If you are approached or receive phone calls from people you do not know with questions regarding animal research on campus, please direct them to contact the OCV office at 509-335-6246.

Flow Cytometry/Mass Spec

Contact Person: Ze Liu (x87633 or ze.liu@wsu.edu)

The service representative from Waters will be here June 12th for a seminar. The general topic will be "What is Mass Spec and How Does It Support Your Research". Please encourage your research staff to attend. If there is a specific topic that you would like to have addressed, please let Ze know. More information will be provided as June gets closer.

Imaging/Histology

Contact Person: Megan Chastain (x87839 or meean.chastain@wsu.edu)

NOTE: Megan will be on maternity leave from approximately February to Mid-May. Please plan ahead for staff that will need training for use of the microscopes and for histological projects. Ze Liu and I will be available to help during her absence.

Genomics

Contact Person: Dr. Yiyong (Ben) Liu (x86741 or yiyong.liu@wsu.edu)

NMR

Contact Person: Dr. Zuping Xia (x86575 or zuping.xia@wsu.edu)