Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

The development of the Spokane EH&S department continues. Department members include:

- Merle Heineke, Director, Research Laboratories
- Chad Trent, Industrial Hygienist
- Megan Chastain, Scientific Assistant, Laboratory Safety, Hazardous Material Shipping
- Ze Liu, Scientific Assistant, Radiation Safety, Dry Ice Shipments

Initial efforts include the improvement of documents (Lab Safety Manual, Chemical Hygiene Plan, Standardized SOPs, PPE Risk Assessment Form, Blood Borne Pathogen Control Form) in an effort to simplify the process for the laboratories. A website for EH&S is currently being developed.

Regulations require that laboratory spaces be inspected annually. Principal Investigators will be contacted in advance to schedule the inspection of their lab. Documents are sent in advance so that the PIs will know what to prepare for. The Inspectors will work with each lab to provide training of the regulations, complete or update the Chemical Hygiene Plan, and develop SOPs for hazardous agents. EH&S is able to complete about 3 inspections per month.

Radiation Safety

The scintillation analyzer has been moved into 340H and Histology has dedicated a space in the hood for safely dispensing Ecoscint. Additionally, we have reduced the need for radiation surveys. Please contact Ze Liu for additional information on reduced surveying or access to the scintillation analyzer.

NEW SERVICE – Biomedical Engineering and Design

A new service is available to promote and foster science on the WSU-Spokane campus. This group can help researchers and start-up businesses to leverage their resources by saving on cost and allowing them to innovate more efficiently. The website can be found under CORE Facilities.

Contact Person: Will Clegern (86750 or will.clegern@wsu.edu)

Vivarium

Dr. Jennifer Kopanke joined WSU-Spokane on a full-time basis on August 15. Her office is located in PBS 120A. Her phone number is 87825.

The most recent health screen was completed at the end of August. The vivarium continues to be free of viruses and pathogens.
Sarstedt Training: A representative from Sarstedt will be on campus on Monday, October 28th from 1:30-2:30 PM to provide training and demonstrate small volume blood collection products. If you have interest in attending this session, please contact jennifer.kopanke@wsu.edu.

IACUC Semi-annual Inspection: The IACUC performed their semi-annual inspection of WSU Spokane’s animal facilities in early September. The Spokane animal research program performed well overall. Keeping our vivarium spaces in optimal condition is an ongoing task, so please remember to continue appropriately discarding expired drugs and materials, labelling secondary containers, following vivarium- and lab-specific policies, and maintaining clear and thorough animal records. Thank you all for your continued efforts.

Contacts: ocv.spokane.vet@wsu.edu
Jennifer Kopanke, DVM (87825) jennifer.kopanke@wsu.edu
Rob Archuleta (87975) robert.archuleta@wsu.edu
For animal emergencies: (509) 592-6884

Flow Cytometry
New users of the equipment need to complete training in advance of conducting actual testing. Depending on past experiences, this may take several sessions to become completely familiar with the equipment and software. Please plan in advance

Contact Person: Ze Liu (87633), ze.liu@wsu.edu

Mass Spec
It is imperative that all users of the Mass Spec equipment document their usage. Expenses divided by the hours of usage determines the rate charged. Failure to record usage results in a higher rate. The CORE is required to be self-sustaining while keeping rates down.

Contact Person: Ze Liu (87633), ze.liu@wsu.edu

Microscopy/Imaging/Histology
Microscopy:
Microscopy has implemented a new calendar system. If you have not received your invitation to the calendar, contact Megan and she will create your account.

Histology:
If we’ve previously turned away work because of hazardous reagents, we are now equipped for those experiments. This includes Mason’s Trichrome staining.

Imaging:
The IVIS is out of order. Parts have been ordered and service has been called.

Contact Person: Megan Chastain (87541 or megan.chastain@wsu.edu)

Genomics
Contact Person: Dr. Yiyong (Ben) Liu (86741 or yiyong.liu@wsu.edu)

NMR
Contact Person: Dr. Zuping Xia (86575 or zuping.xia@wsu.edu)