

The SAFETY BEAKON



Department of
Occupational
Health and
Safety

Welcome John Leeks

Volume 2, Issue 1
February 2005

DOHS would like to introduce and welcome John Leeks. John will fill the Environmental Health and Safety Technician position that was recently vacated when Ken Starkey retired after 30 years of service to the University.

John started on Tuesday, February 1st and is primarily responsible for chemical and biological waste pick ups as well the laboratory ventilation program.

Mr. Leeks brings thirty years of environmental site remediation and engineering experience to our office. John is very excited to join OHS and

eager to meet all of you.

In addition to his knowledge of engineering and environmental site remediation, John has fifteen years of First Aid CPR and Bloodborne Pathogen training and certification. He is also certified in the use of fork lift trucks. John's experience with Bloodborne Pathogen training is certainly a benefit in regards to his biological waste pick-up responsibilities.

John is also trained in the martial arts. He has twenty-eight years of experience both training and teaching various martial art forms, including Tae Kwon Do, Ameri-



*John Leeks,
Environmental Health
and Safety Technician*

can Kenpo Karate, and Brazilian jujitsu.

With so many assets to share with the University, we are sure you will be pleased with John's contributions to our program. Please assist DOHS with welcoming him to the OHS family and University community.

Romance Them With Reporting

Near Miss Reporting and Valentine's Day are not related to each other, or are they? They could be if you think of "caring" for a coworker or others around the UD campus as important and "action" as equally important to a safe work place.

Near Miss Reporting is the "action" to recognize and eliminate unsafe acts or conditions in



whatever environment we find ourselves working and living. OHS has taken positive action by developing a Near Miss Report Form and having it available on the OHS web page and by offering a Near Miss Reporting Safety Training Class.

OHS would like to thank Rolf Joerger from Animal and Food Sciences and Leila Lyons from IT-User Services

for their awareness and leadership in initiating Near Miss Reports.

While the reporting process can be anonymous if desired, the person reporting may be in a valuable position to offer corrective insight to the near miss occurrence.

OHS invites you to review this form and incorporate it in your area by bringing it to the attention of those you care about.

New Feature

*Now appearing
in each issue!*

**AN ARTICLE
STARRING THE
CHEMICAL HYGIENE
COMMITTEE**

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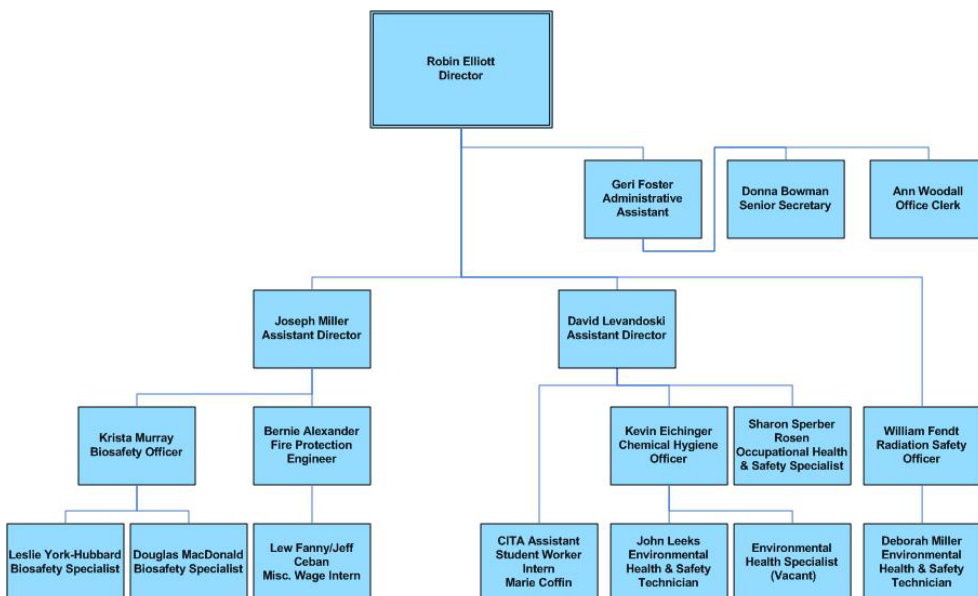
Trading Places at DOHS

These are exciting times at the Department of Occupational Health and Safety. There have been several personnel changes and transitions within our Department that we would like to share with you.

Doug MacDonald recently joined our Department as a half-time, biosafety specialist. Leslie York-Hubbard, who recently adopted a baby girl from China, has transitioned from the University Chemical Hygiene Officer position to assist Doug half-time as a biosafety specialist. Both Leslie and Doug will be assisting Krista Murray with the fast growing Biosafety Program.

John Leeks recently joined our Department February 1st as an Environmental Health and Safety technician. Please see the front-page article for more information on John.

Kevin Eichinger has vacated his position as Environmental Health Specialist and has assumed the responsibilities of the University Chemical Hygiene Officer. Kevin will be working with laboratory



Department of Occupational Health and Safety Organizational Chart

research personnel to promote the University's Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP). We are currently searching for a person to fill Kevin's vacant Environmental Health Specialist position and hope to have it filled in early March.

So what does all of this recent restructuring mean to you? We hope that our

services will continue to improve and expand due to the fact that several of our personnel are highly knowledgeable on more than one program and that our new staff members bring many special qualities to their respective positions. Please refer to the updated organizational chart detailing the current structure of DOHS.

University Chemical Hygiene Committee

The University Chemical Hygiene Committee (CHC) was re-established early last year and is responsible for developing the programs to ensure the safe use of chemicals in University research and teaching activities. The committee reports to the Provost and has representation from each College or unit that conducts research/teaching activities with chemicals. Some responsibilities include:

- Evaluate and administer the chemical safety aspects of all University programs.
- Grant approval for the use of highly toxic or carcinogenic chemicals.
- Recommend/initiate remedial actions when safe procedures and policies are not followed.

At the December 22, 2004 Committee meeting, the members approved a new

Use of Highly Toxic and Carcinogenic Material Update

definition and procedure to possess and use Highly Toxic/Carcinogenic Materials. In general, a highly toxic or carcinogenic material is defined as:

- A chemical with an LD50 of less than 50 milligrams per kilogram
- Regulated by OSHA and listed by National Toxicology Program (NTP) and International Agency for Research on Cancer Monographs (IARC) as a carcinogen: <http://www.cie.iarc.fr/monoeval/crthall.html>, <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/roc/tenth/known.pdf>, <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/roc/tenth/reason.pdf>

Examples include, but are not limited to, Arcolein, Allyl Alcohol, Chlorine, Nickel Carbonyl, Benzene, Beryllium, Hexavalent Chromium Compounds and Ethylene Oxide

A formal approval process is still being developed but will include the completion of a Standard Operating Procedure which will be initially reviewed by DOHS as well as a Committee Member with final approval being granted by the entire CHC at a bimonthly meeting. The approval process will include a conditional approval to quickly and efficiently allow researchers to purchase the material and begin work. Please contact Kevin Eichinger at eich@udel.edu or 831-2103 with any questions or concerns. Also refer to the CHC web site to stay current on new developments: <http://www.udel.edu/OHS/chemindex.html>.



Campus Emergency Operations

Recent world events should bring our attention to the importance of disaster planning. Hopefully, we will never be faced with the devastation that occurs with a tsunami or massive flooding and mudslides, but certainly more expected emergencies such as a major snow storm or hurricane can lead to damaging power outages, flooding and loss of current business and research functions.

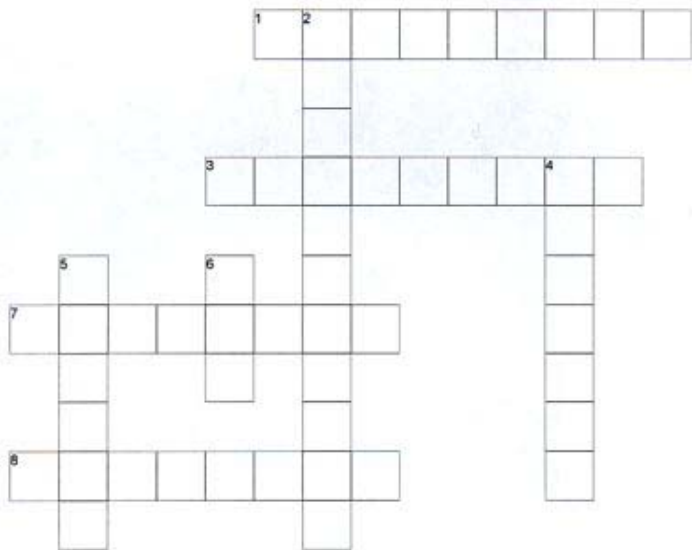
Amazingly, it has been almost two years since we completed the first submission of our Departmental Emergency Response Plans. It is now time

to update them again. Updating the plan is easier than your initial task. Certainly personnel, phone numbers, equipment and possibly the location of your current operations may have changed, but you can simply update your plan and re-submit it to the emerop@udel.edu mail address. This will assure that your report is communicated to the University's Disaster Planning Group who will coordinate any disaster that affects the campus.

Management Information Services (MIS) is working to make your job easier by developing a webform to submit

your departmental plan. This form will address some of the difficulties departments have reported in the past.

Additionally, the web site established by MIS at www.udel.edu/emerop has all the information you need to update your plan or begin a new plan. Remember that University policy 7-48 <http://www.udel.edu/ExecVP/polprod/> requires that you conduct training with your unit on the implementation of the plan annually. Developing and practicing the plan will help to minimize your losses should an emergency or disaster occur.



Winter Safety Crossword

ACROSS

1. The body's method of heat production.
3. Localized, irreversible freezing of tissue.
7. You need 10-15% more of these when you work in cold.
8. Mild, reversible superficial freezing with no loss of tissue.

DOWN

2. Occurs when the core body temp drops below 95 degrees F.
4. Cold causes the blood to ____, making it difficult to reach the extremities.
5. You should dress in ____ to insulate your body from the cold.
6. Keeping clothing ____ helps to keep you warm.

ANSWERS: Across: 1) shivering 3) frostbite 7) calories 8) frostnip Down: 2) hypothermia 4) thicken 5) layers 6) dry

Look Who's Safe!

The Department of Occupational Health and Safety would like to recognize the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Shop for their contributions in maintaining a safe work environment for University personnel.

Led by Randy Murphy and Bill Pelletier, the mechanics have been instrumental in keeping the fume hoods and other lab ventilation systems operating effectively throughout the cam-



HVAC at work!

pus. They stick with the problem until

everything is working properly and have been willing to work late and in foul weather to get a system repaired if it poses a safety hazard.

They have also been instrumental with the diagnosis and correction of air quality problems on campus, working in conjunction with other shops and departments to fix complex issues. Thank you to Randy, Bill and all the members of the shop who work to keep the campus ventilation running!

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Community Clean-Up

The University will be one of the sponsors for the Newark Parks and Recreation Community Clean-Up day on April 23, 2005 from 9-11am. This event is one way in which the University helps to maintain clean water in our area. Cleaning up litter and other debris preserves our surface water since these materials can make their way into the storm water system and contaminate streams, rivers and lakes.

Persons interested in volunteering can contact Newark Parks and Recreation at 366-7040. If you let them know you are associated with the University we can assign you to an area close to campus. Registration ahead of time will allow organizers to have enough gloves and bags for the volunteers.

Participants will receive a t-shirt, all the supplies needed, information about ways to prevent pollution of our surface waters, lunch following the clean up and a good feeling for showing that they care about our environment, especially maintaining our water quality. There is no better way to celebrate Earth Day than by assisting with this program.

Training Schedule for upcoming DOHS Courses— for additional information and upcoming courses please see our website!

* Note: All trainings take place in GSB 130 unless otherwise specified.

February 10	Computer Workstation Ergonomics	12:00-1:00pm	William Fendt
February 10	Lab Instructor Training	1:30-2:30pm	Robin Elliott
February 11	Environmental Programs at the University of Delaware	10:00-11:00am	Dave Levandoski
February 11	Biosafety Awareness Training	1:00-2:00pm	Krista Murray
February 11	Biosafety Training	2:00-3:00pm	Krista Murray
February 14	Is There Asbestos In Your Home	9:00-10:00am	Kevin Eichinger
February 14	Confined Space Training - Part 1 of 2	10:00-11:00am	Joe Miller
February 15	Right-to-Know Training for Lab Workers	10:00-11:00a.m.	Kevin Eichinger
February 15	Hydrofluoric Acid Safety Training	11:00am-12:00pm	Kevin Eichinger
February 21	Confined Space Training Part 2 of 2	9:00-10:00am	Joe Miller
February 21	Lead Paint Awareness Training	10:00-11:00am	Sharon Sperber
February 21	Initial Radiation Safety Training	1:00-4:00pm	William Fendt
February 24	Fork Lift Refresher Training	8:30-9:30a.m.	Robin Elliott
February 24	Chemical Waste Training	1:00-2:00p.m.	Kevin Eichinger
February 25	Right-to-Know Training for General Employees	9:00-10:00a.m.	Kevin Eichinger

