

SCHOOL of CHEMISTRY HEALTH and SAFETY COMMITTEE

25th May 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 7.27

In attendance: Prof. P.O'Brien, Dr. E.M.Armstrong, Dr. D.J.Smith, Mr. K. Jones, Mr. T Graham, Dr. P.Quayle, Mr. A.Griffiths, Prof. F. Livens, Ms. C.Davidge

1. Apologies

Dr. R.Dryfe, Dr. P. O'Malley, Mr A. Sutherland, Mr. G.Smith

It was minuted that a reminder should be sent to those tendering apologies that it is their responsibility to arrange for a substitute representative for their section to attend the meeting

DJS to write letter

2. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on Friday 30th March 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in Room 7.27 were passed unamended.

3. Matters Arising

3. (7) Revision of Safety Sheets – Some are still outstanding but in the process of revision
3. (AOB) Replacement of Stills by Drying Columns – still awaiting costs for bulk solvents in 25l drums.
5. Fire Authority – The written report has been received and steps are being taken to address the problem of storage of items in the corridors.

4. Correspondence

A memo from Ian Stratford, Chairman, Radiation Protection Advisory Group University Health and Safety Committee re. the roles and responsibility of the Radiation Protection Supervisor(s) in the School

5. Chairman's Business

There is still concern at the practice of locking off areas of the building leaving access on via coded locks. As an interim measure all codes should be lodged with the Porters at Reception while EMA coordinates with PW re replacing these keypads with standard key operated locks.

A proposal has come from Management Team to make people who have avoidable accidents pay a "fine" towards the cost of refurbishing laboratories damaged in such incidents. This was likened to the excess on an insurance policy. Concern was expressed that this would lead to concealment of incidents.

It was noted that a change in the law has meant that the cost of medical treatment after an accident can now be charged to an employer in a similar manner to the system applied to car accidents.

6. Accident / Incident Statistics

Fire – Several instances of misuse of hot air guns have occurred but no common cause is discernable. It was proposed that more training is needed and specific reference will be made to it in the Safety Induction talk.

Flood – A leak on the second floor caused water damage to a first floor lab. This was caused when water was left running overnight and the unsecured water hose came loose. This was exacerbated because the drip cup associated with this tap was blocked .

Health – A case of occupational dermatitis cause by fridge contents. The number of cut injuries was

7. Inspection Reports and Arrangements for Inspections

4th Floor Wednesday 25th April 2007 at 2:00 pm PQ, JR, GS

5th Floor on Wednesday 2nd May 2007 at 2:00pm DJS, GS, EMA, AS

The inspection included all Radiochemistry labs. In general the labs were well run and no specific points needed mention.

Next Inspections

3rd Floor Wednesday 25th April 2007 at 2:00 pm DJS, EMA, POB

2nd Floor to be arranged – post meeting note – Wednesday, 25 July.

8. Dates of next meeting(s)

*Friday 27th July 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27 post meeting note – rearranged for **Friday, 3 August** in 7.27

Friday 28th September 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

Friday 30th November 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

Friday 25th January 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

Friday 28th March 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

Friday 30th May 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

Friday 25th July 2008 at 2:30 p.m. in 7.27

A.O.B.

Patrick Seechurn (University Biological Safety Advisor) had requested that he visit the biolab in Chemistry (Brunswick St. Building).

EMA contact him to arrange a convenient date for this.

It was reported that work is underway on the lighting underneath the new extension in the moat.

The plans for the Fire Zones have not been produced despite prompting from EMA and Mike Morris.

POB to formally write to Estates complaining about the delay.

Some problems have been reported with asbestos in the Faraday Tower, which are causing concern to the HoS and the SSA.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 15:05 p.m.