

Department of Physics and Astronomy

Safety Committee Agenda and Notes

September 15, 2023

Attendance

Wang (Chair), Li, Robison, Schmitter, Smith

Call to Order Prof. Wang, Chairperson

Announcements

- Committee transitions
 - A. Robison new, replacing B. Afra
 - S. Pandey and F. Walz rotating off, new graduate student representatives TBD

Old Business

- Integrated Safety Plan (ISP)
 - 2022-2023 approved
 - Starting ISP process for 2023-2024 soon
- Summer 2023 update
 - SMAS research lab tour completed
 - DHS hazardous chemical report completed
- Injury report – review at November meeting
- Building Hazard Awareness – topics for future education and ISP inspections
 - Cylinders: transport, safety cap, proper storage, tip hazard
 - Laser safety
 - RA materials
 - Razor blades and cutters
 - Electrical cords and power strips (see above)
 - Chemical handling and disposal
 - BSL materials
 - Safer lifting techniques
 - PPE
 - Gloves
 - Dust mask
 - Trip hazards
 - Skateboards and other roller items in hallways
 - Other?

New Business

- Power strip safety guidelines from PUFD
 - The use of UL-Listed power strip is acceptable per code
 - The power strip must be plugged into an approved wall receptacle
 - Do not overload power strips, most are 15 amp (sum amps <15)
 - Note that an entire circuit might have multiple outlets feeding it
 - Power strips must not be piggybacked together
 - Power strip cords must not be pinched by furniture or run under carpet or doors

- Campus hazard awareness
 - Pedestrian safety (scooters and skateboards)
 - Slips, trips, and falls
 - Escaped liquids (leaks, floods)

- Other

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OBTW / For the Good of the Order

Next action steps:

- ISP self-audits sent to PIs (Andy)

- Lab tours, TBD Oct-Nov-Dec (Andy)
 - Includes EHS-led walk-throughs

- Next general committee meeting, TBA November 2023 (Prof. Wang and Andy)

Adjourn