

University Radiation Safety Committee Meeting
November 30, 2012
10:00 – 11:30 noon
Earth Sciences Boardroom, ER4002

Present:

Dr. Janet Brunton, Co-Chair of Committee, Department of Biochemistry
Dr. William Driedzic, Ocean Sciences Centre (OSC)
Dr. Jules Doré, Faculty of Medicine
Dr. Bing Chen, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science
Dr. Chris Deacon, Dept. of Physics and Physical Oceanography
Dr. Noriko Daneshtalab, School of Pharmacy
Dr. Edward Kendall, Faculty of Medicine
Mr. Rod Hobbs, Radiation Safety Officer, Dept. of Health & Safety
Ms. Judy Perry, Marine Institute
Mr. Darryl Pike, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Mr. Phil Smith, CEP, Facilities Management
Mr. Dion Bennett, Faculty of Science
Mr. Matthew Nosworthy, Student Representative, GSU
Ms. Louise Green, Dept. of Health & Safety, Recording Secretary

Apologies: Dr. Donald McKay and Ms. Sheila Miller

- 1) **Courtesies/Regrets/Conflicts of Interest** – all members were welcomed and a brief round table introduction was done to welcome new members. No conflicts reported, but the Co-chair encouraged members to bring conflicts forward should they arise during the meeting.
- 2) **Approval of Agenda**
Under item 4 c add – / Re-commissioning
Under item 4 d add – Laboratory Inspections
Under item 4 – add new item e – Forms

Approved by Mr. Pike and seconded by Dr. Chen

- 3) **Approval of the Minutes - April 3, 2012**
Dr. Brunton noted a few minor spelling errors.

Approved with changes – Dr. Driedzic and seconded by Dr. Doré

- 4) **Report from the Radiation Safety Officer- Rod Hobbs**

- a) **Activity Report** – See attached “A”
Dr. Doré noted to committee members that Mr. Hobbs is also a biosafety officer and one of the things he did this fall was to help get a university wide compliance letter, we now have a CL2 compliance letter for the entire university –we don’t need to individually get these licenses.

Dr. Brunton noted that she was anticipating a severe cut in our disposal limits and that has not happened, as our license has been renewed for another five (5) years.

Action: Mr. Hobbs to circulate copy of new license.

Dr. Doré noted from the minutes that scintillations vials cannot be poured down the drain, they have to be disposed of as volatile waste.

b) Permit Activity

i) New Permit(s) – None

ii) Renewals

- a) Mr. Geoff Whiteway – RUP-MI-138. No changes from previous permit. Approvals from Doré, Chen, McKay and Driedzic. Approved until August 28, 2014.
- b) Dr. Doug Forbes – RUP-CB-50. No changes from previous permit. Approvals from Doré, Chen, McKay and Driedzic. Approved until August 28, 2014.
- c) Dr. Thomas Michalak – RUP-MB-63. No changes from previous permit. Approvals from Doré, Chen, McKay and Driedzic. Approved until August 28, 2014.

Approved by Dr. Deacon and seconded by Dr. Chen

iii) Amendments

Approved by committee via email

- a) Dr. Grant – addition of 259 MBq 35S to permit. Removal of Mahdis Monajemi and Kayla Harris, addition of Ali Atoom and Kayla Holder. Approvals from Dore, Pike, Chen, McKay and Driedzic. Approved Aug 31 2012.
- b) Drs. Bertolo and Brunton– addition of 1 MBq 57Co. Approvals from Dore, McKay, Chen and Driedzic. Approved Sept 24 2012.

Approved by Dr. Doré and seconded by Dr. Chen

Approved by RSO

- a) Dr. Robert Brown – reduction of 35S limit from 200 to 130 MBq. Approved Aug 29 2012.
- b) Dr. Christopher Kovacs – addition of rooms H5347 and H1803 (LSC and Gamma counter rooms). Approved Oct 4 2012.
- c) Drs. Bertolo and Brunton - Addition of workers Brian Harnett (MUCEP), Nicole Rice (MUCEP) and Kelley Bromley-Britts (Post-doc) and removal of Luke Richard and Kayla Furlong. Approved Oct 4 2012
- d) Dr. Sean Brosnan – addition of Luke MacMillan and Theerawat Pongnoparat, removal of Greg Morrow and Charlotte Dickie. Approved Oct 12 2012
- e) Dr. Helene Paradis – addition of Karla Morrissey, removal of Nhu Ho and Kindra Grozinger. Approved Nov 9 2012
- f) Dr. Rebecca Lam – removal of David Miller. Approved Nov 20 2012

c) Decommissioning / Re-commissioning Activities

Decommissioned

- a) Dr. Daniel MacPhee – H-5335. Dr. MacPhee left Memorial in July 2012; therefore H5335 was decommissioned on June 22 2012. As well, the permit RUP-MB-129 has been decommissioned.
- b) Drs. Brunton/Bertolo – BT 1004 (intermittent facility). Oct 29 2012.
- c) Drs. Brunton/Bertolo – BT 1028 (intermittent facility). Oct 29 2012.
- d) Dr. Douglas Forbes – AS360 (sealed source laboratory). Nov 14 2012.

Re-commissioned

- a) Drs. Brunton/Bertolo – BT-1028 (intermittent facility). April 26 2012.

d) Laboratory Inspections

- a. Dr. Tahir Husain (SS) EN-2076A - No non-compliances observed.
- b. Dr. Wanda Aylward (Basic) ER-6004 -One non-compliance observed
- c. Drs. Bertolo/Brunton (Basic) SN-3030 - Six non-compliances observed
- d. Dr. Rebecca Lam (Basic) IIC-1036A, IIC-1042D, IIC-1042E - Four non-compliances observed
- e. Dr. William Driedzic (EQ) AX-4019, AX-4016, AX-4009, AX-4002 - Four non-compliance observed
- f. Dr. Christopher Kovacs (Basic) H-5313 - Two non-compliances observed
- g. Dr. Doug Forbes (SS) - Six non-compliances observed
- h. Dr. George Carayanniotis (Basic) H-5307 - No non-compliances observed
- i. Dr. Sean Brosnan (EQ) SN-3005 - No non-compliances observed
- j. Dr. Richard Rivkin (EQ) AX-3010, AX-4019 - No non-compliances observed
- k. Dr. Mani Larijani (Basic) H-1809A, (Intermediate) H-1840 - Seven non-compliances observed
- l. Dr. Helene Paradis (Intermediate) H-5356 - Two non-compliances observed
- m. Dr. Donald McKay (Basic) H-5358 - One non-compliance observed

e) Forms – two online forms

Dr. Brunton gave a brief overview of the two forms that were discussed at the previous meeting and changes were noted and finalized by email and now we have the two final online versions to be ratified at this meeting.

Forms approved by Mr. Pike and seconded by Mr. Nosworthy

f) Other Matters or Incidents

Mr. Hobbs noted that during the license renewal process our licensee specialist from CNSC required a number of modifications to our University Radiation Safety Manual and our SOP – Mr. Hobbs gave a brief power point presentation on the changes.

ACTION: Circulate copy of power point presentation

Discussion took place on Laboratory Safety Awareness addition – 1.6.3

Dr. Driedzic asked – what about a broken pipe in lab and a plumber needs to go in – what happens? Mr. Hobbs said technically anyone that would enter a lab should have this training It was also noted that external contractors also enters these laboratories. Mr. Hobbs noted that he has a template from another University of Victoria where they have external contractors and they need to sign off on a form before they can process with work.

ACTION: Mr. Hobbs to follow-up

A brief discussion was held on advising the RSO when the PI is away and who will be in charge of the lab in their absence – it was noted that a new section could be added to the HSMS –

ACTION: Mr. Hobbs to follow-up

Dr. Doré noted that slide – RSOP06 R1 – Shipping /Receiving should have 7 added to TDG

5) Other items from Minutes –April 3, 2012

Item 5

a) Radioactive Waste Disposal Costs – R. Hobbs

Mr. Hobbs noted there is no reduction to limits – this is resolved.

B) Tier 1 Membership

Ms. Green noted that Ms. Cynthia Whelan will be on the committee as the Operations & Maintenance member.

Item 7

All action items under this item have been completed.

6) Other Business – Committee Appointment Letters


Dr. Driedzic noted that he didn't receive a new appointment letter. Ms. Green noted that the original letter was sent out in 2009 for a five year term. Dr. Driedzic mentioned that he thought the committee once restructured would receive new appointment letters with structured timelines.

Action: Ms. Green to follow-up


7) Adjournment and next meeting.

Next meeting to be held in January 2013.

Meeting adjourned.



Janet Brunton, Co-Chair



Louise Green, Recording Secretary

RSO Report to Radiation Safety Committee, Nov 30, 2012

Since our last meeting, I have primarily been working on two major radiation safety projects. The first is the implementation of the Health and Safety Management System (HSMS). I have been working directly with Mr. Bill Downey, project manager as well as On Site Systems to customize the HSMS to suit the radiation safety needs for MUN. After validation of the necessary components of the system, we enlisted two pilot groups consisting of Rutherford users and prospective HSMS users to validate the functionality and ease of use of the system. After tabulating comments/suggestions from these pilot groups, the final updates were implemented by On Site. After final validated by myself, the HSMS went live on October 1 2012. Since our go live date, we have been continuously working with On Site to develop/update components of the system as necessary. Although there are still a number of outstanding issues, the system is functioning as expected and has been well received by the majority of users contacted. One major component still in the works is the incorporation of the Laboratory Inspection section, which is currently still maintained separately from HSMS. Incorporation of this component is contingent on On Site compatibility with Apple software products. On Site is currently working on this.

The second major project was the renewal of MUN's Nuclear Substance and Radiation Devices License, which was set to expire Nov 30 2012. I recently received word of the successful renewal of our license from CNSC, which will require only minor changes to our Radiation Safety Manual and Radiation Safety Operating Procedures (to be discussed at this meeting).

In addition to these projects, the annual compliance report (ACR), a CNSC license requirement, was completed and submitted to the CNSC in September 2012.

I have also started the second round of radioisotope laboratory inspections, and at my current rate, anticipate completing all authorized locations by Christmas break. This will satisfy my goal of bi-annual inspections of all authorized locations.



Rod Hobbs, M.Sc., Ph.D (c)
Radiation & Bio-safety Control Officer
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