H&S Items from 2009 Divisional Meeting Minutes

BCDD

Wednesday 4 March

BW told the meeting that a new procedure has been adopted by the chemists in JBC1 South when working with hazardous chemicals, intended to protect themselves and others. WNH will send details of a recent lab fatality in UCLA to BW, for him to publicise.

Wednesday 20 May

BW reported that the UCLA fatality discussed previously has given rise to scrutiny of laboratory safety procedures. Saturdays and other out of hours times are identifiable as the danger points, when there is a tendency for normal safety procedures to become lax.

BW described a potential explosive incident which had occurred in JBC1, involving a hydrogen gas tank whose release mechanism had a faulty valve, preventing closure.

BW had been required to obtain an explosive certificate for an order placed through SIGMA. The Police had visited to make the necessary checks.

MEM

Monday 2nd March

Jackie reported that following the Sorvall Engineer's visit, two rotors were being retired as they were over 25 years old (Beckman rotors) and four Sorvall rotors have been recommended for retiral as they are over 10 years old. A discussion took place as the College had fitted the labs out when they were opened but these had clearly not been new. It was agreed that Tracy and Geoff would take this up with Letty Gibson and Ian Leith.

Tuesday 4th August

It was agreed that to improve the security of the lab, some form of introduction was needed with new members. It was agreed that at the first internal seminar, all PIs would stand up and speak for five minutes, with the broad themes of their research and a quick introduction of lab members. Jackie would take a photo as part of the induction process which would be added to the board and circulated to the Floor.