

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY
Edward M. Movitz, Health and Safety Officer
2004 - 2005

DEPARTMENTAL MISSION

To reduce the risk of illness or injury to people who come to the University of Mississippi to work, study, learn or visit, by developing, implementing, enhancing and improving programs that provide training, guidance, technical expertise and support services to all campus activities and programs, while assuring compliance with environmental regulations.

DEPARTMENTAL GOALS

To contribute to an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual support for other departments and personnel, to anticipate and respond to the needs of others and to provide quality services in a safe and healthy work environment.

SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING GOALS

State and Federal Inspectors found no violations during inspections and reviews of this department's procedures, facilities and records. The department successfully completed a biannual program review with Institutional Research resulting in a successful assessment report. All inspections, records, reports and responses are available on the Web.

PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

Program modifications required to maintain continuous compliance with new and updated regulations during the reporting year revising the Biological and Chemical Safety Manuals, regulations and associated policies, increasing laboratory security requirements and personnel training requirements for Radioactive Materials and Radiation Generating Devices, finalizing the application process for the unified air permit, updating the departmental Records Retention and Privacy Policies, providing enhanced workplace protection for the custodial staff by instituting a policy to remove all custodial services from all remaining campus hazardous locations, as well as extending the authority to exclude additional areas deemed hazardous by the Supervisor of Custodial Services, streamlined the online training courses for hazardous waste disposal authorization and the associated annual retraining. We revised the policies and procedures for the shipping of hazardous materials, Medical Waste segregation, and for the receipt and distribution of Radioactive Materials.

We continued to expand the utilization of our satellite waste accumulation regulatory exemption to include specific operations and areas within the School of Pharmacy.

We received continued program reauthorization from the U.S. Army Medical Research Materiel Command, the Centers for Disease Control, and the National Institutes of Health, the Radiological Division of the State Board of Health, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

We expanded our battery and Mercury recycling reduction program to include all campus areas, including residential units.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

We experienced no personnel changes during the year.

FUTURE GOALS AND PROSPECTS

We will continue our work with the Schools of Pharmacy and Engineering, as well as all campus science departments, to maintain an updated inventory of potentially harmful materials, a list of locations of hazardous operations that could affect maintenance or custodial personnel, as well as all other areas with site specific restrictions.

As new regulatory requirements for University research and laboratory work expand and evolve, we will work diligently to assure full compliance with all applicable regulations, and to inform affected personnel in a timely manner of upcoming regulatory or procedural changes.

In the upcoming year, we anticipate moving all Health and Safety facilities to a centralized campus location, and we will complete and submit a reapplication for the University Broad License to possess and use Radioactive Materials and Radiation Generating Devices.

Most importantly, we will continue our commitment to help the University provide an educational and work environment that is safe, secure, and environmentally friendly.

DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS

Health and Safety personnel:

Inspected and certified 12 Steam Autoclaves,

Inspected 294 Chemical Fume Hoods on the main campus and the field station,

Calibrated and certified six Radiation Monitors,

Analyzed 2,308 samples for radiation contamination, and,
Shipped 145 packages containing hazardous materials throughout the US and to ten foreign countries.

Shipped a total of 578 drums of hazardous materials for disposal, including:
14725.5 lbs. of Medical or Biologically Hazardous Waste, and,
57,296 lbs. of Chemical Waste.

In addition, the Department:
Recycled 1,408 lbs. of materials off-site,
Responded to 46 emergency assistance calls,
Responded to 7 chemical spills on the campus (no reported injuries),
Removed and disposed of the contents of the remaining chemical store rooms within the School of Pharmacy, and,
Disposed of all hazardous materials and the lead contaminated sand from the University Firing Range

Health and Safety trained, tested and certified the following number of personnel in the areas indicated:

- Annual Radiation Safety Refresher Courses - 177
- Biosafety & Pathogen Safety - 135
- Chemical Safety - 177
- Radiation Safety for Generating Devices - 9
- Radiation Safety for Radioactive Materials - 46

We published the following rules, policies and web pages and guides:

- Custodians in Hazardous Locations
- Radioactive Materials Lab Security
- Privacy Policy
- Waste Management and Generation Report for 2004
- Departmental Assessment Biannual Report

In addition, Health and Safety personnel updated:

- The Chemical and Biological Safety Manuals,
- Chemical, Radiological and Biological Safety training
- Biohazardous Waste Disposal Procedures,
- Procedures for Shipping Hazardous Materials, and the
- Request for Disposal of Biohazardous Materials form,
- Laser Inventory Form,
- Bio-Scan Report for I125/131 Exposure Form,
- Authorization for Release of Information Form, and the
- Fume Hood Survey Form.
- Self Service Solvent Container Exchange Procedures

- Disposal Information and Procedures for Medical Waste
- Sharps and Biological Waste Disposal Flow Chart
- Hazardous Materials Fume Hood Testing and Maintenance
- Biosafety for Maintenance Personnel
- Radiation Materials Laboratory Safety Information
- Radioactive Waste Disposal Procedures
- Contracts and Grants Approval
- Media contact and information request procedures