

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
**Edward M. Movitz, Health and Safety Officer**  
**2007 - 2008**

**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. All inspection records, reports and responses are available on the Web.

**PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS**

Program modifications during this past fiscal year included revisions and updates to our Biological, Chemical, Radiation and Laser Safety policies to meet recent regulatory changes. We continued to work with University departments, the Institutional Animal Care Committee (IACUC), and the Office of Research to enhance laboratory safety, security requirements and personnel training for authorized users of Hazardous Chemicals, Biohazardous Materials, Radioactive Materials and Radiation Generating Devices.

We updated our departmental portions of the University Crisis Management Plan, the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC), the Pandemic (flu) Plan, the Disaster Resistant University (DRU) Plan, as well as the Facility Safety Plan (Army). We received continued certification of our Institutional Biosafety program from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

All staff members received advanced certifications from the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and re-certification from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Department of Transportation (DOT). Two

personnel recertified with the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

## **PERSONNEL CHANGES**

There were no personnel changes during the fiscal year.

## **DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS**

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

- Art Safety - 5
- Chemical Safety - 149
- Maintenance Biosafety - 2
- Biosafety & Pathogen Safety - 116
- Radiation Safety for Generating Devices - 7
- Radiation Safety for Radioactive Materials - 42
- Annual Radiation Safety Refresher Courses – 192
- Biosafety for Athletic Assistants - 29

Health and Safety personnel:

- Inspected and certified 32 Steam Autoclaves,
- Inspected 295 Chemical Fume Hoods (main campus & the field station),
- Calibrated and certified Three Radiation monitors,
- Analyzed 2,078 samples for radioactivity (including individual bioassays),
- Monitored the daily Radiation exposure of 245 Faculty, Staff & Students,
- Responded to two incidents of chemical dumping on the campus,
- Investigated one odor/chemicals/smell complaints, and,
- Responded to eight chemical spills, one Biohazardous spill, and one Radiological spill.

Health and Safety shipped a total of 910 drums of hazardous wastes for disposal, including:

- 1,050 lbs. of Mixed Radioactive Waste,
- 21,650 lbs. of Medical or Biologically Hazardous Waste, and,
- 34,076 lbs. of Hazardous Chemical Waste.

We also shipped 100 packages containing hazardous materials throughout the US and to nine foreign countries.

## **FUTURE GOALS AND PROSPECTS**

To facilitate the training of the ever increasing population of International Students, we plan to implement a trial program where our most popular training

handouts and tests will be available in a multiple language format.

We will continue to work with departments to reduce the inventories of potentially harmful materials, to decrease or eliminate the long term storage of hazardous materials after research projects are completed, and to increase laboratory safety and security awareness wherever hazardous materials are used or stored.

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

We will continue to work with City, County and State agencies to assure an effective coordination of personnel, supplies, and responsibilities when responding to Hazardous Materials (HazMat) emergencies.