Biosafety Month 2020

Environmental Health & Safety
Biosafety Office

Shane Gillooly
Outline

Team Introduction
Mission / Goals
Committees
Biosafety Month
Program Development
  • BioRaft Updates
  • IBC Scope
  • Website
  • Signage
  • Documents
  • Training
  • Future Development

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Environmental Health & Safety

- Biosafety & Lab Safety
- Laser Safety
- Hazardous Materials Management
- Industrial Hygiene & Air Quality
- Fire Safety
- Radiation Safety
- Employee Health
EHS Leadership

• Executive Director – Jennifer Laine
• Hazmat Manager – Vaughan Munro
• Industrial Hygienist – Raul Garcia
• Radiation Safety Officer – Edward Pombier
• Employee Health Manager – Sandra Chen-Walta
• Biosafety Officer – Shane Gillooly
Biosafety Office

• Shane Gillooly
  ▪ Biosafety Officer

• Melanie Peapell
  ▪ Biosafety Specialist & Laser Safety Officer
    ▪ Dangerous Goods Shipping Coordinator

• Angel Rayo
  ▪ Biosafety Specialist
    ▪ Lab Inspection Coordinator
Mission

• As depicted on our website:

Welcome to the University of Miami Biosafety Office

Our mission is to provide resources and expertise regarding the assessment and control of biological hazards to all UM research stakeholders across labs, clinics, classrooms, and facilities.
Goals

• Words we live by:
  ▪ Service
  ▪ Collaboration
  ▪ Standards
  ▪ Reflection

• Upholding DIRECCT Values
  ▪ Diversity
  ▪ Integrity
  ▪ Responsibility
  ▪ Excellence
  ▪ Compassion
  ▪ Creativity
  ▪ Teamwork

• Safety and Compliance is important to UM leadership
  ▪ Investments have been made to benefit UM
Biological Safety Committees

• Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
  ▪ Contact: IBCsupport@miami.edu
  ▪ Phone: 305-243-2311
  ▪ https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/ibc/index.html

• Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
  ▪ Contact: IACUCsupport@miami.edu
  ▪ Phone: 305-243-2311
  ▪ https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/iacuc/index.html

• Institutional Review Board (IRB)
  ▪ Contact: hsro@miami.edu
  ▪ Phone: 305-243-3195
  ▪ http://hsro.uresearch.miami.edu

• https://www.ehs.miami.edu/services/biological-safety/protocols/index.html
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

• The mission of the IBC Committee (IBC) is to ensure that all research involving recombinant DNA, synthetic nucleotides, infectious agents (pathogens), biological toxins, nanotechnology, or select agents is classified at the appropriate biosafety level.

• Erin Kobetz
  ▪ Responsible Official

• Pantelis Tsoulfas
  ▪ IBC Chair

• Ellen Kapsalis
  ▪ Director of Compliance

• Lizzeth Meza
  ▪ Senior Regulatory Analyst

- Contact: IBCsupport@miami.edu
- https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/ibc/index.html
Biosafety & Biosecurity Month

• ABSA sponsored event for month of October

• Please consider tagging all related social media posts with #biosafety_biosecuritymonth

• https://absa.org/event/2020-biosafety-month/
Dear Colleagues,

Each fall, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focuses on some aspect of biosafety for individuals engaged in research in the life sciences. This year’s theme is the “Role of Biosafety and Biosecurity in Mitigating Risk.”

Since the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered our world. In both our professional and personal lives, we have been asked to make significant changes to mitigate the risks associated with this pandemic. It has become increasingly clear that working safely and mitigating its effects requires teamwork and cooperation. Biosafety and biosecurity professionals have played a critical role in helping mitigate the effects of the pandemic and have been called upon to work on new and challenging projects to protect our communities and the workplace.

Remember that a safety culture begins with the Principal Investigator (PI). By embracing and encouraging safe attitudes and behaviors, you show that safety is valued in your laboratory. As a PI, you have the responsibility to ensure that the lab operates safely and that personnel are aware of the potential risks, wear the appropriate PPE, and are adequately trained.

- **Enforce the current UGM social distancing policies and safety practices when working in the lab environment.** Be mindful of reducing population density, wearing masks at all times in shared environments, and washing your hands regularly. Practice proper decontamination and disposal procedures and doing so promptly and correctly.

- **Report all laboratory incidents promptly to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS).** This is a requirement of both NIH and UGM. It is UGM’s policy that each incident that results in an injury, exposure, or severe illness to faculty, staff, or students be appropriately documented and reported. Exposures must be addressed within 24 hours, and any potential immediate responses for contaminated personnel and the lab must be performed immediately at 305-243-4992 and the EHS office notified at EHSsupport@miami.edu within 24 hours.

- **Review your Labwear Exposure Response SOPs or Biological Review Assessment forms associated with IDE and ROS approvals to ensure that all research personnel from the SOPs for the lab and what to do in the event of a biological incident is in the work place.** For work-related injuries or illnesses, it is essential that appropriate safety procedures be followed. By reviewing those SOPs with each laboratory worker, and placing it in a prominent place in your lab, you can ensure that all individuals will respond quickly and effectively in the event of an exposure.

- **Check the safety signage in, around, and outside of your lab to ensure it is up to date and still relevant.** Your signage can be downloaded from the EHS Biosafety lab page or can be obtained from the Biosafety Office directly.

- **Update your Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogen, and Laboratory Safety trainings for the entire lab.** EHS will have several open sessions during the month of October. Contact EHS at 305-243-3400 for more information.

- **EHS has added a new Biosafety Officer, Shane Gillmore. Shane joins Safety Scientists Jesse Pequignot and Joelle Kayo. You can email the Biosafety Team at biosafety@miami.edu.** For assistance or guidance on anything in your lab, you can start by checking out the new Biosafety webpage located on the EHS website.

Let’s build a biosafety culture together.

Elisha Lobet, PhD, MPH
Institutional Official
Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship

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**6 Easy Ways to Promote Safety Culture at the University of Miami**

1. **Adhere to Pandemic Guidelines in the Lab**
2. **Review Biosafety Protocols & SOPs**
3. **Take Biosafety Training**
4. **Post New Biosafety Signage**
5. **Get to Know Your Biosafety Team!**
6. **Promoting a Culture of Biosafety & Responsibility**

[ehr.mi.edu]
BiRaft Applications

• Lab Inspections
• EHS Notifications
  ▪ Emergent Weather
• Administrative Data Storage
  ▪ Labs, locations, departments, etc.
• Radiation Management
• Soon – IBC Applications
IBC in BioRaft

• BioRaft module for IBC applications
  ▪ Modernize review process
  ▪ Umbrella applications

• IBC purview expanding
  ▪ All biological research captured
  ▪ More holistic capturing of lab work
  ▪ More holistic adherence to regulations
New Website

Better than ever!

http://ehs.miami.edu
New Signage & Postings

Laboratory Gloves: Do's & Don'ts

**Do's**
- Wear gloves when working in the lab
- Always remove gloves when leaving the lab
- Select glove material appropriate to the task, consider the hazard:
  - Biological, Chemical, Radiotrace, Sharp, Extreme Temperatures
- Consult a glove material guide if needed
- Check the glove for holes or damage prior to use
- Change gloves when contaminated or damaged
- Dispose of your used gloves in an appropriate waste container
- Glove waste must be segregated on hazard
- Always wash your hands after removing gloves

**Doffing**
- Grasp Outside Glove
- Pull 1st Inside Out
- Ball Up 1st Glove
- Pat Fingers Inside 2nd Glove
- Pull 2nd Inside Out
- Wash Hands

**Don'ts**
- Do not reuse disposable gloves
  - After all, they're disposable!
- Do not touch doors or door knobs
  - When going between labs, use the "One Glove" technique by holding your sample with your gloved hand while touching the door with your ungloved hand
- Do not touch common equipment or surfaces with gloves, unless signage is present that indicates PPE is required

Sharps Safety @ the University of Miami

**Do**
- Dispose of sharps in a designated container
- Dispose of the sharps container when it is full
- Keep a sharps container on hand
- Make no effort to recap when disposing

**Don't**
- Bend or manipulate needles
- Leave sharps around unprotected
- Dispose of sharps in regular trash
- Recap needles unless your procedure requires it

The One-Handed Scoop Technique

This technique should only be used when required by protocol

STOP 
No Gloves on Door Knobs!

EXPOSURES & NEEDLESTICKS
STOP → WASH → CALL

...all work in lab
...for 15 Minutes!

EHS Employee Health
305-243-3267
New Documents, SOPs, Templates
New Trainings

• New trainings in development
  ▪ General Biosafety
  ▪ Dangerous Goods Shipping Training
    • Complementary Hands on Biohazardous Shipping Training

• Trainings by request

• Future Development
  ▪ Tailored versions of Biosafety
  ▪ Recombinant DNA
  ▪ Bloodborne Pathogens refresh
Future Vision

• Aiming to address current gaps
  ▪ Training Development
  ▪ Biosafety Manual(s)
  ▪ Better Animal Research Support

• Very receptive to ideas and critiques

• Collaborative spirit with research

• Service minded response
Biosafety Month Recap

Dear Colleagues,

Each fall, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focuses on some aspect of biosafety for individuals engaged in research in the life sciences. This year's theme is "The Role of Biosafety and Bioculture in Mitigating Risk." Since the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered our world. In both our professional and personal lives, we have been asked to make significant changes to mitigate the risks associated with this pandemic. It has become increasingly clear that ensuring the safety and health of our workforce and the community continues to be a top priority. Thus, maintaining a culture of safety is at the heart of our daily activities.

1. **Enforce the current UM social distancing policies and safety practices when working in the lab environment.** For effect, all personnel must wear masks at all times in shared environments, including when transferring hands routinely. Practice proper decontamination and disposal procedures and wearing appropriate protective equipment (PPE).

2. **Ensure all laboratory incidents promptly to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS).** This is a requirement of both NIH and UM. It is the policy of the EHS to report all incidents to safety officers and the appropriate department immediately. However, if any incident is not reported, it may be treated as a serious violation.

3. **Review your Exposure Response SOPs or Biological Review Assessment forms associated with IAC and RGD approvals.** To ensure that all research personnel follow the SOPs for the lab and what to do in the event of a biological accident/splash in the workplace. For work-related injuries or illnesses, it is essential that appropriate safety procedures are followed. By reviewing these SOPs with each laboratory worker and placing it in a prominent place in your lab, you can ensure that all individuals will respond quickly and effectively in the event of an exposure.

4. **Check the safety signage in, around, and outside of your lab and ensure it is up to date and still relevant.** Your signage can be downloaded from the EHS Biosafety website or can be obtained from the Biosafety Office.

5. **Update your Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogen, Laboratory Safety trainings for the entire lab.** EHS will have several open sessions during the month of October. Contact EHS at 243-3400 for more information.

6. **EHS has added a new Biosafety Officer, Shane Gillow.** Shane joins the Biosafety and Environmental Health and Safety staff at the University of Miami. For availability or guidance on anything in your lab, you can contact Shane at 243-3400 or via email at shane.gillow@miami.edu.

Let's build a biosafety culture together.

Erika Rizko, PhD, MPH
Institutional Officer
Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship
Questions

• Contact the Biosafety Office:
  ▪ 305-243-3269
  ▪ biosafety@miami.edu

• Contact Shane directly:
  ▪ 786-797-0387
  ▪ sxg1519@med.miami.edu

• Visit our Website!
  ▪ http://ehs.miami.edu