

Second Annual Zone Crew Meeting Rated a Big Success

(Linda Bogue)

On December 15, 2004, over 100 Zone Crew members met at Schniederman Hall. The event was kicked off by Mike Arias, Assistant Executive Vice Chancellor, who thanked all attendees for their participation in the Zone Crew and reaffirmed the Campus commitment to their work in keeping the Campus safe when emergencies occur.

Zone Captains Vikki Duncan, Janice Gregory and Chas Smith shared 2004 Zone Crew accomplishments in Humanities and UNEX. Humanities has instituted a program of drop-in drills and UNEX continues to have regularly scheduled drills. Earlier this year, a false alarm in UNEX resulted in a successful evacuation before the arrival of the Fire Department. When the Fire Department rolled up, they immediately approached the "person in the yellow vest", a Building Coordinator who was able to give them an accurate assessment of the situation.

Jeannie Taylor from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) gave a thorough overview of the Office and the services they provide. Taking an "all hazards" approach, the OES performs a variety of activities that include work with earthquake and fire hazards, as well as tsunami readiness and the ever-worsening Bark Beetle infestation in the local mountains. The three top hazards identified by the State are earthquakes, wildland fires and flooding.



Mike Arias, Assistant Executive Vice Chancellor



Richard Demerjian, Director of Campus and Environmental Planning

Richard Demerjian, Director of Campus and Environmental Planning, provided an in-depth look at the growth of the campus from its groundbreaking in the 1960's to today and previewed the plans for the next 15 to 20 years. The square footage for classrooms and research in the academic core is expected to double and the campus will be able to house close to 50% of the undergraduate student body. The academic core will remain within the loop created by Campus Drive and Peltason Drive. The new Student Center will provide improved amenities and meeting spaces for a variety of community-oriented activities. Many enhancements will be made to maintain a pedestrian-friendly core where students, faculty and staff can study, work and play in safe and attractive environs.

The Zone Crew is comprised of more than 400 Zone Captains, Building Coordinators, Floor Wardens and Suite Representatives who assist in facilitating evacuations and other emergency actions when needed. See <http://www.ehs.uci.edu/em/zonemap.html> to identify your local Zone Crew members.

EH&S Directory...

Administration

Marc Gomez	magomez@uci.edu	4-6889
Helen Templin	htemplin@uci.edu	4-5828
Glenda Beckett	gebecket@uci.edu	4-8234
Karla Cornejo	kmcornej@uci.edu	4-3069
Kim Do	nklam@uci.edu	4-8772
Armi Estrada	aestrada@uci.edu	4-2250
Alice Lee	alicecl@uci.edu	4-4815

Information Technology

Jenifer Swann	jmnothr@uci.edu	4-4818
Carol Lu	cblu@uci.edu	4-6311

Biosafety

Susan Weekly	sweekly@uci.edu	4-9888
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EH&S Coordinators

Hamid Arabzadeh	hamid@uci.edu	4-4660
David Melitz	dmelitz@uci.edu	4-2941
Joseph Rizkallah	jar@uci.edu	4-6579
Rama Singh	rsingh@uci.edu	4-2518
Chris		
Younghans-Haug	chrisyh@uci.edu	4-5730

Environmental Affairs

Dick Sun	dtsun@uci.edu	4-2188
Kirk Matin	kmatin@uci.edu	4-4578
Ricardo Cruz	rcruz@uci.edu	4-2811
Brian Johnson	bjohnso@uci.edu	4-9929
Christian Ritter	crritter@uci.edu	4-6085

Emergency Management

Linda Bogue	lbogue@uci.edu	4-7147
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Fire Safety

Dale Saunders	dsaunder@uci.edu	4-4077
Gerald Abbott	gabbot@uci.edu	4-6093
Scott Jackson	jacksons@uci.edu	4-9665
Alan Sahussanun	asahussa@uci.edu	4-4450

Industrial Hygiene

John Chan	jwchan@uci.edu	4-7101
Lisa Cambria	lcambria@uci.edu	4-8342
James Pack	jgpack@uci.edu	4-4170
Rito Rincon	mxrincon@uci.edu	4-8586
Susan Robb	srobb@uci.edu	4-8791
Alvin Samala	amsamala@uci.edu	4-4817

Occupational Health/Safety

Ruth Bundy	rvbundy@uci.edu	4-8024
Sandra Conrrad	sconrrad@uci.edu	4-6982
David Mori	dkmori@uci.edu	4-9940
Belinda Manalac	bmanalac@uci.edu	4-9524
Karen Swift	ksswift@uci.edu	4-2183
Jesse Wallace	jwallace@uci.edu	4-9864

Radiation Safety

Debbie Hamano	dhamano@uci.edu	4-1081
Rick Mannix	rcmannix@uci.edu	4-6098
Rocky Dendo	ridendo@uci.edu	4-4557
Dana Gold	goldd@uci.edu	4-6349
Kathi Harkness	kharknes@uci.edu	4-4862
Anna Chung	achung1@uci.edu	

Training

Jessica Drew		
de Paz	drewj@uci.edu	4-6634

Get Online MSDSs at www.ucmsds.com!!

What is a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)?

An MSDS provides health and safety information about the hazardous material which includes physical and chemical hazards, toxicity, health effects, emergency procedures, reactivity, storage, handling, disposal and protective equipment.

Why do I need an MSDS?

MSDSs are the best general source of information available on a hazardous material, and should be consulted as a first step in assessing the associated risk with doing an experiment. Users need to familiarize themselves with this information and have access to MSDS's while working and before starting work with a new or unfamiliar chemical.

Where can I obtain an MSDS online?

UCI has an online MSDS retrieval system. The most current versions of MSDSs are available at www.ucmsds.com or www.ehs.uci.edu by clicking on the MSDS header at the top of the page. You can search by common chemical name, by ingredient component or manufacturer. A Glossary of Terms commonly used on MSDSs is also available at www.ehs.uci.edu.

Why do MSDSs Exist?

The California Hazard Communication Standard requires that hazardous materials manufacturers and distributors provide users with MSDSs.

Are you reading a hard copy of this Newsletter? Wouldn't you rather receive an environmentally friendly electronic copy? Sign up to automatically receive a message when the next issue is available. Go to http://recordnet.ddm.uci.edu/zotmail/zm_lists.html and click Update under My ZotMail. Or just go to our website at <http://www.ehs.uci.edu/> and click on EH&Safety Matters Newsletter.

Proper Fume Hood Use and Operation – Part One

(John Chan)

General

Laboratory fume hoods serve to control exposure to toxic, offensive or flammable vapors, gases and aerosols. Fume hoods are the primary method of exposure control in the laboratory.

Use the right hood for the job:

- General Purpose Hoods:
 - Standard Fume Hood
 - Bypass Hood, or Constant Volume Hood
 - Variable Air Volume (VAV) Hood
 - Auxiliary Air Supplied Hood (Note: At UCI, found only in the Beckman Laser Institute research labs)
- Radioisotope Hood--These hoods have been authorized by Radiation Safety for use with volatile radioactive materials.
- Biosafety Cabinet--Specialized hoods to prevent or minimize the exposure of humans or the environment to biohazardous agents or materials.
- Perchloric Acid Hoods *must* be used when working with acid digestion procedures. These hoods prevent the formation of perchlorates which could lead to explosions. They are constructed with special materials and have water-wash capability.

Equipment Use

- Place apparatus and equipment as far back as possible in hood for safety and optimal performance. Equipment should be placed a minimum of 6 inches inside the hood. Keep electrical connections outside of hood.
- Ensure that equipment or materials do not block the baffle vents in the back of the hood.
- When using a large apparatus inside the hood, place the equipment on blocks, when safe and practical, to allow air flow beneath it.

Do not place electrical apparatus or other ignition sources inside the hood when flammable liquids or gases are present. Keep in mind that liquids with low flash points may ignite if they are near heat sources such as hot plates or steam lines.

Remember! In order to conserve energy, always keep fume hood sashes closed when not in use. For more information on this article, please call x44817.



When you get old, you retire. Why not retire your old cell phone by recycling it?

The majority of retired phones end up in desk drawers with the expectation that they may be put back into service some day. Cell phones contain metals such as lead, gold, silver, palladium, copper, and zinc that can be recycled to protect our landfills from heavy metal contamination. Do your part to help protect our environment.

Recycle your used cellular phones for FREE, by placing the entire unit (including the battery) in an interoffice envelope addressed to Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S), ZOT Code 2725. For your convenience, a cellular phone recycling bin is also available at the UCI Bookstore.

Golf Cart/Low Speed Vehicle Operations

(Jesse L. Wallace Jr.)

EH&S, in partnership with other campus departments, is leading an effort to ensure the safe use of golf cart and low speed vehicles on campus. This "new" program provides guidance regarding the acquisition and approved business use of golf cart type vehicles, also known as motorized carts, on the UC Irvine campus. Methods have been established for the University to monitor the use, registration and maintenance of golf carts and other low speed 3 or 4 wheeled vehicles (LSV) that are powered by electric or internal combustion motors.

All UC Irvine owned golf cart type vehicles must have an official University of California, Irvine logo that is clearly visible, bearing the Department's name and assigned unique number. Facilities Management and EH&S are responsible for affixing the logo to the vehicles. The Facilities Management Sign Shop makes the logos for the vehicles. They may be reached at signshop@uci.edu.



As an operator of a motorized vehicle did you know:

- The Golf Cart/Low Speed Vehicle Program has changed and can be accessed at: <http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/safety/motorizedcarts.html>.
- You must be trained and authorized to operate these vehicles on campus.
- You must possess a valid California Driver license.
- Your department supervisor needs to discuss the "Operator Agreement" with you.
- You can be cited for unsafe operations by campus Police.
- Only employees may be authorized to use these vehicles (includes student employees).

"Operator Agreement":

- Have your supervisor log onto the EH&S web site to see the new Golf Cart/Low Speed Vehicle written program (see link above).
- Sign the "Operator Agreement" with your supervisor

Vehicle Safety Etiquette:

- Yield to pedestrians at all times; they always have the right-of-way.
- When traveling through heavy pedestrian traffic areas, use alternate routes or stop until the area is clear to proceed.

Operations:

- The maximum speed on the ring mall, bike paths and campus bridges is 10 miles per hour. When possible, match your speed with the pedestrians walking near you.
- Vehicles may carry only as many passengers as there are seats.
- If the vehicle is equipped with seat belts, they must be used.
- Review the vehicle owner manual prior to vehicle use.

Avoid the following while the vehicle is in motion:

- Wearing headphones
- Using a radio or cell phone

How to Get Training:

- Go to the following link to register, click on Motorized Vehicles: <http://www.ted.uci.edu>.
- Contact Jesse L. Wallace Jr. at 824-9864 or email at jwallace@uci.edu if you have any questions.



Remember that safety is your responsibility. Thank you for your commitment to drive safely.