UC IRVINE LASER SAFETY GUIDELINES POSTER

WHEN WORKING WITH HAZARDOUS LASERS, ALWAYS FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

- Make sure you have received EH&S laser safety training (www.uclc.uci.edu) and sufficient on-the-job/hands-on training in the lab.

- Never operate a laser without the permission of your PI or deviate from established standard operating procedures.

- Always wear protective goggles or spectacles when operating an open-beam laser!

- Remember that invisible-beam near-infrared lasers are the most dangerous.

- Make sure all reflective items are removed from your hands (jewelry, wristwatch) and keep unused optics and shiny tools well away from the beam.

- Always enclose as much of the beam as possible using beam barriers, beam stops, etc.

- Never direct beams upwards or across walkways.

- Keep beams below sitting eye level at all times -- do not sit at an optical table.

- Think through your laser procedure completely beforehand to avoid surprises. If you have questions, get answers before proceeding. Trust your intuition!

- Reduce the laser output power as much as possible, especially during beam alignments.

- Use indirect beam viewing techniques like beam cards, beam paper like Zap-it® paper, and infrared viewer scopes.

- Do not operate a laser when tired, rushed, sick, angry, preoccupied, etc.

- Remain vigilant regarding safety even if you are an experienced laser operator.

- Be a good example to others in your lab regarding laser safety (bad habits are contagious).

☎ Contact the UC Irvine Laser Safety Officer at 949-824-6200 if you have any laser safety questions or concerns.  ❌