

## **BSEL Safety Meeting Notes**

**Meeting Date:** November 19, 2025

**Notes:** Cristy Glen/ Aftab Ahamed

**Attendees:** Josh Heyne, Hanwu Lei, Aftab Ahamed, Sanjaya Lokugama, Harrison Yang, Jing Liang, Fitria, Shiva, Usman Khan

### **Topics of Discussion:**

**October Meeting Notes-** Approved

#### **Unattended Flask with Spore Growth in BSEL 273 (Shared Lab)**

Aftab noticed a flask just left on counter in BSEL 273 shared lab contained fungal growth in the glass flask. It is unclear how the microbial growth got there. As researcher, it is your responsibility to respect all other researchers. The spores are exposing to all researchers working in that lab. This time, Aftab will put in Autoclave, next time it is the responsibility of the person who cause this issue. Please email Aftab if have any concerns.

#### **Contaminated Surfaces and Allergy Complaint**

Someone experienced a rash on their cheek after touching doorknob of the BSEL labs. Please always use your gloves in the lab and discard the used gloves before you go to other labs and use a new pair of gloves to work. Please keep in mind to follow this procedure at all time. If you do not follow this protocol, then it may cause a sever problem to others after you have touched chemicals and microbes that could spread easily. All PPE is available in the lab. Please use them for safety of yourself and others.

“Keep lab clean. Be respectful to not leave your mess to someone else”.

Aside from the safety training, lets have training to focus on BSEL items.

#### **Shared 2L Parr Reactor Concerns**

This equipment belongs to Hanwu. Please make sure to schedule accordingly with Hanwu’s approval.

Let’s arrange a separate meeting to address the scheduling for the Parr Reactor. Until the meeting, we will stay with the current scheduling rotation.

Maybe we can add PARR reactor to include in Safety Training. Maybe a print out to distribute.

#### **Cold Room Door Must Remain Closed**

Usman noted that the BSEL cold room door was found partially open. Please ensure the door is always fully closed behind you to maintain the unit's functionality and temperature integrity. We will be contacting Facilities Services to determine if the cold room temperature can be monitored remotely, similar to the building's HVAC system.

### Accessing Items in Other PI's Labs

Everyone is responsible for problems of missing items in the labs.

### Annual Fume Hood Certification and Testing

Fume Hood testing and certification next week November 24<sup>th</sup>.

### WSU-TC Campus Safety Meeting Update

Waste disposal from HPLC. 4-20 gallon. When filled, we will notify Scott. Don't keep cans for own labs. Only 2 empty cans/lab are allowed.

### Round Table Time

Shiva- Both the new and old HPLC units are generating a high volume of waste, and extra carboys may be required to collect it.

Harrison - The eyewash stations and safety showers will not be functional during the upcoming maintenance period. Please confirm the specific schedule with Scott.

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## BSEL Safety Meeting Agenda

Date: November 19, 2025

Prepared by: Sanjaya Lokugama

### 1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Review and approval of the minutes from the previous safety meeting.

### 2. Unattended Flask with Spore Growth in BSEL 273 (Shared Lab)

A complaint was received regarding an unattended conical flask containing visible spore growth in BSEL 273. The responsible student failed to decontaminate and dispose of the flask even after a general email notification was sent to all BSEL personnel.

### 3. Contaminated Surfaces and Allergy Complaint

We have received a complaint regarding a student suffering an allergic reaction, which is believed to be caused by a contaminated door handle. To prevent cross-contamination and

protect sensitive users, do not touch communal surfaces (such as door handles, keyboards, phones, etc.) with the gloves worn during experiments.

#### **4. Shared 2L Parr Reactor Concerns**

The requested testing for the 2L Parr reactor concerning potential temperature control issues has been completed. It was determined that there is no issue with the reactor's temperature controller, heating element, or thermocouple.

We have received several requests to revise the current user schedule for the 2L Parr reactor. These requests include allocating extra usage time for certain groups and revising the order of groups on the current schedule. These revisions will be discussed and finalized.

#### **5. Cold Room Door Must Remain Closed**

A student reported that the BSEL cold room door was found propped open early Monday morning. It is critical that you close the cold room door immediately behind you when you are leaving.

#### **6. Accessing Items in Other PI's Labs**

Students have raised continued concerns regarding personnel from other labs accessing, using, and displacing their lab items. To maintain lab security and organization, all students must ask for and receive permission from the designated lab representative before entering another lab space or using any item that does not belong to their research group.

#### **7. Annual Fume Hood Certification and Testing**

Annual fume hood testing and certification will be conducted next week, from Monday, November 24th, through Wednesday, November 26th. The contractor requires free and clear access to every fume hood, laminar flow hood, and biological safety cabinet in your lab space during this period. Please ensure all items are cleared from these units.

#### **8. WSU-TC Campus Safety Meeting Update**

Key updates and announcements from the recent WSU-TC campus safety meeting will be shared.

#### **9. Round Table Time**

Each research group will have a few minutes to share any safety-related thoughts, concerns, or suggestions.