

Research Service Center Newsletter

November 2020

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

Website

The [Lab Safety website](#) has been updated to include critical information for the safe conduct of research. Please share this with your staff and ask them to take the time to review it.

Safety Committee

WSU Spokane is continuing its implementation of the President's Safety, Health, and Security Committee plan. Washington state law requires that the majority of committee members be elected, not appointed. Departments and units on our campus will soon be asked to hold elections for members of our level 4 committee—which operates at the department, work unit, program, and building level—for the 2020-2021 term. If you would like additional information about the President's Safety, Health, and Security Committee, its goals, and organization, please see the [Office of the President website](#) or contact EH&S.

Level 4 safety meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month and are open to the university community. Minutes are available upon request. Contact Norene Phillipson at norenep@wsu.edu for Zoom access or minutes.

Contacts:

- Merle J. Heineke – Phone: 509-358-7889, E-mail: merle.heineke@wsu.edu
- Chad Trent – Phone: 509-368-6699, E-mail: chad.trent@wsu.edu
- Megan Chastain – Phone: 509-358-7541, E-mail: megan.chastain@wsu.edu
- Olga Shiva – Phone: 509-358-7873, E-mail: olga.shiva@wsu.edu

Lab Services

Central Store Room

Efforts continue to expand the Central Store for the Spokane campus. The store currently carries ethanol, bleach, gloves, histology supplies, and many other consumables. Expansion of the store will provide labs with better prices and can reduce the amount of supplies stored in the lab. Recommendations for items to be added to the store are welcome.

An example of cost savings is 70 percent ethanol. Currently most labs purchase 200 proof ethanol at \$26.85 per gallon and then dilute it to 70 percent. The store can supply 70 percent ethanol at \$17.00 per gallon. Purchasing premixed 70 percent saves both on the cost of the ethanol and labor costs for staff.

Contact:

- Barry Worden – Phone: 509-368-6842, E-mail: barry.worden@wsu.edu

Autoclaves

The autoclaves in PBS have been validated to ensure the correct cycle parameters required for each unit to achieve sterilization. Each autoclave performs slightly differently. If using an autoclave on a different floor, please do not adjust the cycle parameters to match the ones on the floor that is typically used. If you do this, sterilization may not be achieved. Cycle parameters have been programmed for each autoclave.

Dry Ice Shipments

Persons preparing dry ice shipments are required to be certified. At this time, only Lab Services staff are certified. Researchers will be charged for labor and materials (such as insulated boxes and dry ice) to prepare each dry ice shipment. PIs may provide a box as long as it meets requirements (labels removed, outer surface intact). PIs associated with the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences may obtain dry ice following their department's usual procedures. Please note that a labor charge will still apply. For more details, read the [SOP on Shipping Dry Ice Packages](#) posted on the laboratory safety website.

Contacts:

- Megan Chastain – Phone: 509-358-7541, E-mail: megan.chastain@wsu.edu
- Olga Shiva – Phone: 509-358-7873, E-mail: olga.shiva@wsu.edu

Vivarium/Program of Laboratory Animal Resources (PLAR)

Health Monitoring: The most recent health screen was completed at the end of August. The vivarium continues to be free of commonly screened-for pathogens.

Semi-Annual Inspection: The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) performed their semi-annual inspection of WSU Spokane's animal facilities in early September. The Spokane animal research program performed well overall. Keeping our vivarium spaces in optimal condition is an ongoing task, so please remember to continue discarding expired drugs and materials appropriately, labelling secondary containers, following vivarium- and lab-specific policies, and maintaining clear and thorough animal records. Thank you all for your continued efforts.

Training: In-person training courses are available in a modified format. For everyone's safety, PLAR is following all WSU COVID-19-related controls such as practicing social distancing and wearing face coverings to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. Training attendance will be limited to one instructor and one trainee. To request training or additional details, please contact ocv.spokane.vet@wsu.edu.

Contacts, Spokane:

- General PLAR inquiries – E-mail: ocv.spokane.vet@wsu.edu
- Jennifer Kopanke, DVM – Phone: 509-358-7825, E-mail: jennifer.kopanke@wsu.edu
- Rob Archuleta – Phone: 509-358-7975, E-mail: robert.archuleta@wsu.edu
- For PLAR animal emergencies – Phone: 509-592-6884

Contacts, Main Office (Pullman):

- General Office of the Campus Veterinarian inquiries – Phone: 509-335-6246, E-mail: or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu
- For emergencies if unable to reach the PLAR emergency contact – Phone: 509-330-1871

Research Service Centers

Flow Cytometry

New users need to complete training prior to conducting actual testing. Depending on past experiences, it may take several sessions to become completely familiar with the equipment and software. Please plan in advance.

Contact:

- Olga Shiva, Phone: 509-358-7873, E-mail: olga.shiva@wsu.edu

Mass Spectrometry

It is imperative that all users of mass spectrometry equipment document their usage. The rate charged is calculated as expenses divided by hours of usage. Failure to record usage results in a higher rate.

Contact:

- Olga Shiva, Phone: 509-358-7873, E-mail: olga.shiva@wsu.edu

Microscopy/Histology/Imaging

Microscopy - Microscopy has implemented a new calendar system. If you have not received your invitation to the calendar, contact Megan and she will create your account.

Histology - Please submit samples using the [Histology Sample Submission Form](#) available on the Service Center website.

Imaging - Imaging equipment includes radiation-producing machines. Make sure you have completed your training through the Radiation Safety Office before planning any work using the IVIS or Quantum.

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- Megan Chastain – Phone: 509-358-7541, E-mail: megan.chastain@wsu.edu
- Olga Shiva – Phone: 509-358-7873, E-mail: olga.shiva@wsu.edu

Genomics

Contact:

- Dr. Yiyong (Ben) Liu, Phone: 509-358-6741, E-mail: yiyong.liu@wsu.edu

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

Contact:

- Dr. Zuping Xia, Phone: 509-358-6575, E-mail: zuping.xia@wsu.edu

Biomedical Engineering and Design (BE&D)

BE&D is available to promote and foster science on the WSU Spokane campus. This group can help researchers and start-up businesses leverage their resources by saving on cost and allowing them to innovate more efficiently.

Contact:

- Will Clegern, Phone: 509-358-6750, E-mail: will.clegern@wsu.edu