



# Environmental Health & Safety

*Michael Hooks - Director*

Overview of EHS Programs & Services  
Related to Laboratory Safety



# Environmental Health & Safety

## *Mission Statement*

- To support the teaching, learning, and research activities of the University through promotion of a safe and healthy campus environment by providing guidance and coordinating programs and services that reduce the safety, environmental, and regulatory risks to the Louisiana State University community.
- Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) reduces these risks through partnerships with students, faculty, staff and visitors. EHS provides regulatory compliance assistance, training programs, program development and implementation, technical support, inspections and emergency response services for the Baton Rouge campus of Louisiana State University



# Environmental Health & Safety

*University Safety Committees*

- *Research Safety Committee*
  - Co chaired by Michael Hooks, Director, EHS & Debra Keppler, Director, ORED Research Compliance—Attend by the Chairs of all campus committees related to research safety.
- *IBRDSC – Inter-Institutional Biological and Recombinant DNA Safety Committee*
  - BSL-3 Containment Advisory Committee (BCAC)— oversight of all Biological Safety Level 3 work performed on campus.
- *Radiation Safety Committee—*
  - Oversight of all radioisotope/laser use on campus.
- *IACUC – Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee*
  - Oversight of research involving animals.
- *IRB – Institutional Review Board*
  - Oversight of research involving human subjects.



# Environmental Health & Safety

*Programs & Services*

- **Laboratory Safety (Research & Teaching)**
- **Environmental Services**
- **Biological Safety**
- **Industrial Hygiene (Occupational Health)**
- **Chemical Safety**
- *Radiation Safety*



# Environmental Health & Safety

*Laboratory Safety*

- **Laboratory Safety (Research & Teaching)**
  - **Laboratory Accreditation Program**
    - Routine inspections and self assessments.
    - Full compliance with all safety and environmental guidelines.
    - Personnel Training
    - Best Laboratory Practices
    - *"Safe Science is Good Science"*



# Environmental Health & Safety

*Environmental Services*

- **Environmental Services**

- **Manage the impact University activities and operations have on the environment through compliance with State and Federal Permits.**

- **Hazardous Waste – EHS collects regulated hazardous and non-hazardous waste from campus laboratories. Inspects to ensure compliance with EPA/LDEQ regulations.**

- **Biological Safety**
  - **Regulate and Review all research involving biological agents.**
    - Human cells
    - Animal cells
    - Plant cells
    - Pathogens
    - rDNA
  - **Institutional Biological & rDNA Safety Committee (IBRDSC)**
    - Approves protocols pending inspections.

- **Industrial Hygiene (Occupational Health)**
  - **Monitors campus work environments to ensure a healthy workplace free from exposures to hazardous conditions.**
    - Ergonomics (Work Station)
    - Personal Protective Equipment
    - Occupational Monitoring
      - Noise
      - Ventilation (Chemical Fume Hood Inspections)
      - Lighting
      - Etc.



- **Chemical Safety**
  - **Manage Hazardous Materials on Campus.**
  - **Chemical Inventory that tracks all chemicals being used in campus labs.**
    - EHS Assistant
  - **Begins with the purchase of a chemical.**
  - **That container is tracked “Cradle to Grave”.**
  - **This information is used to ensure:**
    - proper training of lab personnel
    - safe teaching and research
    - waste minimization.



# Environmental Health & Safety

*Establishing a Culture of Safety*

- Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU)
  - Guide to Implementing a Safety Culture in our Universities
  - <http://www.aplu.org/library/safety-culture/file>
- Research Safety Committee
  - Developed a response to the guide.
  - Presented to ORED and the Provost's Office.
  - Identified goals to be implemented in the short term.
    - EHS will visit departmental faculty meetings to conduct discussions and get input from faculty on improving the culture of safety at LSU.
    - Re-establish a Research Safety Newsletter for distribution to the LSU community.
    - Provide further education to faculty, staff, and students on the incident reporting process.