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# **#HeroesofChemistry**ACS Heroes of Chemistry Award



Inspiring Hero Stories



The ACS Heroes of Chemistry Award is the Annual award sponsored by the American Chemical Society that recognizes talented industrial chemical scientists whose work has led to the development of successful commercialized products ingrained with chemistry for the benefit of humankind.

2018 Winners:







**SeattleGenetics**®

www.acs.org/heroes



#### Check out what ACS CHAS has to offer!





Sammye Sigmann, 2019 Chair ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety

ACS Chemical Health & Safety is an all-volunteer technical division of the American Chemical Society. The Division is home to chemists from industry and academia and safety professionals who are interested in the well-being of those who use chemicals (at work, in education, or at home) and the protection of the environment.

When you become a member, you will have access to:

- •<u>Up-to-date notification on worldwide incidents</u> involving chemicals and expert advice from our members on the <u>DCHAS-L listserv</u>
- •Discounts on registration for our educational workshops at National and Regional meetings
- •Free membership in our <u>Cannabis Subdivision</u>

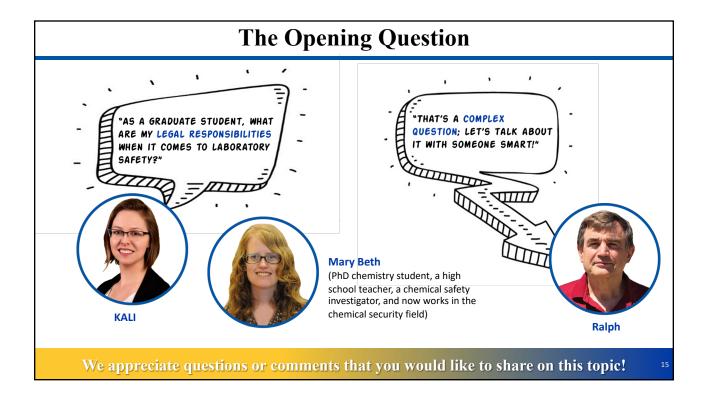
http://dchas.org











2019 Case Study: Performance Audit of the University of Utah's Laboratory Safety Practices

#### Are sufficient policies and practices in place to prevent incidents?



- · Report says the Laboratory Safety system is "broken"
- Administration and Staff must take ownership of their problems
- Lab safety system appears stagnant and focused on performing inspections as indicators of safety performance rather than addressing problems

16

https://le.utah.gov/audit/19\_06rpt.pdf

#### **Audit Recommends Tracking Whether Deficiencies Are Corrected**

The report notes that investigations of other lab incidents found uncorrected repeat deficiencies were a factor in those incidents.







University of Hawaii

**University of California Los Angeles** 

Texas Tech University

- At Utah, the auditors found that 49% of research groups had at least one repeated major chemical safety deficiency
- · Some university research personnel do not fully understand their lab safety responsibilities
- The University President recognizes these concerns and is working on solutions



17

#### Questions from the Graduate Student Perspective after Reading the Utah Report WHAT ARE RESEARCHERS WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT TO WHAT LAWS OR POLICIES OR EXPECTED TO KNOW? WHAT TEACH RESEARCHERS ABOUT REGULATIONS ADDRESS LAB THESE RULES? WHERE CAN RULES ARE THEY REQUIRED SAFETY IN ACADEMIC STUDENTS LEARN IF THEY'RE NOT TO FOLLOW? TAUGHT THIS IN THE COURSE OF INSTITUTIONS? HOW ARE THEIR EDUCATION? THEY ENFORCED? WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL HOW CAN SOMEONE REPORT LEGAL CONSEQUENCES IF SAFETY CONCERNS IN LAB ACADEMIC LABORATORIES SITUATIONS? DON'T FOLLOW SAFETY GUIDELINES?

# **Audience Challenge Question**

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



# Do you know what safety regulations apply to your work in the chemistry research laboratory?

- · I do not know
- I know who to ask to find out
- I rely on the institution's experts to address regulatory requirements
- I have reviewed specific regulations that apply to my lab work
- · This question is not applicable to me

\* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!

#### **Laboratory and Educational Demonstration Incidents** (2001-2018)



The [261] incidents occurred in a variety of organizations and settings, including:

- · Private research laboratories
- Universities
- · High schools
- · Middle schools
- · Elementary schools
- The National Laboratories
- · State-run laboratories
- · Educational demonstrations



https://www.csb.gov/assets/1/6/CSB\_Laboratory\_Incident\_Data.pdf

#### Fundamental Legal Concepts You Need to Answer Kali's Questions

Step 1 – Take Inventory of CH $_4$  +4Cl $_2$   $\rightarrow$  CCl $_4$  +4HCl the elements and atoms on the product and reactant side. C-1 = C-1 reactant side. H-4  $\not=$  H- $\checkmark$  4 Step 2 – Is it balanced? C1- $\checkmark$ 8 Step 3 – If unbalanced, change coefficients until it's balanced. Balanced!

Just as you need to be comfortable with algebra to do Stoichiometry...

- **1. What** lab safety aspect is being considered? Review the regulatory environment.
- **2.** Who covers that aspect here?
  Agency jurisdictions are defined by media and geography.
- **3.** How does the regulator write and when do they enforce the regulation? Each agency has its own regulatory style.



21

#### The Regulatory Environment



- 1. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- 2. Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)
- 3. Publically Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
- 4. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- 5. Local fire and building codes
- 6. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- 7. National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- 8. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- 9. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- 10. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- 11. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- 12. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- 13. Department of Transportation (DOT)
- 14. International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- 15. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- 16. Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Animal Laboratory Care (AAALAC)
- 17. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- 18. Ethical conduct of research
- 19. Grant funding requirements



22

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jchas.2010.12.003

#### Jurisdiction by Aspect: OSHA Regulations Applicable to Labs

- 1910.1030 Bloodborne Pathogens
- Needlestick Prevention Act (2000)
- 1910.132 Personal Protective Equipment
- 1910.133 Eye and Face Protection
- 1910.134 Respiratory Protection
- 1910.138 Hand Protection
- 1910.145 Accident Prevention Signs & Tags
- 1910.1200 Hazard Communication
- 1910.1048 Formaldehyde Standard
- 1910.1096 Ionizing Radiation Standard
- 1910.1450 Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories (Laboratory Standard)
- OSH Act –Section 5(a)(1) the General Duty Clause





http://thefdp.org/default/assets/File/Presentations/OSHALabSafetyMay2018.pdf

# Jurisdiction by Geography: OSHA Coverage of Academic Institutions Contact a State Plan Select a state/herritory from the map to show that state/herritory's State Plan contact information. OSHA COVERAGE OF ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS Type Federal OSHA State OSHA Private Public This state has an OSHA-approved State Plan flat covers private and state and local government workplaces. This state has an OSHA-approved State Plan flat covers private and state and local government workplaces.

#### Regulatory Style: Performance Versus Prescriptive

#### LABELS AND OTHER FORMS OF WARNING **Prescriptive Based on GHS** Performance-Based

#### Give an employer the latitude to determine the specific methods to use to mitigate hazard exposures.

1994

Identity of the hazardous

Name and address of the chemical manufacturer,

importer, or other responsible

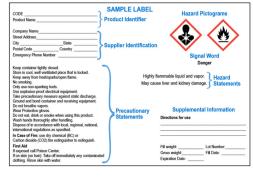
chemical(s);

#### methods to use to mitigate hazard exposures.

Restrict the employer to use specific

- 2012 Product identifier;
- Signal word; Appropriate hazard warnings;
  - Hazard statement(s);
  - Pictogram(s);
  - Precautionary statement(s); and,
  - Name, address, and telephone number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, or other responsible party.

#### The OSHA Hazard **Communication Standard**





https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/side-by-side.html

## Regulatory Style: The OSHA Laboratory Standard

#### Performance Based

#### LABELS AND OTHER FORMS OF WARNING

**Pre-Laboratory Standard** 

Post-Laboratory Standard (1990)

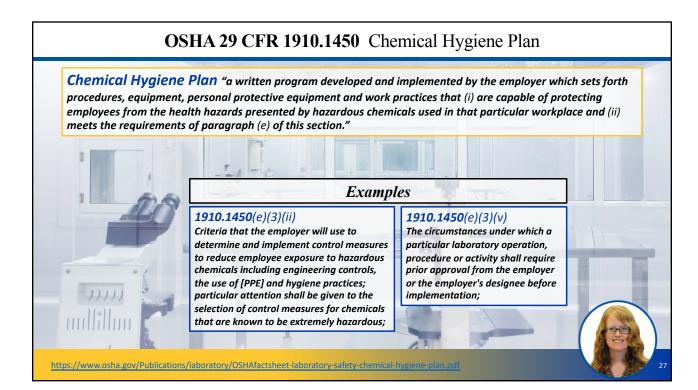
- OHSA regulated hazardous chemical exposure through substance-specific standards and exposure limits;
- This worked well in industrial settings where workers were exposed to large quantities of chemicals in repetitive processes.

OSHA acknowledged that a larger variety, but smaller amounts, of hazardous chemicals were used in laboratories. In response, OSHA created the performance-based Laboratory Standard.





https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/side-by-side.html



### **Audience Challenge Question**

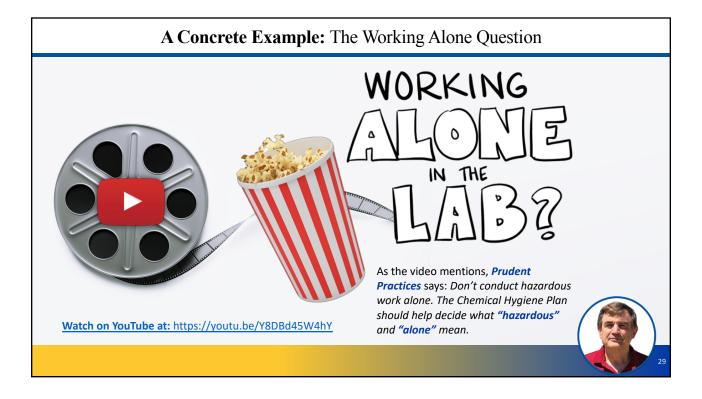
ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT

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#### Who do you consult when you have a need to work alone in your lab?

- My principal investigator
- My lab mate
- No one
- Environmental Health and Safety
- This question is not applicable to me

\* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!



#### Lesson Learned 1: Every Chemical Regulation Has its Own Story

- Chemical Regulatory History is still being written and can be expected to change significantly at least every 5 years in some aspect or another
- OSHA Inspections generally occur in response to incidents or complaints (5 OSHA inspections in 25 years on one campus). EPA inspections are likely to occur more often.
- Legal regulations are not the only rules that impact lab research. Often "voluntary" guidelines are more carefully followed than regulatory requirements for liability reasons.





#### Lesson Learned 2: Don't Expect Agencies to Talk to Each Other







- The regulatory enforcement **strategy is different** for every environmental media, and **agencies don't coordinate** their regulations
- Inspectors come in with **different expectations**, based on the type of regulatory program they represent (federal vs state vs. local; air vs. water vs. hazmat; bio vs. rad vs. chemical vs. physical hazards).
- Understanding a regulator's priorities and building a ongoing relationship with the regulators goes a long way.
   But they aren't your friends.











31

#### Lesson Learned 3: The "Use Cost" of Chemicals is Way Higher Than the List Price

- Disposal, emergency response, chemical storage and regulatory costs all need to be taken into account when calculating the life cycle cost of a chemical
- Legal costs can take years to determine and are far higher than first guesses
- This means that there is a lot of legal ambiguity because there is a lot more financial inventive to settle than address complex legal questions





https://ehs.utoronto.ca/laboratory-hazardous-waste-management-and-disposal-manual

#### Lesson Learned 4: Like Science, Compliance is a Team Sport

- While OSHA recognizes the reality of the "fissured workplace", regulators expect "the employer" to assure
  compliance. In specific situations, you can expect regulators to "follow the money" to determine liability.
- In the face of the "fissured workplace", many disciplines must **work together** to understand the best approach to "staying legal" in a rapidly changing environment.



#### **Lesson Learned 5:** Where to Find Out More



• Chemists: Prudent Practices and institutional resources



Decision-makers: Consultants



• Educators: AACT, NSTA, local authorities, chemical suppliers and consultants



 The Public: Local public health authorities, including relevant OSHA offices, household hazard waste programs, fire departments



https://www.nap.edu/catalog/12654/prudent-practices-in-the-laboratory-handling-and-management-of-chemical

# **Audience Challenge Question**

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



#### How much do you feel government regulations impact your lab work?

- I don't notice any impact
- I rely on my host institution to address this concern
- I worry about it, but have not changed any plans due to it
- I have stopped work due to regulatory concerns
- · This question is not applicable to me

\* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!

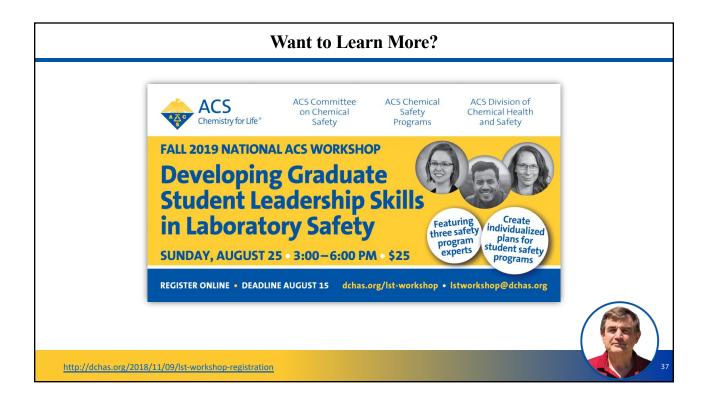
#### **Back to the Opening Question:** What Can a Grad Student Do?

#### Who should a grad student talk to if they're worried about safety in their lab?

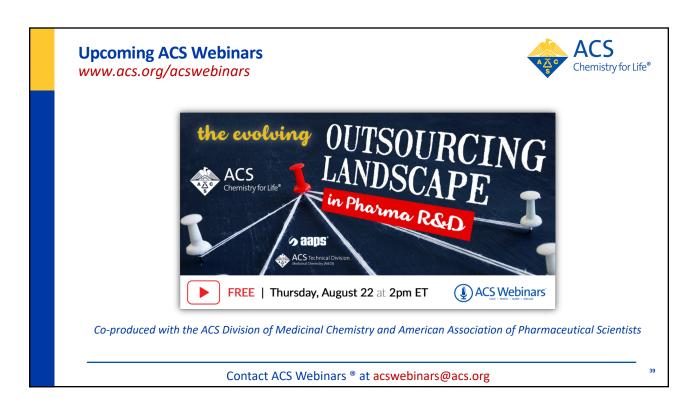
- Their Principle Investigator
- The Department Chair
- Environmental Health and Safety Department
- OSHA
- A lawyer















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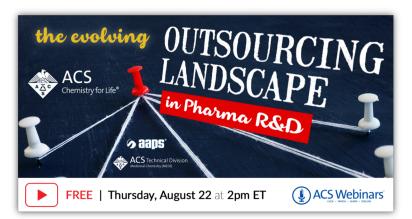


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