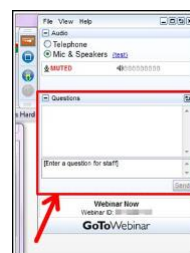


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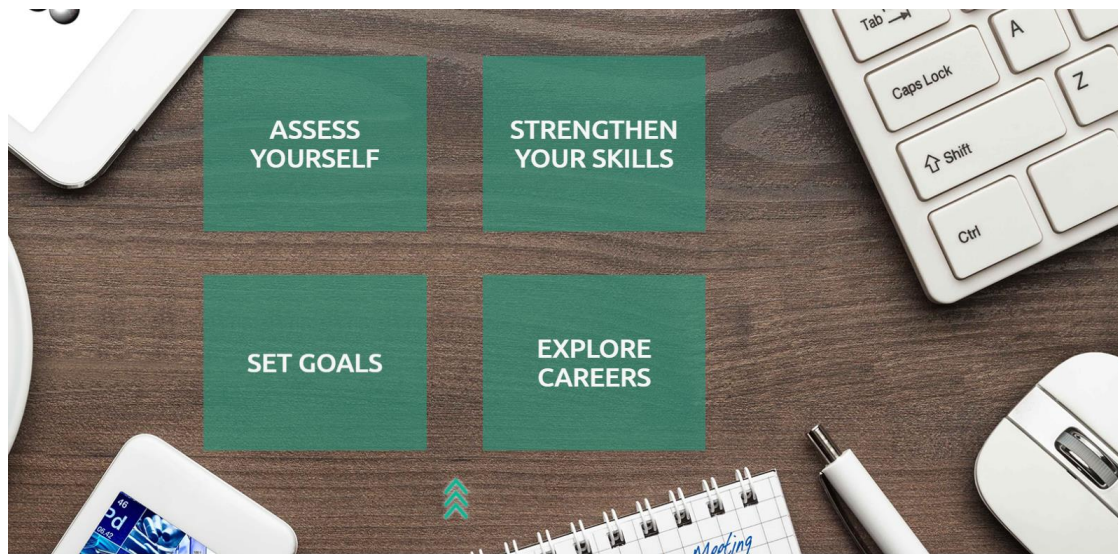
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Michael Pollastri  
Northeastern  
University



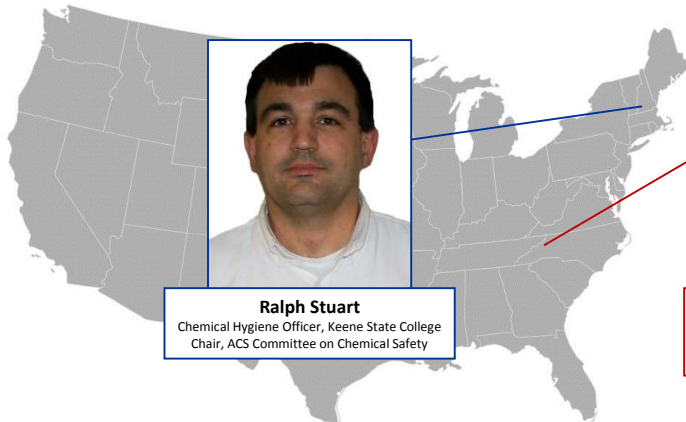
Félix Calderón  
GlaxoSmithKline

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## “Reshaping Chemical Lab Safety: Creating a Dynamic and Adaptive Safety Environment”



**Ralph Stuart**  
Chemical Hygiene Officer, Keene State College  
Chair, ACS Committee on Chemical Safety



**Samuella Sigmann**  
Chemical Hygiene Officer, Appalachian State  
University and Chair Elect, ACS Div. of Chemical  
Health & Safety

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# Reshaping Chemical Lab Safety

Creating a Dynamic  
and Adaptive  
Safety Environment

**Ralph Stuart**, Chair, Committee on Chemical Safety

**Samuella Sigmann**, Chair Elect, Division of Chemical Health and Safety



ACS Committee on  
Chemical Safety

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## STRATEGIC PLAN for 2018 and Beyond



### Core Values

Passion for Chemistry and the Global Chemistry Enterprise

Focus On Members

Professionalism, Safety, and Ethics

Diversity and Inclusion



### Vision

Improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry



### Mission

Advancing the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people



### ACS's Strategic Goals

1. Provide Information Solutions
2. Empower Members and Member Communities
3. Support Excellence in Education
4. Communicate Chemistry's Value

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/strategicplan.html>



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## The Original CCS Vision

In 1964, the Journal of Chemical Education published an article *Safety Considerations in Research Proposals* by Dr. Livingston, the first chair of the Committee on Chemical Safety.

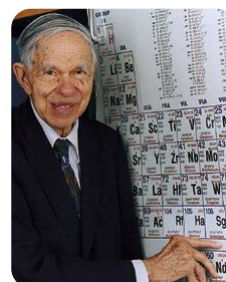
- The article provides a good summary of the research safety challenges that still apply today.
- However he states: ***“Legal requirements... are outside the competence of our committee... Certainly if humanitarian and ethical requirements are met, there are not likely to be any issues that will require legal action.”***
- Particularly after the 1980's events in Bhopal and Institute, WV, this “gentleman’s club” approach to safety culture changed.
- A new approach to laboratory safety culture, as described in *Prudent Practices in the Laboratory* and *Safe Science* from the National Academy of Science, arose



**H.K. Livingston**  
First CCS chair in 1963,  
newly moved to Wayne  
State University after 13  
years at DuPont

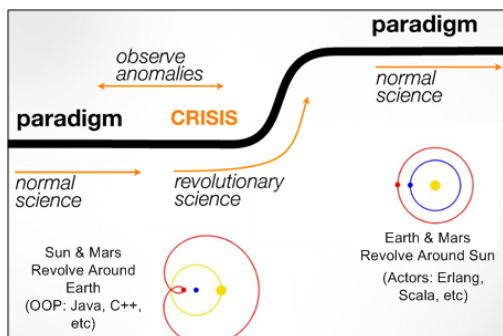
## “Working Safely at the Frontiers of Science”

- “When the first ... plutonium came into the laboratory from the power plant at Oak Ridge in 1944, it suddenly occurred to me that the ... ***health physicists hadn’t given any attention to the danger from alpha-particle emitters like plutonium.*** All of the precautions... were for gamma radiation.
- “In view of the problems that had occurred in the late 1910’s... with the ***radium dial painters***, I realized that the ingestion of just a little bit of plutonium would be a greater danger than radiation from gamma emitters.
- ***“So I got in touch with the medical authorities and called the danger to their attention.*** This led to a recognition of the problem and a renovation of the entire laboratory to include additional hood space and air monitoring.”



**Glenn Seaborg**  
ACS President, 1976;  
patent holder on  
americium and curium

## The Paradigm Shift



Kuhn's description of the process of a scientific paradigm shift

- The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Lab Safety Culture considers **Community Safety** as well as **Personal Safety** as science and technologies change.
- Including **Community Safety** applies the scientific values of
  - **Transparency**,
  - **Transferability**, and
  - **Scalability**
 to the hazard management process.
- This change in the **chemical safety paradigm** requires a move from **an emphasis on rules** for individual behavior to **assessing risk** based on the way the chemical is being used.

## Audience Challenge Question

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



### Have you noticed a change in the safety culture of the labs you work in over time?

- Yes, in my experience, there has been a distinct improvement in laboratory safety culture
- There's been some improvement
- I haven't seen much change in safety awareness in my lab experience
- In my experience, safety culture has degraded over time



## The Good News: Safety Tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



- The **Globally Harmonized System** addresses the "Right to Understand"

- The **RAMP Paradigm**: ("Preparing" is where the community enters the picture)

- R** Recognize the hazards
- A** Assess the risks of the hazards
- M** Minimize the risks of the hazards
- P** Prepare for emergencies from uncontrolled hazards



Texas Tech University  
Laboratory Explosion

- **System Safety Management** approaches such as exemplified by the Chemical Safety Board's reports

- Market-Driven "**Green Screen**" Tools reflect the public's interest in chemical hazards



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Chemical Health & Safety (CHAS)

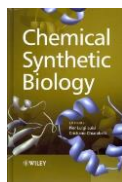
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## The Other News: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Safety Hurdles



- Work on scientific frontiers: nano- and bio- tech
- Interdisciplinary and international sciences lead to conflicting laboratory safety paradigms
- Public perception of "chemical safety"
- Shifting legal expectations



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## A Sample of Strategic Opportunities in Chemical Safety for ACS



### 1. Develop Safety Information Solutions

<http://www.acs.org/hazardassessment>

### Developing Graduate Student Leadership Skills in Laboratory Safety



Kati A. Serrano



Michael Vynnyk

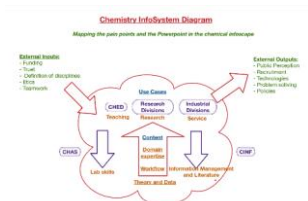
### 2. Empower Members with Safety Skills

*Stakeholder Workshops*



### 3. Support Safety Education

*Outreach around RAMP*



### 4. Communicate Chemical Safety as a Core Value

*Support an ecosystem of professional safety resources*

## Summary: ACS Advantages in Safety Leadership



- Safety supports chemists' scientific goals as well as ACS's strategic objectives



- Diverse efforts are being piloted within the ACS

- Many are ready for development
- Some will Win Big, others will Fail Early

#### Core Values

Passion for Chemistry and the Global Chemistry Enterprise

Focus On Members

Professionalism, Safety, and Ethics

Diversity and Inclusion

- ACS has a strategic advantage in the chemical safety field due to its well-established (55 years) expertise, resource library and outreach channels.

## Audience Challenge Question

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT

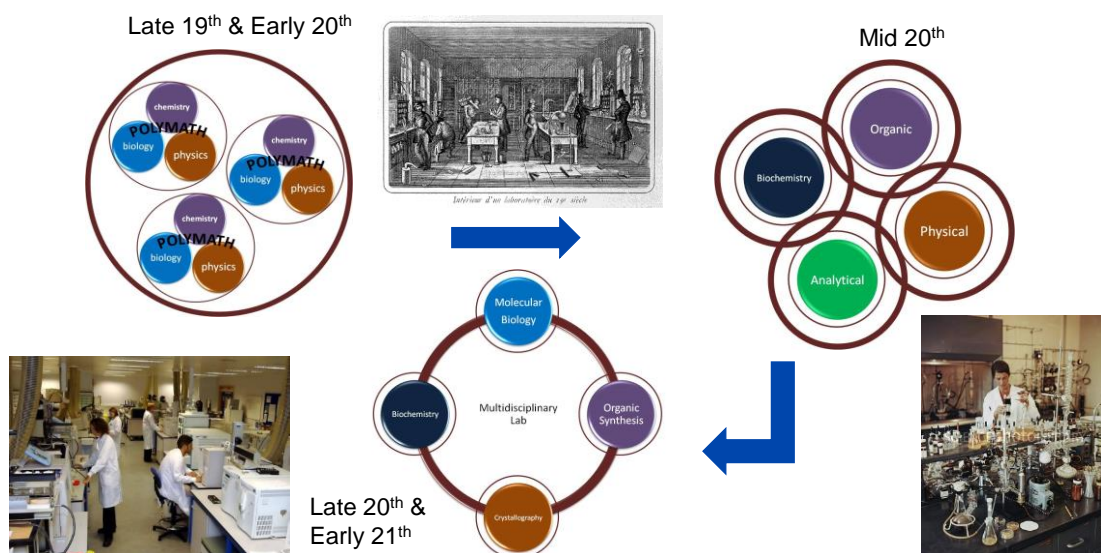


**Is the connection between “professionalism”, “safety” and “ethics” as an ACS Strategic Value clear to you as an ACS member or potential member?**

- Crystal clear
- Fairly clear
- It’s somewhat murky
- Those don’t connect for me

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## The Changing Research Environment



## Some Problems with Rule Based Safety



*To impress a professional man such as a chemist with the fundamental ideas of safety necessary to his profession is somewhat of a harder task than that of instructing a laborer or worker in simpler lines of work.*

*It is human nature to treat with contempt and disregard, however, materials which are in themselves exceedingly dangerous, but which under ordinary conditions are handled safely without accident. **It is exactly at the moment when such a state of mind is in possession of the chemist that the greatest number of accidents occur.***

*The laborer can be warned that he will be discharged if he violates any safety rule, **but the chemist who knows more about his chemical compounds than anyone else and treats them carelessly must be reminded.***



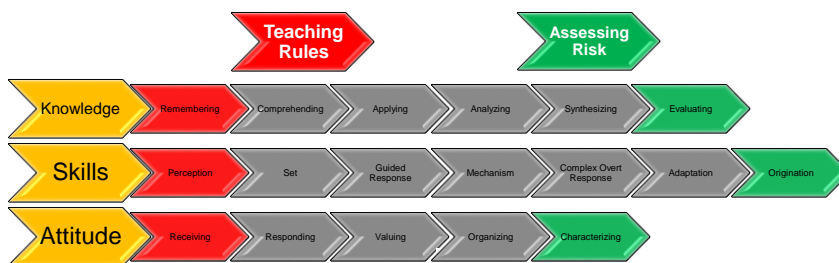
AN EMERGENCY SHOWER SHOULD ALWAYS BE HANDY IN ANY LABORATORY WHERE SMALL-SCALE OPERATIONS ARE TRIED OUT

Above the shower to the left, note the lamp, which is never allowed to be out, and the form of the volume of water which is concentrated on the head of any person below it and covers the body thoroughly with a heavy volume of water.

EDWIN C. BUXBAUM, Safety in the Chemistry Laboratory, *JChemEd*, 1934

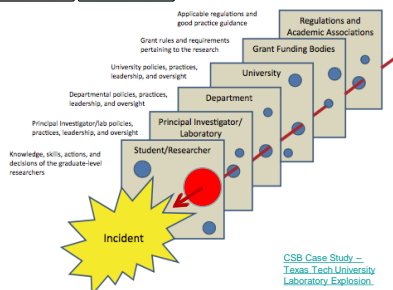
<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/ed011p73>

## Some Problems with Rule Based Safety



### Teaching safety with rules

- operates in the lower orders of learning (Bloom's)
- Creates a big hole in the cheese if
  - A rule is missed or
  - The person simply lacks the competency





## Consequences of Focusing on Rule Based Safety

- **Learning By Rules**
  - Focuses on memorization & repeated training
  - Requires enforcement authority & reinforcement
- **Single idea concepts are applied to specific situations.**

### For Example:

- **Concept:** Working in a chemical fume hood eliminates inhalation hazard - hoods cannot control fires to protect the user
- **Concept:** Wearing nitrile gloves prevents exposure, but cannot prevent burns
- **Missed Rule:** Proper PPE/lab clothing rules were not communicated or enforced



**Sheri Sangji**

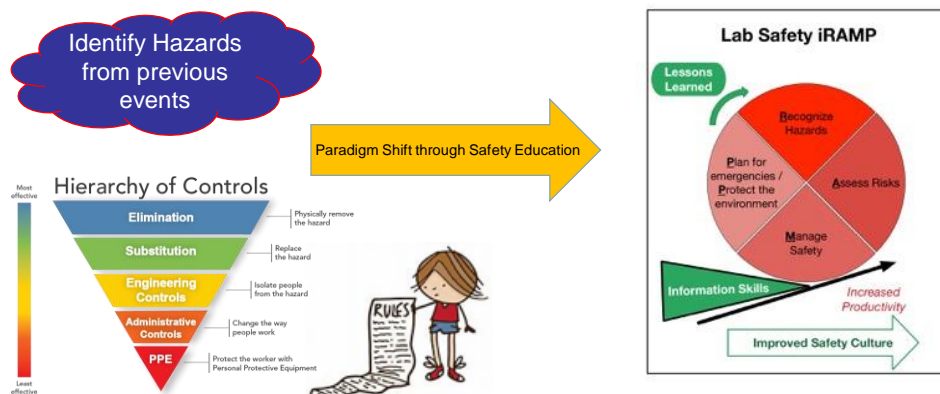
1985-2009

## Moving Academic Laboratory Safety into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



**20<sup>th</sup> Century:** Selecting controls based on rules, guided by chemical intuition & compliance

**21<sup>st</sup> Century:** A *safety system* built on education, positive culture, and documented risk assessment





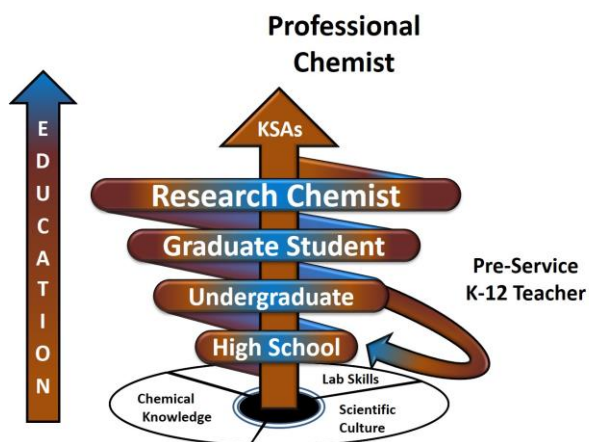
## The Spiral Approach



This approach to safety education requires a shift in thinking  
– Safety is more than a “skill”

Incorporates **technical knowledge (K)**,  
**lab skills (S)** & **cultural change (A)** to  
create competency categories

By weaving the KSAs throughout the  
chemistry curriculum chemical safety is  
broadened and deepened



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## Audience Challenge Question

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



**As reported in the press, how many people have been hurt in fires associated with solvent fueled chemistry demonstrations since 1998?**

- None
- Less than 25
- Between 25 and 50
- Between 50 and 75
- Over 100



## An Example: The Flammable Solvents Learning Spiral

Knowing why solvents are flammable can help students develop skills to work with them safely in lab.

- In Intro classes we could teach conceptual knowledge about how vapor pressure, flash point, and boiling point determine the flammability of a solvent.
- In organic class, concepts such as how the number of carbons and molecular complexity can affect solvents entering the vapor phase could be introduced.
- In physical chemistry, one could discuss flammability as a kinetic property — will the oxidation produce an explosion or will a substance turn brown with age. Numerous other concepts (thermodynamic concepts such as Raoult's Law for mixture vapor pressures, adiabatic expansion, and Le Châtelier's mixing rule for flammable limits) that could be used.

## Selected ACS Safety Resources



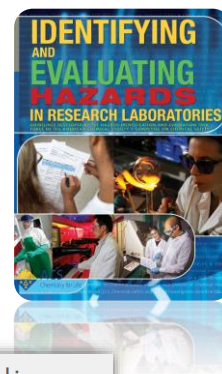
### *Identifying and Evaluating Hazards in Research Laboratories 2015*



*Develop good practice guidance that identifies and describes methodologies to assess and control hazards that can be used successfully in a research laboratory.*

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/7/Status\\_Change\\_Summary\\_ACS\\_\(TTU\\_R2\)\\_C-AA\\_pending.pdf](http://www.csb.gov/assets/1/7/Status_Change_Summary_ACS_(TTU_R2)_C-AA_pending.pdf)

"The scope of the ACS document indicates that it is intended for use for laboratory researchers 'without deference to where they are in their careers' all with 'varied approaches to learning and experimental design and who may require different kinds of assessment tools.'" <sup>1</sup>



[Web Site version, 2017](#)

#### THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL:

- Familiarize you with the fundamentals of hazard assessment;
- Guide you through preparation practices such as *scoping and assembling your team*;
- Offer a number of *ways to conduct hazard assessments*;
- Provide *tools* (e.g., templates, examples, etc.) that can be shared with your team and used immediately.



## Selected ACS Safety Resources

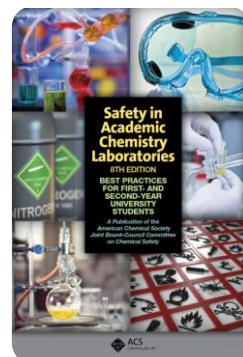
### *Safety in Academic Chemistry Labs*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2017

- “SACL”
- Considered the “flagship” publication of the CCS
- Millions of copies sold

The first edition of this book was written in 1972 by members of the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety under the direction and urging of its chair, Howard H. Fawcett (now deceased). It was published as an 11-page, double-spaced, typed and mimeographed document. ~ Jay Young, Editor of the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition.

### The 8<sup>th</sup> Edition

- Targets 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year undergraduates
- Includes GHS, process hazards, risk assessment, & emergency preparedness (RAMP)
- Includes sidebars and “In your Future” sections
- Very few “lists”
- Download at CCS or purchase at ACS Web Store

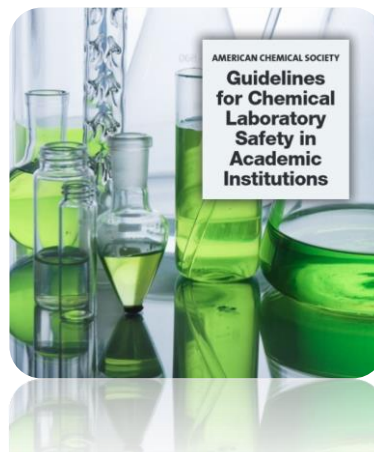


## Selected ACS Safety Resources



### *Guidelines for Chemical Laboratory Safety in Academic Institutions*, 2016

- Gives **104 learning objectives** that all chemistry undergraduate students should understand upon graduation
- The objectives are organized into the **RAMP** paradigm
- Creates a mechanism to broaden and deepen (**spiral**) concepts throughout the undergraduate curriculum





## Selected ACS Safety Resources



JOURNAL OF  
**CHEMICAL EDUCATION**

Cite This: *J. Chem. Educ.* XXXX, XXX, XXX–XXX

Commentary

pubs.acs.org/jchemeduc

### Revising the Division of Chemical Education Safety Guidelines for Chemical Demonstrations

Irene G. Cesa,<sup>†</sup> David C. Finster,<sup>\*‡</sup> Samuella B. Sigmann,<sup>§</sup> and Monique R. Wilhelm<sup>||</sup>

*The goal of the current revision project was to produce a relatively succinct but adequately useful set of guidelines that could be printed on two sides of a page and distributed widely to educators across the country.... a statement of "what to do" rather than "how to do it"...*



### CHED Safety Committee Demonstration Guidelines, 2016



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## Storyboarding – Idea From Faculty



### Biodiesel Synthesis Steps

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Planning	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Setup								
Experimental								
Reaction information								
Emergency Planning								



PAPER ID: 2873006

PAPER TITLE: From procedure to practice: An organic chemistry storyboard for developing empowered undergraduate research assistants (final paper number: CHED 2023)

DAY & TIME OF PRESENTATION: Tuesday, March, 20, 2018 from 1:30 PM - 1:50 PM

ROOM & LOCATION: Magnolia - New Orleans Marriott Convention Center



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## Good Safety Ideas are Local! (Leadership & Empowerment)



1

### Prevent Exposure

#### Recognize Hazards

- Chemical (health)
- Chemical (physical)
- Sharps (syringe)
- Chemical spills

#### Barriers

- Set up in certified fume hood
- Synthetic scale only
- PPE
- Equipment training (#??)
- Spill tray

#### Chemical Waste

- Label completed prior to work start with names of chemicals

#### Experimental

1. Combine in 50 mL round bottom flask (RBF)

#### Reagents

Hydrogen chloride solution (4 N HCl in 1,4-dioxane)



DANGER

Recommended glove material: Chloroprene

#### Reagents

Canola Oil

Not classified Hazardous by GHS

Recommended glove material: Nitrile

Flash point 17 °C (63 °F)  
Conditions to avoid  
Heat, flames and sparks.

#### Reagents

Methanol



DANGER

Recommended glove material (splash): Nitrile

> 93.3 °C (200.0 °F) Closed Cup  
Conditions to avoid  
Heat, flames and sparks.

Initial boiling point and boiling range 64.7 °C (148.5 °F) - lit.  
Flash point 9.7 °C (49.5 °F) - closed cup

Conditions to avoid  
Heat, flames and sparks.

Product Number : 179957  
Brand : Sigma-Aldrich  
CAS-No. : 67-56-1

#### Controls for Failed Barriers

- Eyewash/Shower – Ensure function and clear path
- Emergency phone numbers and procedure known
- Fire extinguishers and exits clear

## Chemical Safety Education

### 20<sup>th</sup> Century

- **Technical aspects** of safety are **directly transferred** as procedural skills learned during laboratory work
- **The culture of safety** is based on enforcement & compliance – The “Safety Police”
- **Information transfer** is based primarily on training compartmentalized topics built on compliance with regulations
- **Safety management** relies on training and rules

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- **Technical aspects** of safety are also **indirectly transferred** by teaching students to control risk through **hazard identification and risk assessment which is applied to laboratory work**
- **The culture of safety** is **based on leadership and empowerment**
- **Information transfer** involves development of chemical safety competencies (knowledge, skill, and attitude) learned as an **educational subject integrated into the curriculum**
- **Safety management** is based on the development of a **resilient, transferrable, and sustainable safety system**





## Read more about it – Journal of Chemical Health and Safety

Available online 27 November 2017

In Press, Corrected Proof 



Feature

### Chemical safety education for the 21st century — Fostering safety information competency in chemists

Samuella Sigmann <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1871553217300865>

### Chemical & Laboratory Safety

Chemists understand that working with chemicals and developing new materials and chemical processes involve some degree of risk. Specific incidents in academic, industrial, and public settings emphasize the need for clear focus on safety throughout the chemistry enterprise.



Safety Culture



Recognize, Assess, Minimize, and Prepare (RAMP)



Responsibilities of Chemistry Professionals and Their Organizations

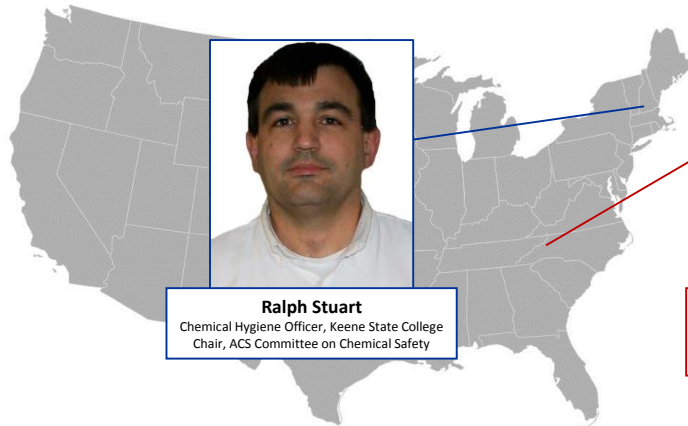


Links to all resources available at: [www.acs.org/safety](http://www.acs.org/safety)

ACS Committee on Chemical Safety



### “Reshaping Chemical Lab Safety: Creating a Dynamic and Adaptive Safety Environment”



**Ralph Stuart**

Chemical Hygiene Officer, Keene State College  
Chair, ACS Committee on Chemical Safety

**Samuella Sigmann**

Chemical Hygiene Officer, Appalachian State University and Chair Elect, ACS Div. of Chemical Health & Safety

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## Upcoming CHAS National Meeting Workshops



### SPRING 2018 ACS WORKSHOP: *Developing Graduate Student Leadership Skills in Laboratory Safety*

SUNDAY, MARCH 18 • 3:00–6:00 PM

Recently, several research-intensive chemistry departments have instituted Lab Joint Safety Teams (JSTs) and similar programs to support graduate student empowerment around laboratory safety issues. This year, we will offer a pilot workshop on Sunday March 18th from 3:00–6:00 PM at the Spring National American Chemical Society Meeting in New Orleans, LA.



KALI A. SERRANO



MICHAIL VLYSIDIS

### Fall, 2018 Boston Meeting *Reactive Chemical Management for Laboratories & Pilot Plants*

A research group proposes scaling up a reaction from 0.1 mole to 2 moles.

- What questions should you ask?
- How should you evaluate the hazards and risks?
- What options to you have for heat management?

<http://www.dchas.org>

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Thursday, March 15, 2018

***Exceptional Presentations In Spite of PowerPoint: How to Communicate in the Digital Age***  
Co-produced with the ACS Industry Member Programs and the ACS Committee on Corporation Associates

Experts



Mark Jones  
Dow Chemical



Thursday, April 5, 2018

***Creating New Models to Combat Neglected Disease Through, Industry, Government, and Public-Private Partnerships***

Co-produced with ACS Infectious Diseases

Experts



Michael Pollastri  
Northeastern  
University



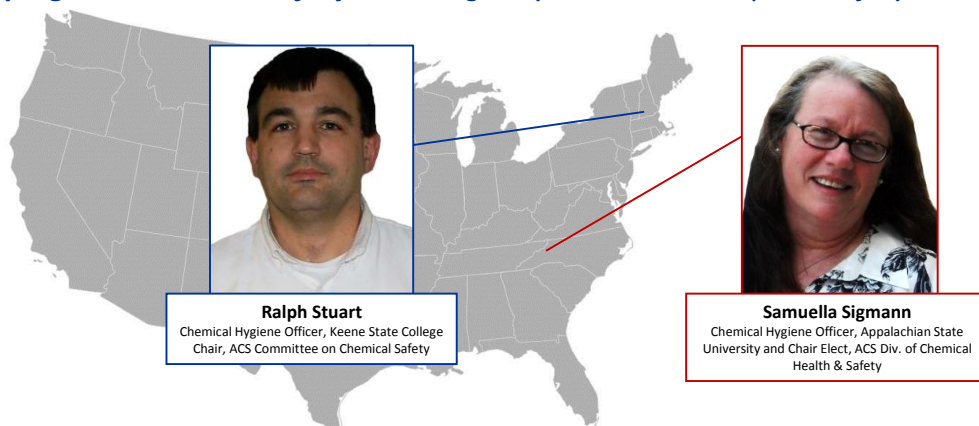
Félix Calderón  
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## “Reshaping Chemical Lab Safety: Creating a Dynamic and Adaptive Safety Environment”



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Chemical Hygiene Officer, Appalachian State  
University and Chair Elect, ACS Div. of Chemical  
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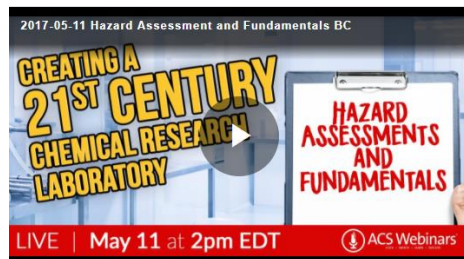
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## Previous Chemical Safety Webinars



Creating a 21st Century Chemical Research Laboratory: Hazard Assessments and Fundamentals



Ralph Stuart  
Keene State College



Kendra Leahy  
Denlinger  
University of  
Cincinnati

Safety in the laboratory requires a full team effort to be successful. When everyone in the laboratory understands how to identify hazards, assess risk, and select the appropriate control measures to eliminate a hazard or minimize risk, accidents, injuries and near misses can be reduced.

<http://bit.ly/ACS21stLab>

Going Beyond Borders: Lab Safety Around the Globe



Ralph Stuart  
Keene State College



Samuella Sigmann  
Appalachian State  
University

Every day, thousands of scientists travel around the globe to engage in scientific exchange, training and collaboration. No matter where you go, learning about the lab safety issues and practices used in the host country should always be a top priority. This webinar will address safety issues while hosting a visiting scholar or issues you may come across as visiting scientist.

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