Staff Updates

Christian Yee returns to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety as a second time co-op student. In this co-op with EH&S, Christian assists staff with the implementation of the laboratory safety program through the development of training modules, conducting routine laboratory audits, developing safety guidance documents and maintaining records. He is a fourth year biology student and hopes to receive his B.S. from Northeastern in the spring of 2018. A Jersey Shore native, Christian enjoys following his favorite sports teams (NY Giants and Mets), a good workout, and hanging out with friends.

MA DEP – Inspection News

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection was on campus during the late spring to conduct a multimedia inspection of the University Clean Air, Clean Water and Hazardous Waste programs. These inspections are done at all regulated facilities (e.g. hospitals, manufacturing facilities, auto body shops, biotech) to insure compliance with these important state and federal regulations. Laboratories were included in the inspection with these items being identified as important for all laboratories to pay attention to:

- **TRAINING** - All personnel involved in generating or managing hazardous waste in the laboratory need to receive appropriate hazardous waste training.

- **HPLC COLLECTION** - Containers used to collect HPLC waste need to be properly labeled with a hazardous waste label identifying the contents and characteristics of the waste. They must also have an appropriate cover (screw cap with ports and vents) and be within some type of secondary containment in the event of overfilling or leakage.

- **LABELING OF WASTE** - Hazardous waste labels must be filled out at the time you begin filling the container or when you declare an old chemical reagent a waste. It must then be dated when the container becomes full or the old chemical reagent is ready for disposal. Please remember chemical abbreviations and formulas cannot be used to identify chemicals on a hazardous waste label.

Please contact the EHS Office at (617) 373-2769 or email ehs@northeastern.edu with any questions.
October is the NIH Office of Science Policy (OSP) National Biosafety Stewardship Month! During this period, institutions are encouraged to refocus their attention on biosafety policies, practices and procedures. This year’s theme is **Evaluation, Collaboration, and Commitment:**

- Evaluate biosafety programs through self and peer evaluation
- Collaborate with others to promote biosafety
- Remain committed to implementing biosafety best practices

The Northeastern University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) asks that each Principal Investigator (PI) evaluate the potential hazards in their labs to determine if biohazards such as recombinant and synthetic nucleic acids, transgenic plants and animals, human materials, infectious agents or biological toxins are present. Work with biohazardous materials must have a biosafety registration on file with the Biosafety Program Manager at EH&S. Please visit the following link for more information about the Biosafety Program and registration process.

Collaboration with EH&S and the IBC helps ensure the implementation of best safety practices. The Biosafety Program is committed to providing the necessary resources to assist PIs and all researchers on campus implement safe work practices. A number of fact sheets are available on the EH&S website.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Clark, Biosafety Program Manager, at x2769 or e.clark@northeastern.edu.

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**TRAINING**

EH&S provides several safety trainings to the community it serves, to get an updated list of scheduled trainings click the following link (http://www.northeastern.edu/ehs/training/classroom-training-schedule/).