Pauline Serrano and I finish up the annual department self-inspections this week. Thank you to all of you for your support of this process and attention to the safety details. To be honest, we didn’t find any huge glaring errors or issues. A couple of tidbits:

- Make sure you have accomplished the CUPA self-inspection checklist. Print out the checklist, fill it out, date and sign it, and include it with your safety documents. This is an annual requirement and a gap in our compliance.
- Make sure you have developed a lab-specific, Laboratory Safety Plan, using the new template from EH&S.
- Work to update old Standard Operating Procedures. Most are going on 4 years for review and update. There are new SOP templates available from EH&S which will help greatly reduce the number of SOPs. Pauline and I are here to help accomplish this chore.
- Corrective actions should be completed by the turn of the year. If that’s not possible, please note in the corrective action response how and when you expect to have the item(s) completed.

Everyone is doing a really good job!
Standing on Lab Stools

Folks are using lab stools as step stools. Please don’t do this—it’s really dangerous and you could be badly hurt.

A step stool or step ladder is a much better choice and not very expensive. The one shown in this image retails for $40 at Home Depot and folds flat.

Injury Illness Prevention Plan and Emergency Action Plan—Updates

The Department IIPP and EAP have both been updated to reflect our new Chair and new guidance on undergraduate access to research lab after hours. The Access Plan information is included as an Appendix. The EAP includes our new faculty members.

There are a few details to tidy up and then the IIPP and EAP will be posted on the website. I’ll also post separately the Undergraduate Access Plan document.

If there are any comments or concerns, please let me know. Thanks!
Drones
Not that I think anyone will have need of a drone in the course of their research but you never know around here. Here’s some information about how to use a drone on behalf of UC Davis.

We are pleased to announce the release of UC Drones 1.0 – November 18, 2016

Here are the features that you can look forward to with this release:

- Register yourself as a pilot / crew member. Qualification standards are under development and crew management features will be added in a future release.
- Manage your aircrafts: Register your unmanned aircraft to a responsible person / organization / department for tracking flight activity.
- Manage your UAS flight requests and reports in one unified system. You may view which flights have been approved, which need reporting and your completed flights.
- Flight Requests: Request a flight by selecting your pilot, aircraft and location, and add comments or even attach supplementary files. You’ll be notified by email on the status of your flight request.
- Flight Reporting: After you’ve completed your flights, you can submit your flight report with a couple of clicks without having to enter redundant information.
- Administrators have the ability to register other people as pilots/crew members.
- Administrators have the ability to add and manage aircraft.
- Administrators have the ability to review flight requests for approval or denial and add comments or documents.

You can access the app at ehs.ucop.edu and select the Drones icon.

ACS Journals enact new safety policy

American Chemical Society journals will have a new safety reporting requirement starting in 2017: Authors must “address and emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work,” says an ACS Central Science editorial describing the change (2016, DOI: 10.1021/acscentsci.6b00341).

ACS Publications editors and staff took a closer look at how the journals addressed safety after a “confluence of events” that included high-profile accidents and a survey of safety policies of chemical journals (J. Chem. Health Saf. 2016, DOI: 10.1016/j.jchas.2015.10.001), says Sarah Tegen, vice president for global editorial and author services at ACS. ACS also publishes C&EN. Previously, individual journals set their own safety policies.

Read the entire article here: http://cen.acs.org/articles/94/i48/ACS-journals-enact-new-safety.html
The 12 Days of Safety

1. Keep poisonous plants out of reach of children and pets.
2. Never use lighted candles near trees or boughs.
3. Keep trees away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources.
4. Make sure your tree has a stable platform.
5. Choose an artificial tree that is labeled fire resistant.
6. If using a natural tree, make sure it is well watered.
7. Check holiday lights for fraying, bare spots, gaps in the insulation or excessive kinking in the wire.
8. Turn off all tree lights and decorations when not in use.
9. When putting up decorations, use a step stool or ladder to reach high places.
10. Designate a sober driver.
11. When preparing a meal, wash hands, utensils, sink and anything else that touches raw meat.
12. Reheat leftovers to at least 165°F.

Happy Holidays!

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