

Upcoming Lab Safety Trainings:

Jan 24<sup>th</sup> 2024 10:00am–1:00pm  
Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 10:00am–1:00pm  
Sign up: [Safety Training form](#)



Let safety be a sponge –  
soak it up

# The Micro Gram

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The premier research safety newsletter for the PSU campus community.



Annual Chemical Inventory Review Time!

With the new year just kicking off, this is a great time to perform some of those lab tasks that really should be done on \*at least\* an annual basis. Let's talk Annual Chemical Inventory review:

- To start things off, please review the [Annual Chemical Inventory Update process](#). This is a great opportunity to make sure all lab members have the appropriate access they need to the inventory system.
- As a team or as delegated by the lab PI, determine what items in your inventory are no longer in the lab, no longer needed or are to stay in the lab.
- Be sure you have a designated area in you lab for all unwanted chemicals to be temporarily stored until waste pickup occurs.
- Don't hesitate to reach out with questions!





BEWARE  
**ICY CONDITIONS!**

• Preventing Slips, Trips, & Falls •

As we get into freezing weather, be aware of hazards on parking lots, walking surfaces, rooftops, and skybridges. If the temperature is close to freezing, assume there is ice. Slow down, and take short strides.

Walk like a penguin!

Is Your Lab Prepared for an Earthquake?

- Some things to consider while in your lab:
- If an earthquake occurred, where would you go for protection?
  - Do you know the evacuation routes from your building?
  - Are gas cylinders well secured in an upright position?
  - Are liquid nitrogen vessels well secured in an upright position?
  - Are chemicals stored properly?
  - Are fume hood sashes closed as far as possible to contain spills?
  - Is heavy equipment and furniture that might block exit routes secured?
  - Are exits and aisle ways maintained free and clear of obstructions including boxes, equipment, bottles, etc. on floors?
  - Do you have equipment and/or processes that could be damaged or pose a fire or health hazard if power was suddenly lost?
  - What contingencies have been made to provide backup or emergency power to maintain critical systems?
  - Do you have extra spill containment equipment available?



Chemical Hygiene Committee  
Corner: Meet Nic Meier,  
The \*New\* Chemical Hygiene  
Committee (CHC) Chair!



Nic has been with PSU, working in the Chemistry Stockroom, since 2008. Some of his primary roles are to provide support for teaching and research for all CLAS departments, as well as safety support throughout campus. You may recognize him as one of the hosts for the *Working Safely in the Lab* training.

- Some of Nic's current goals and aspirations for the research community are to:
- Help improve consistency and grow the lab assessment program
  - Develop more hands-on lab safety experiences
  - Increase communication and the overall presence of the CHC on campus

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Nic with any questions or concerns. He can be contacted through his email ([nicolasm@pdx.edu](mailto:nicolasm@pdx.edu)) or by stopping by the Stockroom in SRTC 280.



Have a suggestion for a lab safety topic?  
Email: [lindsah@pdx.edu](mailto:lindsah@pdx.edu)



Click on hyperlinks to learn more

[News from Environmental Health & Safety at PSU](#)