

# Lab Safety Contact Orientation

*August 2, 2023*



# Welcome!

- ❑ Thank you for joining us today and being a Lab Safety Contact
  
- ❑ Agenda:
  - What is a Lab Safety Contact (LSC)?
  - Benefits of Lab Safety Contact Program
  - Responsibilities of LSC
  - How to Contact EH&S
  - Future of LSC program
  - Next Steps

## ➤ What is a lab safety contact?

- ❑ Appointed by their Principal Investigator to assist in:
  - Identifying and addressing safety concerns
  - Overseeing safety practices in daily operations
- ❑ Primary liaison for safety in the laboratory.
- ❑ Designating a Laboratory Safety Contact allows each PI and research group to have tailored safety support and ensures all EH&S requirements are fulfilled.
- ❑ Identifying the Laboratory Safety Contact should allow for balanced responsibilities and should not overburden any one person.





# Benefits of Program

## Benefits to Lab

- Someone in the lab with direct EH&S contacts and safety mindset
- Learn about new safety initiatives and resources

## Benefits to LSC (you)

- Experience in leading safety
- Creating a safer environment for you to work in

## Benefits to EH&S and Campus

- Have a contact in each lab that we can work directly with

## What are the core responsibilities?

- ❑ Attend a Laboratory Safety Contact orientation meeting provided by EH&S
- ❑ Support the PI by helping assure safety program elements are addressed.
- ❑ Serve as a conduit for information exchange between lab personnel and EH&S
- ❑ Work with EH&S to coordinate periodic laboratory evaluations conducted by EH&S.
- ❑ Distribute communications about required corrective actions resulting from periodic laboratory evaluations.



## What are the core responsibilities? (cont'd)

- ❑ Engage with EH&S to develop lab-specific and process-specific standard operating procedures (SOPs), and ensure all lab personnel review, sign and comply with SOPs.
- ❑ Report all incidents and near misses to EH&S and facilitate in corrective actions.
- ❑ Inform individuals about the requirements to obtain necessary training as identified by their supervisor, department, college and EH&S.
- ❑ Promote safety, health, and environmental training programs and workshops.

## What responsibilities can you take on?



- ❑ Encourage and remind all lab personnel to wear required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while in the lab and share concerns of non-compliance with PI.
  - long pants,
  - closed toe/heel shoes,
  - lab coat
  - safety eyewear
- ❑ Request and coordinate assistance from EH&S and other organizations that can provide safety guidance, training, and other services
- ❑ Collaborate with Emergency Management on emergency planning efforts and response.

## What responsibilities can you take on? (cont'd)



- Attend EH&S training programs to increase and maintain knowledge about safety, health, and environmental issues that are applicable to the areas they represent.
- Be aware that changes in chemical use in a particular laboratory may require a re-evaluation of laboratory ventilation.
- Ensure new lab members are completing required training, and training is documented.
- Annual:
  - Review all door placards annually and ensure placards are up to date.
  - Verify LHAT accuracy, especially for “Certified Hazard Free” labs



## What responsibilities can't you take on?

- ❑ Ensure that laboratory personnel follow the Chemical Hygiene Plan, Biosafety Plan, Radiation Safety Plan, etc.
- ❑ Have overall responsibility for chemical, biological, radiological hygiene, and physical safety in the laboratory.
- ❑ Ensure that training for laboratory personnel is adequate for the hazards present in the lab.
- ❑ Enforce safety regulations and policies.
- ❑ At the earliest awareness, notify EH&S of the faculty members retirement or UCR departure or laboratory groups move so proper laboratory decommissioning can occur. For more information, see the Lab/Equipment Relocation and Clearance Guide.



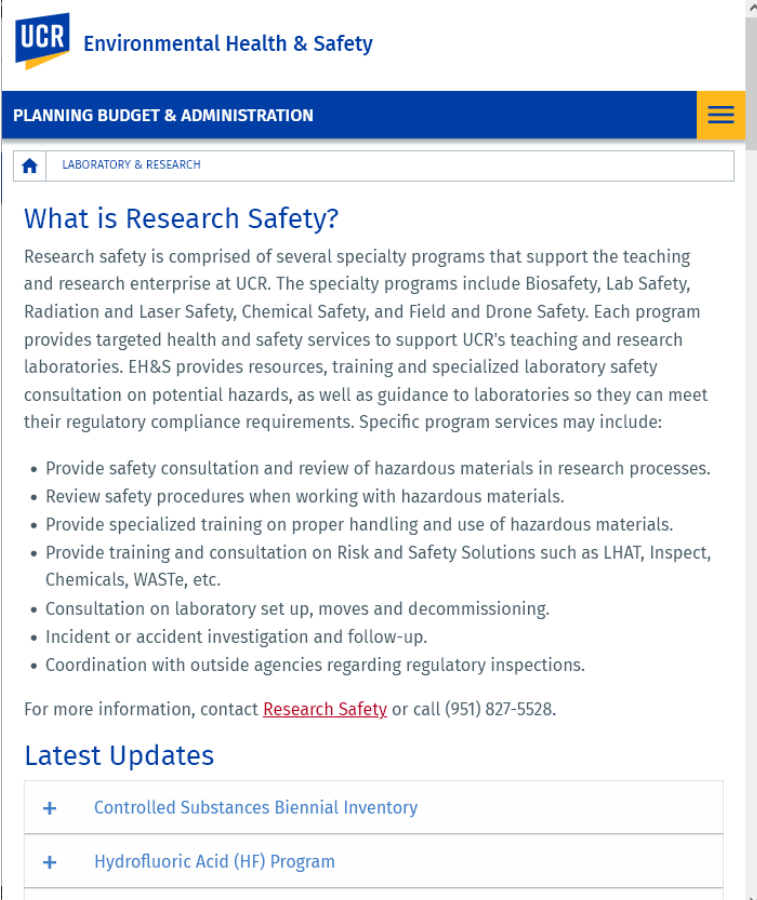
## How to contact us

- ❑ EH&S Building Representative
  - Your primary contact for all your EH&S needs
  - Assist with safety
  - Completes lab safety evaluation including closing findings
  - [https://ehs.ucr.edu/laboratory/laboratory-evaluation#ehs\\_building\\_representative](https://ehs.ucr.edu/laboratory/laboratory-evaluation#ehs_building_representative)
  - Research Safety email: [ehslaboratory@ucr.edu](mailto:ehslaboratory@ucr.edu)
  - Goes to full research safety team
- ❑ Incidents: [ehs.ucr.edu/report](https://ehs.ucr.edu/report)
  - Injuries, property damage/loss, near misses



# Resources:

- ❑ <https://ehs.ucr.edu/> - our main website
- ❑ <https://ehs.ucr.edu/laboratory> - research safety specific info
- ❑ [https://ehs.ucr.edu/safety-committee#laboratory\\_safety\\_contact\\_lsc](https://ehs.ucr.edu/safety-committee#laboratory_safety_contact_lsc) - information about the LSC group
- ❑ <https://ehs.ucop.edu> – Risk and Safety Solutions (RSS) online tools for lab safety management
  - Group/Roster management
  - LHAT
  - Chemicals
  - WASTE
  - Others: Biosafety/BUA, Drones, Radiation, SDS...



The screenshot shows the UCR Environmental Health & Safety website. The header includes the UCR logo and the text 'Environmental Health & Safety'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'PLANNING BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION' and a menu icon. The main content area is titled 'LABORATORY & RESEARCH' and features a section titled 'What is Research Safety?'. This section explains that research safety involves several specialty programs like Biosafety, Lab Safety, Radiation and Laser Safety, Chemical Safety, and Field and Drone Safety. It lists specific services such as safety consultation, review of hazardous materials, specialized training, and incident investigation. At the bottom, there is a 'Latest Updates' section with two items: 'Controlled Substances Biennial Inventory' and 'Hydrofluoric Acid (HF) Program'.

UCR Environmental Health & Safety

PLANNING BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION

LABORATORY & RESEARCH

### What is Research Safety?

Research safety is comprised of several specialty programs that support the teaching and research enterprise at UCR. The specialty programs include Biosafety, Lab Safety, Radiation and Laser Safety, Chemical Safety, and Field and Drone Safety. Each program provides targeted health and safety services to support UCR's teaching and research laboratories. EH&S provides resources, training and specialized laboratory safety consultation on potential hazards, as well as guidance to laboratories so they can meet their regulatory compliance requirements. Specific program services may include:

- Provide safety consultation and review of hazardous materials in research processes.
- Review safety procedures when working with hazardous materials.
- Provide specialized training on proper handling and use of hazardous materials.
- Provide training and consultation on Risk and Safety Solutions such as LHAT, Inspect, Chemicals, WASTE, etc.
- Consultation on laboratory set up, moves and decommissioning.
- Incident or accident investigation and follow-up.
- Coordination with outside agencies regarding regulatory inspections.

For more information, contact [Research Safety](#) or call (951) 827-5528.

### Latest Updates

- + [Controlled Substances Biennial Inventory](#)
- + [Hydrofluoric Acid \(HF\) Program](#)

## RSS Office Hours

- ❑ New program to give direct access to RSS customer support
- ❑ Zoom office hours available Tuesdays and Thursdays
  - Discuss and troubleshoot any issues you are having with the software
  - <https://calendly.com/d/36j-bwg-fnx/rss-office-hours>
  - Future: in person opportunities



# UC Center for Laboratory Safety Workshop

- ❑ Three-day workshop at UCLA with interactive breakout sessions
- ❑ Opportunity to meet and discuss safety in the laboratory
- ❑ Flyer will be shared to register for free

<https://cls.ucla.edu/workshop-2023>

UC Center for Laboratory Safety

2023  
**WORKSHOP  
ON LABORATORY SAFETY**  
Human Factors: Safety and Technology

**SEPTEMBER 17 - 19  
UCLA CAMPUS**

**KEYNOTE BY:**  
**Jessie Singer**  
Journalist

**CALL FOR POSTERS**

*Abstract submissions are now open!*

Students are highly encouraged to submit poster abstracts on best practices. Boost your resume with safety-themed presentations, and enjoy some free food!

**When:** September 18th, 5:30 - 6:30 PM PST\*

**Where:** UCLA Campus, Covel Commons

**Registration:** FREE for all researchers!

*\*Visit our website for the full workshop schedule*

Submit your abstract today.  
**SUBMIT**

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

**AI and the Future of Lab Work**  
AI will have broad implications for the lab. Join us at the 2023 Workshop to learn more.

**Interactive Participation**  
Join workgroups, network, and get involved. Get empowered to ask hard questions and work with teams to brainstorm solutions.

**Professional Development**  
The Workshop is a great opportunity for students to highlight safety on their resumes and to network with industry insiders.

**REGISTER NOW**  
FREE for all researchers

Visit Our Website  
[cls.ucla.edu/workshop-2023](https://cls.ucla.edu/workshop-2023)

# The future of Lab Safety Contacts

We're here to help you meet these responsibilities and learn about research safety

- Regular meetings with EH&S
- Training Sessions with EH&S professionals and RSS Customer Service
- First to hear about new programs and guidance
- Meeting frequency – survey
- Meeting format:
  - Information – recorded and provided on website
  - Discussion – not recorded



## Next Steps

- ❑ We want to hear from you!
  - Respond to survey about LSC meeting planning – sent after this meeting
- ❑ Review Training for your lab: <https://ehs.ucop.edu/profile>
  - Wet Labs
    - Lab Safety Fundamentals
    - Fire Extinguishers
    - Hazardous Materials and Waste Management
  - Computational Labs
    - Safety Orientation
    - Fire Extinguishers
- ❑ Let your PI know of the current status of training in your lab and work with your members to get them up to date
- ❑ Arrange your EH&S rep to attend your lab group meetings to discuss safety related topics