



GIVE THEM THE CARROT!

USING STRATEGIC PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS
TO INCREASE RESEARCHER ENGAGEMENT

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CREATING THE NEXT®



OBLIGATORY TECH INFO

Georgia Institute of **Technology**

Atlanta, GA

Engineering school

Biotechnology research constantly growing



CREATING THE NEXT®

EH&S ROLE



Georgia Tech EH&S Mission:

Develop/assist in developing programs, providing oversight, consultation, training and other specialized services to assist the Institute community in meeting its public health, occupational and research safety, environmental protection, and compliance responsibilities.

Instead of EHS using a stick for compliance, we're making efforts in using a carrot



"This is their new big carrot and stick method."



CREATING THE NEXT®

SO WHY NOT JUST STATUS QUO?

1. Researchers are **11** times more likely to get hurt in an academic lab than in an industrial lab.
2. **45** % of researchers have reported being injured in the lab.
3. **46** % of those who say their work requires a lab coat reported wearing one at all times.

Goal: implement novel tools across disciplines for engaging researchers in incident prevention and response



† Based on OSHA Statistics (2014).

†† Nature 493, 9-10; 2013

Combining Lab Inspections for Biosafety & Chemical Safety to reduce lab EHS burden

Created a “Cheat Sheet” for inspection form (shout out to Emory)

The Self Inspection Form includes the same items that we use on our inspections

Georgia Institute of Technology Environmental Health and Safety
 490 10th Street, 3rd Floor
 Atlanta, Georgia 30318-0845 U.S.A.
 PHONE 404-894-4635
 FAX 404-894-5942

BIO SAFETY SELF-INSPECTION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Use this form to complete a self-inspection of your lab to ensure compliance with biosafety requirements. Lab self-inspection is recommended on an annual basis.
- Print the form and complete the inspection by walking through the lab and observing lab activities. Save the inspection with other lab biosafety records.
- Note:
 - This form is electronically fillable.
 - CTI stands for corrected at time of inspection
 - N/A stands for not applicable.

Date of Inspection: _____ Conducted By: _____
 Building: _____ Room Number(s): _____
 Principal Investigator: _____ Department: _____

#	Item	Yes	No	CTI	N/A
ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS					
Biosafety Documentation					
1	Lab has an up-to-date biosafety approval(s) (Biological Materials Safeguards Committee and/or Institutional Biosafety Committee as appropriate).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Lab has a copy of the Georgia Tech Biosafety Manual that is either printed, on a laboratory computer, or bookmarked in their internet browser.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Lab has a copy of the Georgia Tech Policies and Procedures Governing the Possession and use of Recombinant DNA that is either printed, on a laboratory computer, or bookmarked in their internet browser.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Lab maintains an inventory log for Select Agent Toxins in Exempt Quantities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Occupational Health					
5	All lab members are enrolled in the Occupational Health Program .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training					
6	All lab members have completed General Biosafety Training within the past three years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Lab members conducting experiments with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules have taken Recombinant DNA Training within the past three years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Lab members working with human blood, tissues, cell lines, other potentially infectious material and/or bloodborne pathogens have taken Bloodborne Pathogen Training within the past year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Lab members have been training on lab-specific hazards and procedures. This training is documented.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signage					
10	Doors leading into the lab are labeled with the biohazard symbol.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Lab equipment used to store or manipulate biological materials is labeled with the biohazard symbol.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Biosafety Self-Inspection Form_2.dot Revision Date: 11-Jan-14 Page 1 of 3

TRAININGS GOING ONLINE



High demand for:

- More varied training dates
- Private sessions
- And online availability

Articulate as an alternative to professionally developed trainings



INCENTIVE PROGRAMS: PPE

- Goal: get more researchers on board with wearing PPE appropriately.
- "I got caught wearing my PPE!"
- Entry into contest for prizes (gift cards from campus vendors)
- Partnering with safety supply vendors for lunch and learns or coffee talks
- Win-win for GT and our vendors



WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS

Less is more

The screenshot displays the Georgia Tech Facilities Management website for the Biological Safety office. The header includes navigation links for Home, Offices & Services, Contact Us, Facts, Directions, TRAINING, NEWS, and EMERGENCY, along with a search bar. The main content area features a large hero image with the text "Welcome to the Georgia Tech Biosafety Office!" and a mission statement. A "CONTACT US" section lists the Biosafety Officer (Meagan Fitzpatrick) and Assistant Biosafety Officer (Shane Gillooly). Below this is a grid of nine "Learn More" buttons for various topics: Training, Protocol Approval, Occupational Health, Shipments, Inspections, Equipment, Pest Management, Manuals, Forms & Resources, and Frequently Asked Questions. The footer contains the Georgia Tech logo, copyright information, and a "RESOURCES" section with links for Emergency Information, Legal & Privacy Information, Accessibility, Accountability, Accreditation, and Employment.

SAFETY AMBASSADORS

- Each quarter, an individual is selected for this award
- What does that mean?
 - Featured in our online EHS newsletter
 - Featured on our EHS homepage carousel
 - Provided a physical award with their name engraved



SAFETY FAIR



- PPE Photobooth
- We used this to entice people to engage with our booth and sign up for our online newsletter
- Used give away items to promote our program



SATELLITE SHIPMENT LOCATIONS



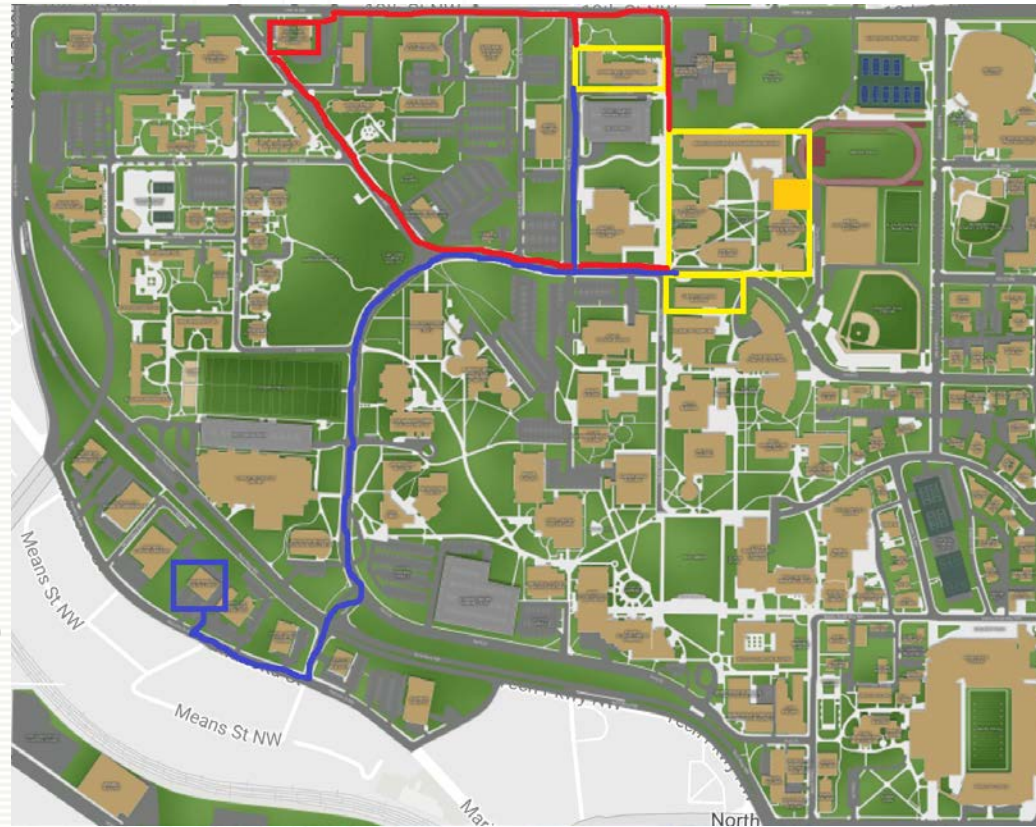
Moved to new location on campus
back in spring

- Less centrally located

Recent shipping audit involved
thoughts from researchers, who all
disliked new location for dropoffs

Adopted new shipment location pickup

- Picking up M-F, 30 minute window



ENTERTAINING SUSTAINABILITY

- Beta testing the Kimberly-Clark Nitrile Glove Recycling Program at Georgia-Tech
- Rightcycle by Kimberly-Clark Professional* is the first end of life recycling solution for nitrile gloves and garments



- Interest Form
- EHS Risk Assessment
- Program Guidance Document
- Consistent Signage
- Program Oversight
- Space for Glove Recycling Pallet

Kimberly-Clark Nitrile Glove Recycling Only! 

DO NOT Recycle Gloves If:

-  Gloves are visibly or suspected to be contaminated with hazardous materials
-  You were working with:
 - P-listed chemicals (acutely toxic): List available in 40 CFR 261.33
 - Highly toxic chemicals
 - Pyrophoric chemicals
 - Radioactive material
 - Infectious/biological material
 - Biological toxins
-  Gloves are not Kimberly Clark brand nitrile gloves

Questions? Contact GT Environmental Health & Safety (lab-chemsafety@ehs.gatech.edu)

Getting PIs and Students to take personal investment in safety

- Meeting with EHS personnel upon arrival to GT (new PIs and groups)
- Doing lab self-inspections
- Appointing a lab safety officer for every lab (Department of Chemistry, ChBE, MSE)



QUESTIONS

Finding engaging ways to build compliance may be especially useful to Biosafety

Collaboration can extend beyond the university

