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Committee
ABSA International

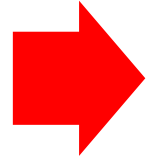


**Beyond The Lab:
Increasing the
Visibility of
Biosafety and
Biosecurity**

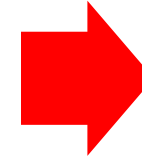
Danielle Rintala, MS, RBP
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Eric Rouse, MS, MBA, RBP
University of Kentucky

A Brief History

2014-2017
National
Biosafety
Stewardship
Month facilitated
by the National
Institutes of
Health (NIH) and
Department of
Health and
Human Services
(DHHS)



2018
Biosafety Month
transitions to
ABSA
International



2019
Shift to Biosafety
and Biosecurity
Month

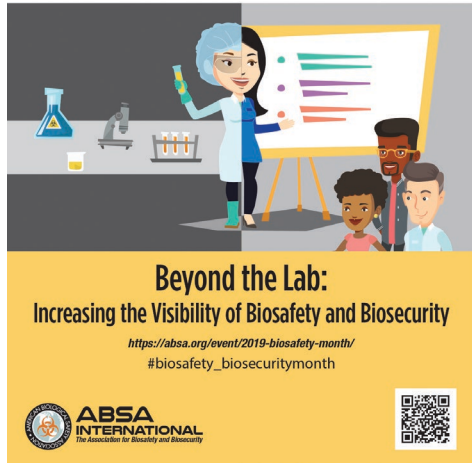
2019 Theme Goals

- Increase the visibility of biosafety and biosecurity professionals in our workplace and community
- Highlight the multidimensional nature of the biosafety and biosecurity profession
- Define how biosafety and biosecurity are more than compliance
- Advocate for the education, training, and support of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields

2019 Theme Goals

- Promote biosafety as a scientific discipline
- Support STEM students' awareness and interest in the profession through outreach and interactions at all educational levels
- Foster dialogue, transparency, and education in work involving biological materials with all stakeholders

ABSA
INTERNATIONAL
OCTOBER 2019
Biosafety and Biosecurity Month



ABSA
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Dear Research Community,

October is the 6th Annual Biosafety and Biosecurity Month. This year's theme, *Beyond the Lab: Increasing the Visibility of Biosafety and Biosecurity*, is an opportunity for us all to consider the important roles that we serve in fostering an understanding of biosafety and biosecurity. As a researcher, you are a role model, a mentor, and a leader to a new generation of scientists and scientific support personnel. October is an excellent time to foster an open dialogue with your colleagues, peers, and staff about biosafety and biosecurity.

These are some starting points that you can utilize to integrate biosafety and biosecurity into your lab meetings/ discussions/ practice:

- Invite your institutional biosafety and biosecurity professionals to speak to your lab or class about safety work practices, risk assessments, and how to respond to incidents.
- Identify opportunities to collaborate with biosafety and biosecurity professionals on applied safety research, from increasing efficiency to streamlining an SOP.
- Review high-risk and high consequence procedures in your work environment.
- Discuss the importance of securing pathogens and chemicals that can cause serious harm and take care of identified security issues.
- Review procedures in your lab environment, the engineering controls in place, donning/ doffing PPE, and decontamination and disposal procedures.
 - Involve all members of the lab in periodic review and revision of SOPs.
 - Encourage collaboration with biosafety and biosecurity support personnel in this review process.
- Request an audit/ inspection of work spaces and storage by biosafety/ biosecurity professionals to assess the effectiveness of your controls, procedures, and behaviors.
- Review emergency response plans and SOP. Conduct drills or exercises (when applicable) to ensure everyone understands the plans.
- When presenting to colleagues or at conferences, integrate safety and security practices you implemented in your work into the presentation.
- Encourage personnel to join ABSA International, the Association for Biosafety and Biosecurity or to attend ABSA trainings or conferences.

For more ideas on how to increase awareness of biosafety and biosecurity, contact your institutional biosafety and biosecurity professionals. For more information on the 2019 Biosafety and Biosecurity Month, visit the ABSA International website at <https://absa.org/event/2019-biosafety-month/>.

Promotional Materials

- Webpage on the ABSA Site

- Graphics

- Letter to Researchers

- Promotional Contest

- E-blast Updates with Videos

2019 Biosafety and Biosecurity 1: x +
absa.org/event/2019-biosafety-month/
About News

ABSA International is proud to announce the 6th anniversary of Biosafety and Biosecurity Month in October 2019.

This theme for this year is "Beyond the Lab: Increasing the Visibility of Biosafety and Biosecurity."

The goals of this year's theme include the following:

- Promote visibility of biosafety and biosecurity professionals in our workplace and community.
- Highlight the multidimensional nature of the biosafety and biosecurity profession:
 - Define how biosafety and biosecurity professionals are more than compliance people.
- Advocate for the education, training, and support of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields:
 - Recognize biosafety as a scientific discipline;
 - Support STEM students' awareness and

Downloads

Flyer

Biosafety and Biosecurity Month Flyer | 8.5x11 (PDF 2MB)

Biosafety and Biosecurity Month Flyer | 11x7 (PDF 2MB)

Customizable Flyer
with space to personalize

**NO SHARPS
IN THE BAG!**

No Needles/Syringes No Blades No Glass

BIOLOGICALLY CONTAMINATED
SHARPS MUST GO INTO A
RED SHARPS CONTAINER

PUNCTURES ARE PREVENTABLE!
ehs.ucmerced.edu/researchers-labs/medical-waste-management
Questions? Contact EH&S at 209-228-2347
or biosafety@ucmerced.edu



Biosafety and Biosecurity Month Highlights

Network! Fun games & activities! Win prizes!

**Colorado State University
Biosafety & Biosecurity Fair**

October 16th LSC Grand Ballroom AB
10:00am - 2:00pm
Door Prizes for the First 50 Participants

Event Sponsors
RESEARCH INTEGRITY & COMPLIANCE REVIEW OFFICE | BIOSAFETY OFFICE | RESEARCH SAFETY CULTURE PROGRAM | LABORATORY ANIMAL RESOURCES | OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Activity Sponsors
GAIN microbios | PEAK | bioBUBBLE

Participating Sponsors
Laboratory Leadership Service

'Biosafety and Biosecurity Month' at AIMST University (April-2019)
'Symposium on Chemical, Biological and Health Safety', AIMST University, 16 April 2019

Implementation of Biorisk Management System for Laboratory Safety

Dr. Subhash J Bhole
Senior Associate Professor, Department of Biotechnology,
Faculty of Applied Sciences, AIMST University, Malaysia

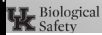
Chairman,
Institutional Biosafety Committee, AIMST University, Malaysia

Symposium Organized by



ZOMBIES, MAD SCIENTISTS, AND SPACE WARS:
Leveraging Pop Culture to Promote Staff
Engagement with an Annual Laboratory Safety Fair

ERIC ROUSE, MBA, MSIS, RBP(ABSAs)
SENIOR BIOLOGICAL SAFETY SPECIALIST
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



Biosafety and Biosecurity Month Highlights



Interested in a biosafety and biosecurity? Explore your options!

Bring your lunch and discuss biosafety and biosecurity career options with your very own UWM Biosafety Officer, Danielle Rintala!

Careers in Biosafety
Monday, October 21, 2019
Engelmann Hall 242
12:00-1:00 PM
Limited to 15 participants
RSVP by October 18 to rintala@uwm.edu.

<https://absa.org/event/2019-biosafety-month/>
#biosafety_biosecuritymonth

Why does visibility matter?

- Do your friends, family, and colleagues know and understand what you do in your profession?
- Are you involved in more than your day-to-day job duties at your institution?
- Do you have buy-in from senior administration?
- If they don't know, it can drive fear, uncertainty, confusion, and decrease researcher's likelihood of seeking out your assistance and feedback.



Why Visibility Matters to Me

- Hired as the Biosafety Officer (BSO) at my institution in 2017
 - Over 30,000 people at my institution (students, staff, faculty)
 - Also many partnerships with local businesses
- Two important questions to tackle:
 - How will people know who I am at my institution and as my peers at other institutions?
 - Where do I start and what do I need?

Strategies for Increasing Visibility in the Workplace and Community

- Get involved
 - Committees outside of your unit
 - Professional organizations
- Volunteer your time
 - Be of service to your workplace and community
- Communication
 - Newsletters, regular e-mail and website updates
 - Casual conversations, saying hi



Strategies for Increasing Visibility in the Workplace and Community

- Promote the biosafety and biosecurity profession
 - Discuss the profession with potentially interested individuals
- Don't be a know-it-all
 - Listen, learn, and discuss
- Speak in front of an audience
 - Here I am today!
 - Create a video!



Special Thank You To....



<https://absa.org/event/2019-biosafety-month/>
#biosafety_biosecuritymonth



David Gillum
Aparupa Sengupta
Marian Downing
Meghan Seltzer
Brandy Nelson
Pat Condreay
Antony Schwartz
Scott Alderman
Rebecca Moritz
Luis Alberto Ochoa
Carrera

Eric Rouse
Allen Helm
Kara Milton
Lolly Gardiner
Josh Turse
Subhash Bhore
Amy Ryan
Heather Blair
John Veitch
Ted Myatt

Drew Fayram
Anthony Appleton
Sumit Ghosh
Jesse Decker
Kathryn Harris
KariAnn DeServi

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