LAB HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety in any laboratory are matters of great concern. Unsafe or unhealthy behavior will not be tolerated because it endangers others. Please read over the list of rules below and follow them whenever you are in the lab.

1. Wipe up spills immediately, before further accidents occur.

2. Never eat or drink anything in lab: ingesting the wrong thing could prove fatal; danger of contamination also exists.

3. Do not lick labels or put anything in your mouth while in lab.

4. Keep volatile chemicals in the hood as much as possible and close all containers as soon as you can.

5. In each lab there is a special container for the disposal of broken glass, scalpel blades, and other sharp objects. ONLY these items are to be disposed of in this box.

6. Always take precautions against fire. NO SMOKING. Use Bunsen burners with care and never leave any flame unattended.

7. Avoid chemical spills as much as possible. In case of skin contact, flush with lots of water.

8. No running or sudden movement in the lab. Watch where you are going at all times.

9. Avoid wearing fancy, loose, dangling jewelry or loose cuffs, etc. Tie back shoulder length hair and avoid wearing mascara when using the microscopes.

10. Keep your work area neat and orderly. Keep glassware as low as possible.


12. Never do any unauthorized experiments and always try to work with a partner.

13. Follow disposal instructions carefully, especially for substances incompatible with water.

14. Always wash hands thoroughly before leaving the lab.
15. Keep coats, knapsacks, and other unnecessary items under the desks.

16. Wear old clothes or clothes which spills would not matter. Sandals, or open shoes should not be worn in the lab. This will help reduce the risk of broken glass and chemical hazards.

17. Avoid touching hot objects. Hot glass does not “look” hot!

18. Read labels on all reagents just to be sure of what you are using.

19. Follow directions carefully for each experiment; ASK about any directions you are uncertain of.

20. IMMEDIATELY report all spills, broken glass, injuries, or other mishaps to the lab instructor or assistant.

21. KNOW WHAT TO DO in case of an emergency:
   a. Know where the fire extinguisher is kept.
   b. Know how to shut off the gas supply to the room.
   c. Know where the first aid kit is kept.
   d. Know where to call for help- dial 9-911.
   e. Know how to use the safety shower and eyewash station.