



The Official Newsletter of the Chemistry Student Safety Organization

Website: <https://sites.utexas.edu/csso/>

Email: CSSO@cm.utexas.edu

Meet the New CSSO

by Jessica Hellinger

At the start of this semester, CSSO grew as an organization, and we now have participation from safety officers from each group in the department! This means the safety concerns of the whole department can be heard.

We now have 32 members representing 19 groups across organic, inorganic, analytical, physical and theoretical chemistry groups.

With our reinvigorated effort we hope to shine a light on safety in the chemistry department through a variety of initiatives including Safety Moment Monday, Safety Day, the Sweets and Safety Seminar, and this very newsletter is to let you know what we've been up to.



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by Carolina Vigil Hernandez

Join us from 11am-12pm to refresh your Fire Safety and Emergency preparedness knowledge.

When: 11AM February 2, 2024

Where: Speedway

To count this as your Fire extinguisher training, please sign up using the QR code. We will add it to your UT Learn account.



Fire Prevention Services



Sweets and Safety Seminar

New topics and new sweets

by - Jessica Hellinger

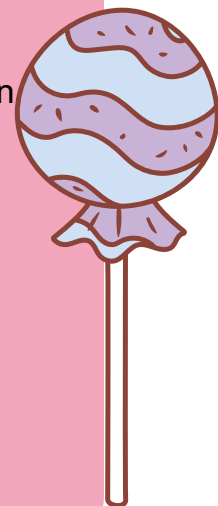
Get ready for another round of Sweets and Safety!!!

You can expect:

- Waste Safety with EHS (Jan 19)
- Debate Panel on AI for writing papers (Feb 9)
- Collaborative industry seminar with the Chemical Engineering Graduate Safety association (March 8)
- EMS Responding to Emergency Situations in Lab Spaces (April 5)
- Hazmats & the Fire Department (May 10)

With Exciting Sweets: Ice cream bars, Donuts (round rock donuts), 85 degrees bakery and more

Fridays 12:30-1:00 in the Welch 2.122 Convocation Center.



Safety Day Returns in the Spring!

by - Seth R. Allen

Mark your calendars because Safety Day 2024 is scheduled for April 18th! To add a fun new spin to the holiday, each research group that wishes to participate will make two (2) 11" x 17" posters about safety topics of their choice and display the posters outside of their lab. Each poster will have a unique QR code that can be scanned to enter into a raffle for a chance to win fabulous prizes. The more posters you visit, the greater your chances of winning! A party with food and beverages will be held in WCP 2.410 from noon to 1 pm for participating groups. Looking forward to seeing you there!



New Year, Safer You

by - Seth R. Allen

As the New Year dawns upon us, it is the perfect time to reflect on our habits and practices, especially when it comes to laboratory safety. A fresh start invites the opportunity to prioritize safety measures within our workspaces. Making New Year's resolutions for laboratory safety is not just a thoughtful initiative; it's a commitment to fostering a secure environment for oneself and others. Here are some tips to consider when formulating your laboratory safety resolutions:

1. Review and Update Protocols:

Take time to review existing safety protocols. Ensure they are up-to-date, comprehensive, and in line with EHS policies.



2. Educate and Train:

Invest in continuous education and training for yourself and your team. Whether it's attending workshops, seminars, or conducting in-house safety drills, knowledge is key to preventing accidents.



3. Prioritize Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Make a resolution to always wear appropriate PPE. This includes gloves, goggles, lab coats, and any other necessary protective gear. Commit to enforcing this practice among everyone in the lab.



4. Regular Equipment Maintenance:

Pledge to maintain laboratory equipment regularly. Create a schedule for inspections, calibrations, and maintenance checks to ensure proper functionality and safety.



5. Promote Open Communication:

Encourage a culture of open communication regarding safety concerns. Establish an environment where everyone feels comfortable reporting hazards or suggesting improvements without fear of repercussions.



6. Emergency Preparedness:

Make it a goal to review emergency procedures and protocols with your team. Conduct drills to ensure everyone knows what to do in case of accidents, spills, or emergencies.



The start of a new year symbolizes a clean slate and an opportunity for growth. By making laboratory safety resolutions, you're not just making promises; you're taking proactive steps to ensure the well-being of yourself, your colleagues, and the environment. Remember, small changes can lead to significant improvements in safety, so start the year with a commitment to creating a safer laboratory for all. Happy New Year and may safety be at the forefront of all your endeavors in the laboratory!

Meet the New CSSO

by Jessica Hellinger



Carolina Vigil Hernandez
Co-President



Alli Smith
Co-President



Joseph "Livy" Franklin
Vice President



Katie Zeurcher
Secretary



Keldy Mason
Communications
Comittee Officer



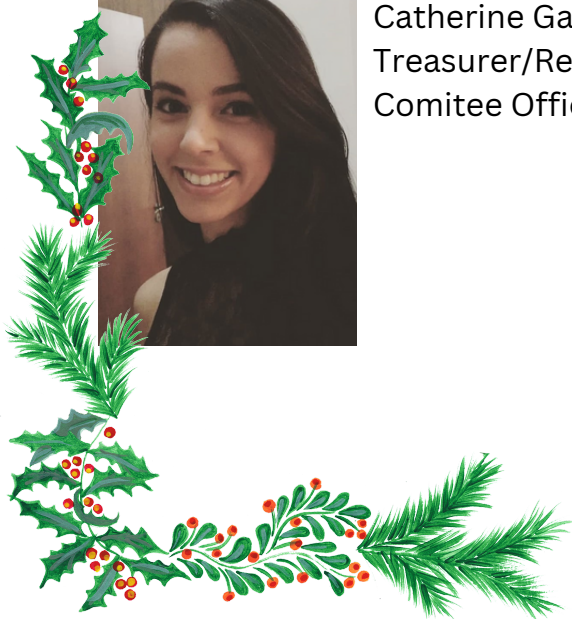
Nada Elessawy
Seminar Comittie Officer



Catherine Gazolla
Treasurer/Recruitment
Comitee Officer

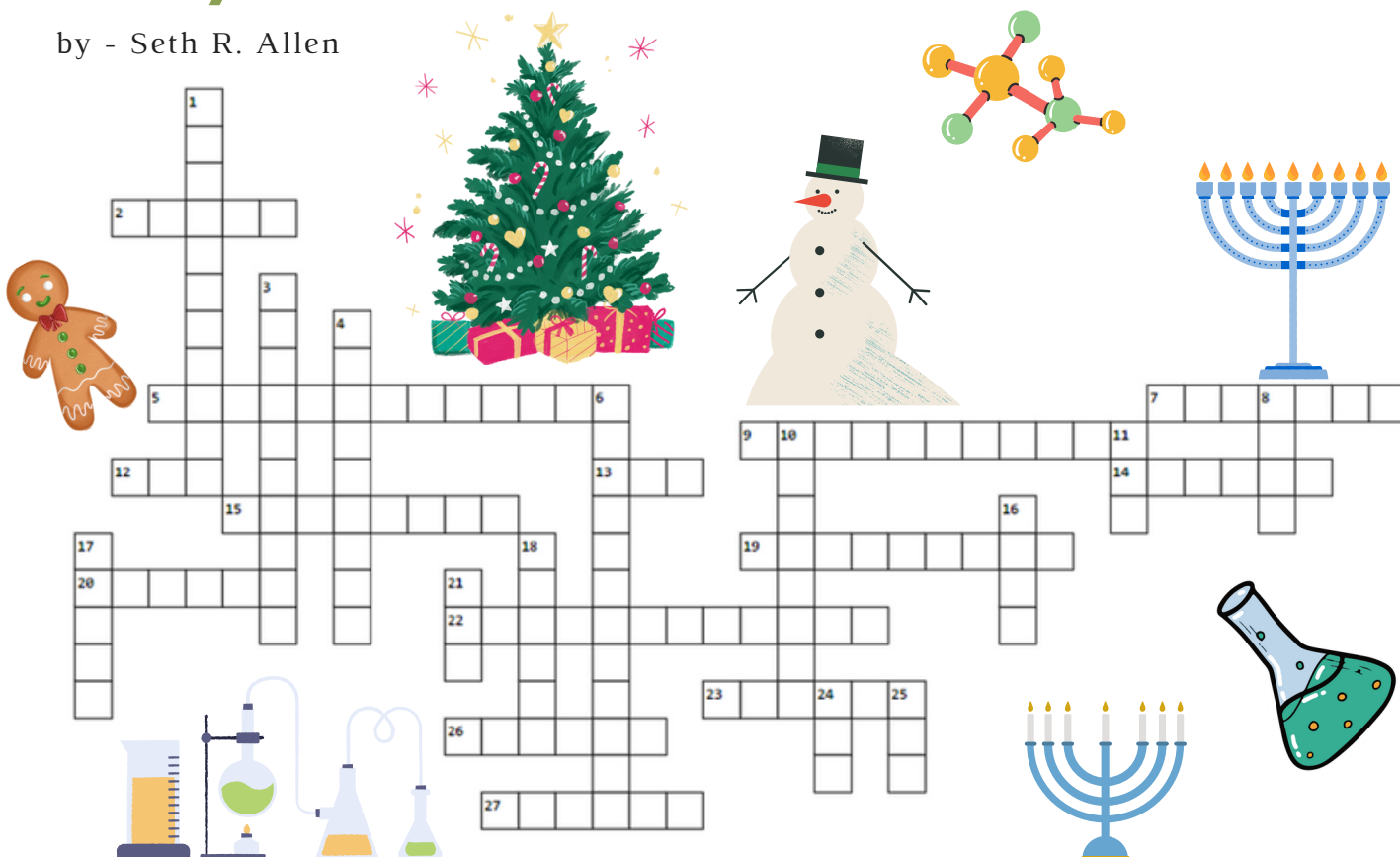


Emmie Stumbo
Events Comittee Officer



Safety Crossword

by - Seth R. Allen



ACROSS

2. A GENERATOR MUST NOT ACCUMULATE MORE THAN ONE _____ OF ACUTELY HAZARDOUS WASTE.
5. TWO WORDS. DANGEROUS PRACTICE OF LINKING MULTIPLE POWER STRIPS IN SERIES.
7. EXCESSIVE STORAGE OF CHEMICALS AND OTHER ITEMS WILL DISRUPT THE DESIGNED _____ OF THE HOOD.
9. A SUBSTANCE CAPABLE OF BURSTING INTO FLAMES WITHOUT THE NEED FOR IGNITION. NOT BE CONFUSED WITH A SIMILAR SOUNDING WORD.
12. ACRONYM. WHEN WORKING IN A LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS WEAR PROPER _____.
13. ACRONYM. DOCUMENT CONTAINING PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR A PARTICULAR SUBSTANCE.
14. CHEMICALS SHOULD BE STORED BY THEIR _____ CLASS.
15. TWO WORDS. CAN BE USED TO CONDENSE EVAPORATED MATERIALS BEFORE THEY REACH A VACUUM PUMP
19. WEAR THIS TYPE OF GLOVE WHILE HANDLING LIQUID NITROGEN.
20. POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE THAT CAN CONDENSE IN A COLD TRAP.
22. THE _____ TEMPERATURE IS THE MINIMUM TEMPERATURE AT WHICH A SUBSTANCE WILL IGNITE WITHOUT A SPARK OR FLAME.
23. SAFE USE OF THESE REQUIRES GOGGLES RATED FOR A PARTICULAR WAVELENGTH OR RANGE OF WAVELENGTHS.
26. FUME HOOD SASHES SHOULD BE AT OR BELOW 18 _____
27. A CHEMICAL WASTE CONTAINER SHOULD BE _____ WHEN WASTE IS NOT ACTIVELY BEING ADDED.

DOWN

1. SODIUM _____ SHOULD BE USED TO NEUTRALIZE ACID SPILLS.
3. TWO WORDS. LOWEST TEMPERATURE AT WHICH A LIQUID GIVES OFF VAPOR TO FORM AN AIR-VAPOR MIXTURE THAT WILL IGNITE.
4. WHEN CHEMICALS ARE CARRIED OUTSIDE OF A LABORATORY, THEY MUST BE STORED IN A _____ CONTAINER.
6. TWO WORDS. THESE CONTAINERS SHOULD BE SECURED FIRMLY AT THEIR CENTER OF GRAVITY, NOT TOP OR BOTTOM.
8. FLAMMABLE COMPOUNDS NOT IN ACTIVE MUST BE STORED INSIDE A _____-RESISTANT CABINET.
10. TWO WORDS. A POTENTIAL HAZARD OR INCIDENT IN WHICH NO PROPERTY WAS DAMAGED AND NO PERSONAL INJURY WAS SUSTAINED, BUT WHERE, GIVEN A SLIGHT SHIFT IN TIME OR POSITION, DAMAGE OR INJURY EASILY COULD HAVE OCCURRED.
11. ACRONYM. ALL ACCIDENTS, SPILLS, AND OTHER DANGEROUS INCIDENTS MUST BE REPORTED TO _____.
16. THIS TYPE OF ASSESSMENT SHOULD BE DONE DURING THE PLANNING STAGE OF ANY NEW OR MODIFIED PROJECT.
17. DO NOT PERFORM THIS ANTIQUATED AND DANGEROUS FORM OF PIPETTING.
18. CORROSIVE MINERAL ACID AND STRONG OXIDIZER. SHOULD BE STORED SEPARATELY FROM OTHER ACIDS.
21. A WASTE _____ DESCRIBING THE CONTENTS OF THE WASTE CONTAINER IS REQUIRED.
24. HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS SHOULD NOT BE STORED ABOVE _____ LEVEL.
25. ACRONYM. ESTABLISHED OR PRESCRIBED METHODS TO BE FOLLOWED ROUTINELY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF DESIGNATED OPERATIONS OR IN DESIGNATED SITUATIONS.

Interested in joining CSSO?
Want to submit an entry to the newsletter?
We want to hear from you!
Reach out to us: CSSO@cm.utexas.edu

How to Join CSSO

by Juliette Strasser

CSSO is a great way to make an impact in the safety culture of the Chemistry Department. There are many avenues for participation, from creating safety content to leading activities in the department. If you're interested in joining CSSO, here are a few things you can do:



Email csso@cm.utexas.edu. This is our official email address! We'll add your email to our mailing list so you can attend the next meeting.



Reach out to an officer. Our officers and their email addresses can be found on our website, <https://sites.utexas.edu/csso>. If you're interested in a specific role, they can answer your questions and invite you to a meeting.



Message us on social media. We have accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter! If you see an interesting post, you can DM us and start up a conversation.



Nominate yourself for an officer position. When we send around the nominations, don't be afraid to show interest even if you haven't attended a meeting yet! Fresh members, leaders, and ideas are what keep CSSO going.

We have lots of spots for people to brainstorm, implement, and participate in safety events and activities, and we also have upcoming elections where we're looking for future leaders of CSSO. We would love to have you join us at future meetings and we look forward to potentially having you in the group!