

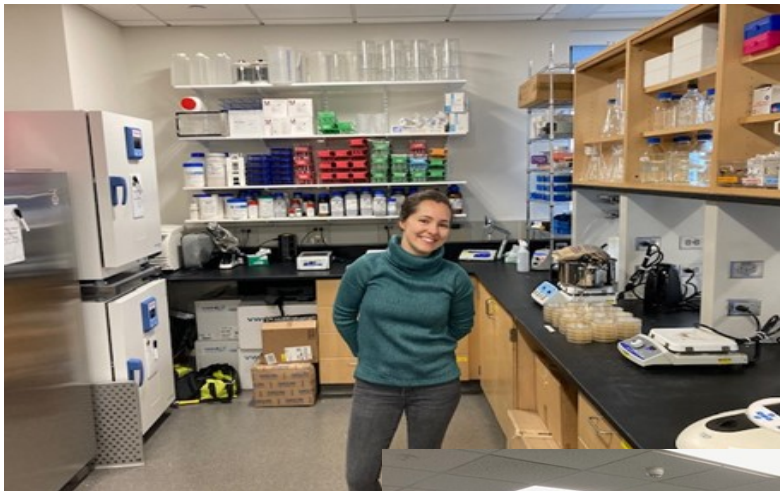
Environmental Health & Safety Laboratory Newsletter March-April 2024



Environmental Health & Safety
211 Warren Square

*Environmental Health & Safety
Recognizes Excellence at Work*

Dr. Gabrielle String



Dr. Gabrielle String came to Lehigh in from Tufts University, where her research focused on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) in humanitarian and development contexts. Dr. String completed her B.S. at Clarkson University, and her M.S. and Ph.D. at Tufts University in mechanical engineering.

Dr. String brings global experience to Lehigh. This includes work with United Nations organizations such as UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and UNHCR, the U.N. refugee agency. Dr. String's commitment and expertise was recognized in 2023, when she was chosen to present at the United Nation's 8th annual International Day of Women & Girls in Science Assembly. Held at U.N. Headquarters, her audience included about 800 heads of state, diplomats, scientists, and researchers representing 63 countries.

During Spring Break, Dr. String traveled with an MPH student to work on a field-based project in Zambia with local partners. The project focused evaluating an intervention on cleaning drinking water storage containers as drinking water is often re-contaminated after storage. Households may store drinking water because they do not have access to on-demand water supply which is a challenge in many countries of the world. In addition to establishing the pilot evaluation, Dr. String trained the local partners in new laboratory techniques to complement their existing protocols.

Looking ahead, Dr. String is enthusiastic about her joint-appointment between Environmental Engineering and the College of Health. She sees Lehigh's commitment to interdisciplinarity as a strength, especially when students and faculty from different backgrounds "come together and teach each other different things based on their own individual experiences and expertise."

Dr. String also values Lehigh's culture of "letting student's curiosity lead," to "go and explore and do things." Admittedly, this culture of curiosity and energy does have a downside. "As faculty, I think my role is to engage student excitement in research while teaching student how to work safely and respect the communities and peers they collaborate with." states Dr. String.

EH&S is proud to support Dr. String's commitment to excellence, and we look forward to assisting her in the years to come.

Life Safety Team

As of February 5, 2024 Lehigh's Life Safety department is reporting to Bill Santa, Director of Environmental Health and Safety. EH&S welcomes our newest team members in supporting safety on campus.

Life Safety team members are Mike Oblick, Assistant Director; Jim Sisko, Lead Life Safety Technician, Grant McLaughlin, Senior Life Safety Technician, Adam LaParr, Senior Life Safety Technician and Logan Randall, Life Safety Technician.

The Life Safety Department is responsible for ensuring that the life safety systems alert occupants to the presence of a fire or other emergency within a building.

Life Safety reviews and approves drawings and technical documents for the construction of new buildings as well as the review and approval of similar documents for alteration/renovation in existing buildings. In addition, Life Safety oversees relations system inspections ensuring code compliance and system integrity, performs building fire-safety inspections, and surveys university facilities to ensure systems conform to the Lehigh missions.

Life Safety maintains the following equipment on campus:

- Fire Extinguishers
- Kitchen Suppression Systems
- Sprinkler Systems
- Fire Pumps
- Fire Alarm Systems
- Campus-wide Fire Alarm Monitoring Systems

To submit a work order for any fire safety related equipment, please

[Submit Work Order Request Here](#)

A Good Catch

A “Good Catch” is when team members take responsibility for their safety, have received the proper training, and feel confident enough to speak up when they notice something worrisome. It is crucial that team members do not fear punishment for identifying issues.

This package was being delivered at Central Receiving. The delivery was refused because the package was leaking.



Glenn Strause refused the delivery. “Good Catch” and thank you from EH&S.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 LAST DAY TO PICK UP WASTE	18
19	20 VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES HAZARDOUS WASTE PICK UP	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Environmental Health and Safety’s hazardous waste contractor, Veolia Environmental Services, will be on campus the week of **MAY 20, 2024** to pack and ship chemical wastes for disposal.

All chemicals to be disposed of must be labeled properly with Lehigh University’s Waste Disposal Label and be placed in appropriate containers.

The last day a waste appointment can be scheduled and chemicals can be delivered to the waste room is **FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**. No waste will be picked up the week of May 20, 2024.

Call Elaine Kuchera at x84248 or email (emk3@lehigh.edu) for waste disposal appointments or to discuss waste disposal issues.

Eye Protection In Laboratories



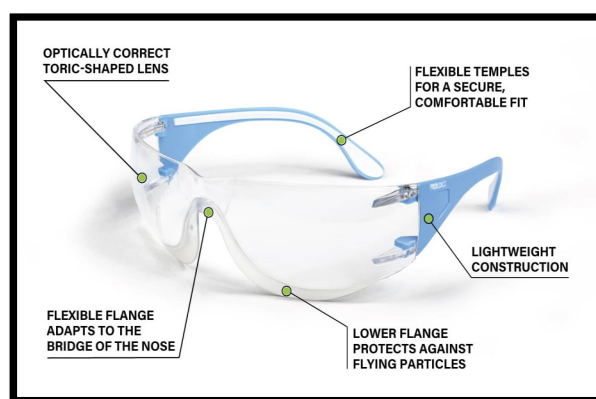
Eye Protection in Laboratories

This Summary is designed to summarize the EH&S Safety Manual. The complete Manual is always available from EH&S and your Supervisor. Should a conflict exist, the more stringent shall apply.

Protective eyewear must be worn in all laboratory spaces where physical, biological, and chemical hazards are present or whenever there is a chance of an eye injury. Eye injuries in laboratory spaces are very common and can result in serious eye damage. Eye injuries are preventable by wearing lightweight and impact-resistant safety glasses, goggles, or face shields.

When Working in Laboratory Spaces

- It is important to be aware of potential eye safety hazards in laboratory spaces, which can include biological agents, chemicals, optical radiation, and heat.
- Prescription safety glasses or over-the-glass (OTG) safety glasses are available. Standard prescription glasses are not impact-resistant and cannot be used as alternatives to safety glasses.



It is important to know the location of the nearest eyewash AND the correct procedures to follow in the event of exposure.

1. If something gets into your eyes, get to the nearest eyewash.
2. Turn the eyewash on and use your hands to keep your eyes open.
3. Have someone call 911 while you are flushing.
4. Flush eyes thoroughly for at least 15 minutes and seek medical attention.

Ensuring **Lab Safety** is of utmost importance, whether it is a part of a class or for independent research. All personnel are required to undergo safety training, as per the requirements of the lab they will be working in. It is mandatory for faculty, staff, and students to complete all necessary safety training before entering any laboratory.



Safety News

NEW ITEM: Kimberly-Clark Professional™ Introduces Kimtech™ Polaris™ Nitrile Gloves (Mar. 2023)

Kimtech™ Polaris™ Nitrile Gloves cater to laboratory, life science, and non-sterile pharmaceutical manufacturing environments. Rigorously tested against 29 common chemicals and 24 chemotherapy drugs, these gloves effectively close lab coat gaps for maximum protection. Available in two lengths (25cm and 30cm), they ensure maximum protection.



EVAS 20 lb. Propane Exchange Tanks Recalled by Worthington Enterprises Due to Fire Hazard



Hazard: The recalled propane exchange cylinders could leak gas, posing a fire hazard.

Remedy: Consumers should stop using the recalled EVAS 20 lb. propane cylinders immediately, close the top valve completely, and return them to any AmeriGas Propane Exchange retail location for a free replacement. Worthington advises consumers to close the valve on top of the cylinder completely when returning them.

Consumer Contact:

Website: <https://www.recallrtr.com/PropaneCylinders>

E-mail: propanecylinders@realtimeresults.net

Phone: (888) 520-1304

Lab safety

S E V O L G X S O L U T I O N G F
A F T P Y K S B A L A N C E S R M
A U L D E G U F I R T N E C L A R
T Y T M I C R O S C O P E F R D E
E R O O P U V Y S G N O T G Y U P
S O Z L C E L B I C U R C L T A P
T T S F J L Q C Y W I L Z A S T O
T A S P U B A O Q F X A O P T E R
U R A N K N T V O W E C E F I D D
B O L Q C Z N R E T B T L R R C S
E B G A S T C E A A R A N Y R Y E
B A H K B E A L L I S K L E I L J
U L C F P V P A D K E H K Z N I R
R J T S T T D I Y N A A D C G N N
N W A Z O T S W S B E R Y T R D N
E O W H G H P F Y B S X G J O E R
R O H S R E T I L I L L I M D R M

graduated cylinder
centrifuge
autoclave
lab coat
forceps
gloves
gas

stirring rod
laboratory
hot plate
solution
beaker
flask

milliliters
microscope
test tube
balance
burner
tongs

watch glass
petri dish
crucible
dropper
funnel
gram