



Campus Update, September 2013

June 2013

Lab Staff Profiled as Part of Gay Pride Month

As part of the nationwide salute to diversity, the Lab celebrated June as LGBT Pride Month. Organized through the Diversity and Inclusion Council to foster spirit, promote visibility and respect for staff with various backgrounds and traditions, several Lab staff was featured in the campus newsletter to share what Pride Month meant to them. The story can be found here: <http://today.lbl.gov/lab-staff-profiled-as-part-of-gay-pride-month/>

Lab's Back-Up Care Program Can Help Caregivers Over the Summer

As part of the preparation for the summer, the Lab implemented a campaign to remind staff of the back-up care program – Bright Horizons – who can help with last-minute changes to caring for children or a parent. The campaign reminded employees that they are eligible for up to 15 days of back-up care per calendar year at a co-pay of \$15/child or \$25/family per day of center-based care and \$6/hour for in-home care. This is beneficial to staff whose regular caregiver is ill or on vacation, if their work hours change unexpectedly, or they need temporary care during gaps in their child's summer care program. Staff needed to plan ahead and make reservations if possible.

July 2013

Workplace Substance Abuse Policy is Updated

Effective immediately, Berkeley Lab has revised the Workplace Substance Abuse policy. After reviewing the DOE contract, federal, California, and UC requirements, the Laboratory completed a major rewrite of the policy and reorganized it for clarity and ease of understanding. The Laboratory recognizes dependency on alcohol and drugs as a treatable condition and offers services for staff with substance-dependency problems. Staff are encouraged to seek assistance, as appropriate, from employee-support programs, and counseling services available through the Laboratory's Employee-Assistance Program.

Partial Lab Evacuation Exercise – July 11

As part of confirming one of the Lab's emergency measures, staff in Zone 1 buildings, approximately 10 buildings, were evacuated one afternoon. Directed by Building Emergency Team (BET) members, employees "sprung the hill" offsite for the remainder of the day. All staff, regardless of evacuee status, were required to check in either online or with their supervisors through e-mail, text, or voice mail, after 2:30 p.m. and no later than COB on that day. The purpose of the exercise was to determine length of time it took to evacuate and to test the viability of our staff accountability methods.

August 2013

Director's Achievement Awards Ceremony on Thursday, August 8

A ceremony recognizing the recipients of the 2013 Director's Award for Exceptional Achievement and the Berkeley Lab Prize – Life Time Achievement Awards was held on Thursday, August 8. The Berkeley Lab Prize-Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to two senior scientists for their contributions to their field of science and the Director's Awards for Exceptional Achievement was presented to several staff in the areas of Science, Early Scientific Career, Societal Impact, Diversity, Safety, Service, Operations, Outreach, and Tech Transfer. Friends and family of the recipients were invited to the presentation and the reception. The event was webcasted for those who could not make the event in person.

New Lab Policy Aims to Minimize Tobacco Use

In alignment with UCOP's decision to have all campuses be smoke- and tobacco-free by 2014, Berkeley Lab revised its tobacco use policy with the goal of minimizing the impact of secondhand smoke for nonsmokers and advancing the health of smokers by offering cessation resources. Starting November 15, smoking will be limited to designated areas at the main Lab site as well as the Joint Genome Institute, while use of smoke-free tobacco will be prohibited in Lab buildings



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and vehicles. (Berkeley Lab sites in Oakland, Berkeley, and Emeryville will not be impacted by the new policy.) This proposed policy was posted on August 15 for a 30-day employee comment period, from which, there were many positive comments. The Lab also held Town Hall meetings on the proposed policy August 26 and September 3 at lunchtime to ensure more staff learned about the programs. In addition, smoking cessation resources were advertised and available at a website for staff's information on this site: <http://www.lbl.gov/ehs/smoking/index.shtml>

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