



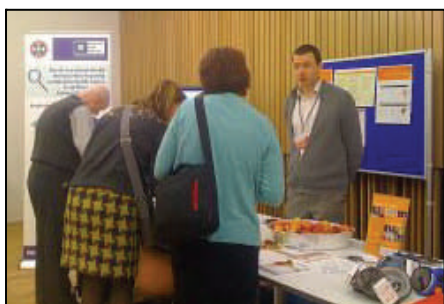
Health & Safety Bulletin



Issue 1

May 2011

Health and Safety Conference 2011



The Health and Safety Conference took place in February and was aimed at all health and safety advisers from the various work areas around the University. It took the form of a series of short presentations from individuals involved in the management of health and safety within the University, along with a presentation from the Health and Safety Executive.

The aim of the event was to allow individuals with a responsibility for health and safety to meet and interact with colleagues from other areas of the University, and to share experiences and ideas.

The event was well received and it is anticipated this will become an annual event.

Presentations and feedback from the conference are available to view at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/safety-roles/safety-conference

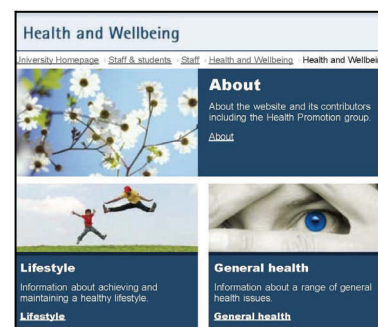
Health and Wellbeing Website

The Health and Wellbeing website brings together information on the wide range of health promoting activities across the University.

The website offers useful tips for achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyles as well as information on a broad range of health issues.

It also provides information on supporting your working environment and working practices, and promoting a positive approach to health and wellbeing.

To visit the website, go to www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/staff/health-wellbeing



Chemical Safety — Globally Harmonised System

A new system of classifying, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures has been introduced which aims to make all classification etc of substances harmonised the world over to reduce confusion and aid risk reduction measures. This system was implemented in the EU by the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures Regulation (CLP Regulation) which came into effect 20 January 2009, subject to a lengthy transitional period. Most of the onus is on the Suppliers with regard to CLP but end-users will need to be aware of the changes in phrasing, pictograms and safety data sheets.

Further information is available at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/hazardous-substances/ghs-clp

New Radiation and Asbestos Medicals

New arrangements have been made for radiation and asbestos medicals externally. Dr Bernard Kuenssberg has retired as Occupational Health Physician which affected the ability of the Occupational Health Unit

(OHU) to provide radiation and asbestos medicals by an HSE approved physician. The OHU have sourced an alternative provider for this service and the University has been registered with them. Therefore

any radiation or asbestos medical will now be done off campus and there will need to be a charge applied.

For further information and enquiries, please call the OHU on 650 8190.

Health and Safety Law Poster

The Health and Safety Executive issued the latest revision of the health and safety law poster and leaflet on 6th April 2009. There is a five year transitional period for these and any previous versions of the poster and leaflet must be replaced by the new versions no later than 5 April 2014.

The purchase of a copy of the poster for each and every University building is not a cost-effective approach. However,



in order to comply with this legal requirement the Health and Safety Department have pur-

chased a number of the new style posters. If you currently have an old-style poster and wish a replacement, please contact

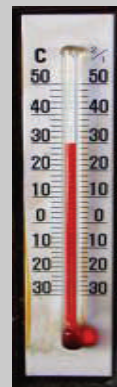
Candice.Schmid@ed.ac.uk

For further information visit the H&S website at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/workplaces-general/health-and-safety-poster

Temperatures in the workplace

During the summer when ambient temperatures can reach the mid > high 20s °C for short durations, workplaces can get uncomfortably hot.

Currently health and safety legislation states that the temperature in indoor workplaces during working hours shall be reasonable, and the Regulations do not specify a minimum or maximum temperature. Generally the acceptable zone of comfort for most persons is roughly between 13°C (56°F) and 30°C (86°F).



More information on temperatures is available on our website at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/workplaces-general/temperatures

For practical advice on how to lower temperatures in the workplace, please see www.docs.csq.ed.ac.uk/Safety/general/temp_heatwave.pdf

Contact Details

Health and Safety Department
Charles Stewart House
9-16 Chambers Street

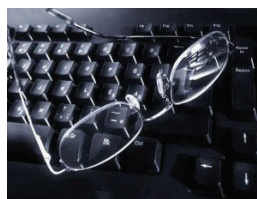
T: 651 4255

E: Health.Safety@ed.ac.uk

W: www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety

Eye tests for VDU use

University employees who are regular users of display screen equipment (DSE/VDU) should be made aware that, upon request, they will be provided with a vision test and eye examination - a DSE/VDU Eye test, by the appointed University Optometrist.



Employees who have been previously referred to the appointed University Optometrist or who already wear spectacles should contact the Health and Safety Office in the first instance by email Health.Safety@ed.ac.uk providing their Name, Department and Department address or by telephoning 651 4255 to obtain the necessary paperwork before arranging the appointment directly.

All other employees (any who have not previously been to the appointed University Optometrist and do not currently wear spectacles) should contact the Occupational Health Unit, 650 8190 to arrange an appointment for vision screening in-house. (Occupational.Health@ed.ac.uk).

The costs of such DSE eye tests will be met centrally, and Rodger and Smalridge will issue a prescription (where appropriate) to the applicant, and a report to Health and Safety Department, the latter stating whether sight correction specifically for DSE work is required. If a member of staff is prescribed a corrective appliance for DSE work, the School is responsible for the cost of up to £55 and will be informed of this via a letter from the Health and Safety Department.

Full details available on our website at

http://www.docs.csq.ed.ac.uk/Safety/health/DSE_eye_tests.pdf

Forthcoming Training Courses

- Basic Course in Radiation Protection in Teaching and Research (1st and 8th June 2011)
- Laser Safety Course (15th June 2011) www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/radiation-protection/training/timetable
- Defensive Driving Course (22nd June 2011) www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training/timetable
- Fire Steward and Fire Extinguisher theory and practical use (14th June 2011)
- Fire Awareness (16th June 2011) www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/fire-safety/training/timetable

For more information on H&S training courses go to www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training