

## Lab Safety in the News:

- ▶ [Lessons learned](#) from the Texas Tech University explosion
- ▶ [Workrite Uniform's New FR/CP Lab Coat Revolutionizes Safety](#)
- ▶ [Independent investigation](#) of University of Hawaii lab explosion
- ▶ ["New Lab Safety Rules for Protecting Workers"](#) – addresses working alone in the lab

## New/Revised EH&S Content:

- ▶ Online Course: [Laboratory Ergonomics](#)
- ▶ [Laboratory Safety Manual](#)
- ▶ Phenol [factsheet](#)
- ▶ Hydrofluoric acid [factsheet](#)

## Upcoming Events:

- ▶ August – Website Launch
- ▶ November – First Annual DLSC Forum

## Featuring:

**Why did you choose a career in safety?** I spent 14 years in agricultural microbiology laboratory and field research and before that several years in the USAF writing compliance SOPs from regulatory documents. When I examined my career and looked for a niche where I could have the most valuable impact on science with my acquired knowledge and skills, I decided helping fellow scientists navigate the regulatory and safety aspects of research would free up their time for more discovery pursuits. It has been very rewarding.

**In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge to achieving better safety awareness and performance in an academic setting?** The biggest challenge in a diverse academic environment like ISU is effective communication. It all begins with getting the safety message in front of people in a manner that they find convenient, they recognize, and that they take to heart. Safety is more than just being careful, it's a choice, a state of mind, part of a lifestyle.

**What do you wish others knew or understood about safety?** I wish people understood that the safety lessons they can learn from EH&S at ISU is that if you diligently practice it while in the lab or the classroom, it will follow you home and improve your safety in everything you do. Like I said earlier, it's part of a lifestyle.



**Steve Ziegenfuss "Steve Z."**  
Alternate Biosafety Officer  
Environmental Health & Safety

**Where would you like to see the Chemistry Safety Program in the next few years?** I would like to see increased awareness and safety put first. Also, [I] would like to see a good safety culture development among our graduate students, visiting scholars, and our faculty.

**What advice would you give to those that are looking to start a safety program in their department?** It is an important and most challenging program to develop in research departments. If it is too much for a single person to oversee safety, I would highly recommend creating a small safety committee and distributing the responsibilities among the committee [members].

**What has been the most rewarding experience as the DLSC for the Chemistry department?** I take great pride in serving as our DLSC. Each year, I get to train numerous graduate and undergraduate students about lab safety. It is interesting to see how students coming from different backgrounds and ethnicities view lab safety differently. When students come with some sort of fear of lab accidents, after the training, they have great peace of mind since they know as long as they follow all the safety protocol, they should be just fine! That is the most rewarding experience.



**Jesudoss Kingston "Kingston"**  
Lecturer & DLSC  
Department of Chemistry