

To: Deans, Department Heads in the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Mylan School of Pharmacy, School of Nursing and Rangos School of Health Sciences

From: Provost R. L. Pearson

CC: Paul King, John Volpe, Stephen Schillo

Date: March 19, 2004

Re: Minimum Personal Protection Standard for Science Laboratories

Minimum Personal Protection Standard for Science Laboratories

In accordance with the University Safety Policy AP No. 37, the University Chemical Hygiene Plan, and the recommendations of the Laboratory Environmental Health & Safety Committee, Duquesne University established the following **minimum personal protection standards** for all students and employees working in the University's science research and teaching laboratories:

All individuals entering a research or teaching laboratory must wear the following protective apparel:

1. **Lab Coats:** Appropriate lab coats that protect against possible hazards, such as splashes or spills, are required at all times while anyone in a research or teaching laboratory is working with hazardous chemicals. Lab coats may be worn within all areas of each building, except designated eating areas. Lab coats must not be worn outside the building.
2. **Safety Glasses:** Appropriate eye protection is required at all times while anyone in a research or teaching laboratory is working with hazardous chemicals. While engaged in desk work, which is isolated or protected, safety glasses are not required.
3. **Clothing:** Clothing that does not protect against possible laboratory hazards, such as shorts, cutoffs, and skirts above the knee are not permitted in any science laboratory. Loose clothing or long hair must be constrained while in the science laboratory.
4. **Shoes:** High heels, sandals, open-toed shoes, or slippers, are not permitted in any science laboratory.

It is the **laboratory supervisor's responsibility** to require appropriate additional personal protection and protective equipment beyond the above minimal standard in line with the hazards of the work performed in the laboratory and to enforce such standards.