COM Research Information Series – 28 Feb 22
Environmental Health and Safety Overview
Discussion Points

- Introduction to EH&S Mission and Organization
- EH&S Resources (EH&S on the Web)
- Recent Improvements
- What is next
- Summary and Q&A
EH&S Mission and Organization
EH&S Mission

To provide and ensure a safe and healthy environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors through comprehensive service-oriented programs.
Authority and Responsibility

• Responsibility for administration of the Universities’ EH&S Program is delegated to the Director, Environmental Health and Safety by the University President through University Policy 4.1.2, Environmental Health and Safety.

• Responsibility for compliance with EH&S Program procedures and guidelines and applicable laws and regulations is a shared responsibility of all members of the University community.
EH&S In the FAU Organization

• Reports to the VP of Administrative Affairs, Stacy Volnick
• Team of 15
  • 3 on leadership team
  • 8 program coordinators
  • 4 specialists
• Manages a wide array of programs including
  • Biological and Laboratory Safety
  • Campus and Occupational Safety
  • Occupational and Public Health
  • Environmental Protection
  • Radiation and Laser Safety
  • Fire Safety
  • Building Code Compliance
  • Risk Management
  • Diving and Boating Safety
FAU EH&S Organizational Chart

Stacy Vistnick
VP, Admin, Affairs & CAC

Wendy Ash-Graves
Director, EH&S

Gabriel Jackson

Dennis Zabel
Associate Director

Frank November
Assistant Director & BSO

Billy Warren
Environmental Compliance & RSO

Amie Harrison
University Risk Mgr.

Harvey Smith
Building Codes Administrator

Lizanne Mathews
Div. and Housing Safety Officer

Henry Hutchinson
Industrial Hygienist

Josanne Hollingsworth-Matea
Laboratory Safety Officer

Scott Watts
EH&S Spec. Fire/Env.

Open Position
EH&S Specialist

Mark Meyers
EH&S Spec. Env.

John Readhead
Fire Inspector

Jimmy Neilson
Alternate BSO (inactive)

JANUARY 2022
FAU Environmental Health and Safety

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Director, Environmental Health and Safety
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Function Highlights:
• Oversight for EH&S programs at FAU
• Recruiting and retaining the best EH&S talent
• Leading and mentoring the EH&S team
• Identifying program needs
• Developing and implementing program improvements
• Collaborating with the FAU community
• Tailoring compliance needs
EH&S Northern Campuses

Dennis Zabel
Associate Director, Environmental Health and Safety
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Program Areas:
• Multiple EH&S efforts at Jupiter Campus
• Multiple EH&S efforts at HBOI Campus
• Coordinates other EH&S professionals on northern campuses
Biological, Laboratory, and Occupational Safety & Public Health

Dr. Frank Novembre
Assistant Director, Environmental Health and Safety
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Program Areas:
• Biological Safety (Biological Safety Officer)
• Hazardous Materials Management
• Industrial Hygiene (leads CIH role)
• Occupational Safety
• Laboratory Safety (leads LSO role)
• Medical Monitoring
• Public Health (Public Health Officer)
Environmental Compliance and Fire Safety & Radiation Safety

Bill Ware, P.G.
Environmental Compliance and Fire Safety Officer/RSO
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Program Areas:
• Environmental Compliance
• Hazardous Waste Management
• Fire Safety
• Radiation Safety Management (Radiation Safety Officer)
• Leads a team of 4 specialists and one coordinator
Risk Management

Arnie Harrison
University Risk Manager
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Program Areas:
• Insurance Coverages
• Claims (general liability, auto, etc.)
• Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drones)
• Risk assessments
• Cost Recovery
Building Code Compliance

Harvey Smith
FAU Building Code Administrator
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Program Areas:
• FAU Building Official
• Construction and Renovation Permitting
• Certificates of Occupancy
• Building Code Enforcement
Diving and Boating Safety

Lizzie McNamee
Diving and Boating Safety Officer
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Program Areas:
• Scientific Diving and Boating Safety
• Scientific Diving and Boating Training
• CPR and First Aid Training
• Dive Locker Asset Management
Specialized Committees

There are multiple committees at FAU that have been formed to gather groups of experienced Faculty and Staff at FAU to address compliance in specialized areas of the EH&S program.

• University Safety Committee (VPAA)
• Diving and Boating Board (VPAA)
• Radiation Safety Committee (VPAA)
• Institutional Biosafety Committee (VPDOR)
EH&S Resources
EH&S on the Web

The EH&S website provides users with a host of resources including:

- Services
- Contacts
- Policies and procedures
- Forms
- Access to EH&S platforms like Bioraft, Percipio and Bloop

https://www.fau.edu/ehs/
Recent Improvements
EH&S Platforms

**Percipio** is a recent improvement to the previous learning management system, Skillsoft. Percipio offers a streamlined look and feel that is more user friendly. Other improvements include assigned learning which allows us to take full advantage of additional features like training e-mail notifications (upcoming and overdue). The platform offers full visibility to training needs and completion of assigned training.

[https://www.fau.edu/ehs/training/](https://www.fau.edu/ehs/training/)

**Bioraft** has been implemented throughout FAU in all laboratories and departments that work with biological, radiological, and chemical materials. The SDS lookup feature of the platform can be accessed by anyone with an FAU NetID.

[https://www.fau.edu/ehs/bioraft/](https://www.fau.edu/ehs/bioraft/)
What’s Next?
New EH&S Initiatives

- EH&S is working on a full update of all policies, procedures, plans, and manuals.
- EH&S will continue to work with the FAU Community on proficiency with the improved programs.
Continuous Improvement

EH&S serves FAU through the creation of compliance methods that work in harmony with the activities of the community. We are continuously evaluating, developing, and implementing new strategies to help our faculty, staff, students, and researchers meet their goals, while maintaining the highest quality of compliance possible.
Q&A
Further questions, ideas, and thoughts?

Don’t hesitate to reach out to me or a member of my team at any time!

Thank you!
Areas of Research Compliance

- Human Subjects in Research (IRB)
- Animal Subjects in Research (IACUC)
- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
- HIPAA and Research (PHI)
- Mandatory Training Requirements (CITI)
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
- Financial Conflict of Interest in Research (FCOI)
- Research Misconduct
- Data Security (HSR)

Goal: To facilitate research while maintaining regulatory compliance
MISSION & VALUES

The mission of Research Integrity is to ensure compliance with the regulations associated with the conduct of ethical and safe research, to provide guidance and support to FAU’s research community in order to effectively manage and administer research compliance, and to build relationships with our research partners to promote responsibility in the conduct of ethical research.

We value stewardship and our important role in providing protections for those engaged in research. We value honesty, being genuine and sincere with all those we work with. We value accountability and our charge of compliance, courtesy, performance, and efficiency.

COMPLIANCE AREAS

- UNIT PERSONNEL
- HUMAN SUBJECTS (IRB)
- ANIMAL SUBJECTS (ACUC)
- INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY (IBC)
- FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (FCOI)
FAU’s IRBs

• Institutional Review Board – 2 IRBs
• Human Subjects Protection Committees
• Social Behavioral and Educational Research
• Health Sciences
• Faculty Committees
• College Representatives
• Community Members
Animal Subjects in Research (IACUC)

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COMPLIANCE AREAS
Animal Subjects in Research (IACUC)

• Scope of FAU’s animal research portfolio
• Diverse 50% biomedical / 50% wildlife / ecological
• Multiple regulatory and permitting oversight agencies
• FAU IACUC
• Training – with RI, CM and CITI
• Attending Veterinarian
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- INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY (IBC)
- FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (FCOI)
Biological Materials in Research (IBC)

- Use of biological materials or recombinant / synthetic nucleic acids
- Risk of research to environment and public health
- Ensure research is conducted safely
- Local IBC
- Training – EH&S and CITI
- EH&S Program and Biological Safety Officer (BSO)
- BioRaft program
Comparative Medicine

Florida Atlantic University acknowledges the significant contribution of teaching and research with animals to the advancement of scientific knowledge in general and biomedical progress specifically. Animal research is intrinsically involved and important in gaining basic biological understanding and specific medical improvements.

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Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

- What is RCR?
- NSF Requirements
- NIH Requirements
- FAU’s Implementation and Verification Process
- In person workshops
- Graduate and Undergraduate course offering
- CITI Training
- NSF Audit of FAU
Financial Conflict of Interest in Research

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COMPLIANCE AREAS

- Unit Personnel
- Human Subjects (IRB)
- Animal Subjects (IACUC)
- Institutional Biosafety (IBC)
- Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI)
Financial Conflict of Interest in Research
FCOI

i. Researchers disclose SFI
ii. FCOI committee determination of COI
iii. Eliminate or manage the conflict

A financial conflict of interest refers to situation in which it is reasonably determined that a personal financial interest could directly and significantly affect the design, conduct or reporting of research.
Research Misconduct

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COMPLIANCE AREAS

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- HUMAN SUBJECTS (IRB)
- ANIMAL SUBJECTS (IACUC)
- INSTITUTIONAL BIO SAFETY (IBS)
- FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (FCOI)

- RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH
- RESEARCH MISCONDUCT
- THE BEACON NEWSLETTER
The Trusted Standard in Research, Ethics, and Compliance Training

The Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) is dedicated to serving the training needs of colleges and universities, healthcare institutions, technology and research organizations, and governmental agencies, as they foster integrity and professional advancement of their learners.

* Training Modules * Learner Groups

* Verification (completion report)

* FAU Affiliation * 10 Different languages
Research Data Security

Preparation Your IRB Submission

Abbreviations & Definitions

Risk and Level of Security

Data Security, Storage, Access, Transfer and Destruction

Internet-Based Human Subjects Research

College IT Representatives, Regulations & Reference
Compliance across units

Export Control
Foreign Influence
Diving and Boating Safety
Radiation Safety
Conflict of Interest
Drones
Research Integrity Personnel

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Questions