

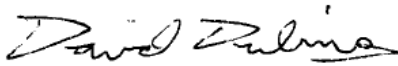


Standard Operating Procedure Document			
Title:	Electrical Safety		
SOP #:	PBSOP008	Rev #:	2

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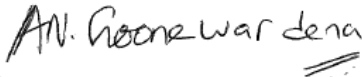
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Date



07-May-24

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22-May-2024

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22-May-2024

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Date



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1. Scope

The scope of this SOP is to provide building-specific details regarding the safety issues concerning aging and/or faulty electronic laboratory instruments and equipment.

This SOP is not intended to replace, supersede, or contravene any of the policies or training outlined by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS), available online via the following website:

<https://ehs.utoronto.ca/resources/>

The SOP is intended to clarify how site-specific aspects of OEHS policies are dealt with in order to ensure they are appropriately implemented. OEHS policies will not be re-iterated in this document, but rather the reader is referred to the link above, to the Policies and Procedures Listing Health and Safety Manual.

2. Objective

The objective of this SOP is to outline the appropriate policies, and the building-specific procedures pertaining to electrical safety issues inherent in the use of electronic devices in the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy.

3. Background

The Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy is an organization committed to protecting and monitoring the health and safety of people in the building. The Joint Health and Safety Committee is the body responsible for overseeing this important task and reporting to the OEHS at the University of Toronto. SOPs are now required by the OEHS. This series of SOPs are compliant with this requirement.

4. Definitions and Abbreviations

Abbreviations used in this document are defined in this section:

SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
JHSC	Joint Health and Safety Committee of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, at the University of Toronto
OEHS	The Office of Environmental Health and Safety, University of Toronto
TBD	To be determined
N/A	Not Applicable
Rev.	Revision
CSA	Canadian Standards Association



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5. Policies

1. Electrical safety policies pertaining to the laboratory are available through the Laboratory Fire Safety guidelines posted by Facilities and Services website:
<https://www.fs.utoronto.ca/services/fire-prevention/>
2. Electrical Safety Guidelines are available through the OEHS website:
<https://ehs.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/University-of-Toronto-Electrical-Safety-Program.pdf>
3. Safety training for graduate students is a degree requirement, and occurs twice yearly in the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. Electrical safety is a component of the safety training course.
4. Electrical and Fire safety is verified through monthly laboratory inspections (see PBSOP009).

6. Procedures

6.1.1 Identification of Electrical Safety Hazards

1. Laboratory equipment should be periodically checked for the following symptoms:
 - Fraying cords
 - Improper grounding (i.e. no third/grounding prong)
 - Aging electronics
 - Smoking or sparking during operation
 - Intermittent operation or shorting
2. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator and members of the laboratory to identify, and service or replace faulty laboratory equipment.
3. Only electrical devices approved for use in Canada are permitted to be used in the LDFP building.
4. Any concerns should be brought to the attention of the Faculty Technician.

6.1.2 A Circuit Breaker Engages

1. Laboratory equipment should never be plugged directly into an electrical outlet. A power bar with a built-in CSA-approved circuit breaker will protect the equipment, and help prevent a circuit breaker engaging.
2. If an electrical outlet is overloaded, or there is an electrical problem (e.g. a short) with a specific piece of lab electrical equipment, the circuit breaker might engage and turn off the power.
3. If the power is cut suddenly from a given piece of laboratory equipment, the user shall unplug the device from the outlet and try to determine the source of the problem, which may include:
 - Too many instruments plugged into one outlet



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- An electrical problem with the electronic device
 - An electrical problem with the building (e.g. a power failure)
4. Another device that is known to be working is plugged into the outlet to determine whether or not the outlet is live. If there is a power bar, locate and depress the circuit breaker reset button.
 5. If the outlet is not live (i.e. a working device does not power on), then the user shall take a note of the exact room and location of the outlet, and inform the Facilities Manager, who will call the University of Toronto Call Centre (8-3000 from a University phone, or 416-978-3000 from any phone) to report the incident. The University of Toronto Call Centre will dispatch an electronics technician (during work hours) or an engineer (after office hours, in the event of an emergency) to assess the incident and take the appropriate action.
 6. If the outlet is live, then the laboratory equipment is faulty. A fuse may have blown, or there may be a more impactful electrical problem. Consult the Faculty Technician for further assistance.

7. Revision History

Revision #	Date	SOP Section(s)	Revision Description	Revised By
0	20-Mar-12		SOP PBSOP008 created.	David Dubins (author)
1	05-Dec-17		Web links updated. Video links removed (no longer available).	David Dubins (reviser)
2	08-May-24	5.1, 6.1.2.5	Signatories and links updated. Corrections made by Tina Harvey-Kane.	David Dubins (reviser)