

Autumn 1997

Laboratory Safety Skit from The Journal of Chemical Education
with Pat Kandziora and Jane Rank

Safe Laboratory Practices Violated in the Skit (in order of violation)

- 1) Wear older clothes to lab
- 2) Do not wear sandals when working in lab
- 3) Keep work space uncluttered
- 4) Do not bring lunches to lab
- 5) Do not work alone in lab or after hours without permission
- 6) Wear safety goggles at all times (Safety glasses are not a substitute)
- 7) Point tubes with liquids being heated away from others or self
- 8) Adjust burner flames properly
- 9) Do not place flammables near open flame (ether beaker)
- 10) No eating in lab
- 11) Never taste chemicals
- 12) No drinks in lab
- 13) Never use glassware as food or drink containers
- 14) Do not apply makeup in lab
- 15) Come to lab well prepared
- 16) Familiarize yourself with laboratory equipment
- 17) Properly label containers with chemical and hazard
- 18) Never pipette liquids by mouth
- 19) Do not pipette directly from a reagent bottle
- 20) Do not place the tops of reagent bottles on the lab bench
- 21) Use care and funnel when pouring liquid to avoid spills
- 22) Do not wipe up chemicals with your bare hands
- 23) Never return excess chemicals to the reagent bottle
- 24) Always add acid to water
- 25) Never use a thermometer as a stirring rod
- 26) Do not wipe chemicals on clothing
- 27) Always read and follow directions carefully
- 28) Use caution when noting the smell of a chemical; wave odor towards your nose
- 29) Never do unauthorized experiments
- 30) Do not try to hide mistakes
- 31) Dispose of chemicals properly
- 32) Check gloves for holes and appropriateness before using
- 33) Clean up your lab bench when finished