

# SSHE Newsletter 2/2018

September 2018

## 1) Lecture Series on “Sicherheit, Umweltaspekte und Risikomanagement”

In the 2018 spring semester, SSHE celebrated a première: Under the management of Prof. Massimo Morbidelli, the administrative department was able to take over and redesign a lecture series in D-CHAB. The series is entitled “Sicherheit, Umweltaspekte und Risikomanagement” (safety, security, environmental aspects and risk management). The aim of the lectures is to give students in their sixth semester a basic understanding of the effects of operational activities on human beings and the environment and to thus enhance their awareness of risk and of safety and security matters.

In the lecture series, students get an overview of the methods of risk assessment and the systematic planning of safety precautions as well as an insight into Swiss legislation (environment, occupational safety). Students get to know interrelations between toxicology and ecotoxicology, they are able to familiarise themselves for example with tools for preparing a risk analysis and how to use them in practice as part of a group project (including a presentation). They also learn about ETH Zurich’s risk management approach as well as similarities and differences compared to the industrial sector. In the last lectures of the semester, they are also given an overview of the duties of management and employees in relation to occupational safety and health protection as well as of requirements and structuring possibilities for setting up a safety and security organisation. Student feedback on the lectures series was very positive.

## 2) Personal Protective Equipment – Who Pays for it?



Protective goggles – an example of PPE  
(Image: ETH Zurich / Alessandro Della Bella)

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is used in many workplaces: in labs, workshops or for outdoor work. Protective goggles, protective gloves and filter masks contribute to safety and health protection. However, who pays for all of this? This question is regulated clearly in Articles 5 and 90 of the Swiss Ordinance on Accident Prevention (VUV): The employer must provide PPE and bear the costs of such equipment. This also includes a duty to replace PPE that is no longer fit for purpose. The employer is, moreover, responsible for organising the maintenance and care of PPE to ensure that it is in perfect condition at all times and for

regulating when it must be replaced. The rule is: As soon as the PPE no longer fulfils its protective function in full, it must be replaced. Reasons may include, for example, contamination of the PPE or porous material.

What are the rules at ETH Zurich? Here, specifically the supervisors adopt the role of the employer. All professors, department heads, institute heads, depending on the organisational unit also workshop managers etc. are obliged to provide and pay for the PPE required in their area – also for apprentices. There are exceptions to the rule: The cost of prescription protective goggles for employees is borne by SSHE, as is the cost of the first set of protective goggles for apprentices. Employees are obliged to use PPE and must not compromise their effectiveness.

What about students doing lab courses? They must be treated in the same way as apprentices and must likewise be provided with PPE free of charge by the unit responsible for the lab course.

If you have any questions, please contact [cabs@ethz.ch](mailto:cabs@ethz.ch) →. ETH Zurich employees can apply for their personal prescription protective goggles [here](#) →.

### 3) Open External Doors and Windows

ETH Zurich is an open-access university – many of our buildings are open to the public, and we welcome external visitors. This is part of the culture at ETH Zurich and it shapes our day-to-day lives. However, while this is specifically desired as an expression of the university's intellectual openness, other considerations come to the fore for non-public areas. For example, unauthorised access is not permitted anywhere where valuable items, sensitive data or hazardous materials are stored.

Particularly in the warmer months of the year, we can observe an increase in the number of unlocked or open external doors and windows (a tilted window can also be easily levered open) in various ETH Zurich buildings. Open entrances, particularly at ground level, allow unauthorised persons to access a building or laboratory and increase the risk of theft. Outside of the building opening hours, most of the external doors are also alarmed. Enjoy the summer sunshine and fresh air, but remember to close the doors and windows behind you. This is the simplest way for you to do your part to keep ETH Zurich safe.

### 4) Specialised Veterinarian Title in Laboratory Animal Science



Since this summer, the Swiss Association for Veterinarians in Industry and Research (SAVIR) awards the title of Specialised Veterinarian to veterinarians working in laboratory animal science. To obtain this title, candidates must submit an extensive dossier that provides information on their professional qualifications and experience. If the Credential Committee recognises this as being sufficient, the candidate is admitted to the exam. Candidates who pass the exam are entitled to use the title Dipl. SVLAS (Diplomate Specialised Veterinarian in Laboratory Animal Science). You will find more information on the Specialised Veterinarian in Laboratory Animal Science at [www.SVLAS.ch](http://www.SVLAS.ch) →. Maike Heimann (ETH SSHE) and Philippe Bugnon (UZH), who are responsible for initial and further training in laboratory animal science in an inter-university cooperation, played a key role in implementing the Specialised Veterinarian title.

SAVIR provides support with its network to veterinarians working in the fields of business, industry, research and education. SAVIR was founded in 2002 and is the sponsor for the Specialised Veterinarian title now offered. The association's website has been completely overhauled for the start of the Specialised Veterinarian programme: [www.SAVIR.ch](http://www.SAVIR.ch) →.

### 5) Fire Safety Training and Health Promotion Drives

From 24 September to 23 October 2018, **fire safety training** will be held at the ETH Zurich Hönggerberg campus. The target audience is primarily the new students with an internship in the first and second semester as well as employees who have joined ETH Zurich this year. More information: [www.ethz.ch/brandschutzkurs](http://www.ethz.ch/brandschutzkurs) →.

#### Save the date

SSHE is organising a **flu vaccination programme** again in 2018. The vaccination is voluntary and free for employees of ETH Zurich. All employees of ETH Zurich will be notified by e-mail as soon as the registration portal is on-line. The planned dates are on the morning of 18th October and the afternoon of 6th November at the City Centre campus as well as the afternoon of 29th October and the morning of 14th November at the Hönggerberg campus. The flu vaccination for D-BSSE employees in Basel will take place on 30th October (11:00 – 13:00). If you have any questions, please contact us at [sgu\\_betriebssanitaet@ethz.ch](mailto:sgu_betriebssanitaet@ethz.ch) →.

Once a year, ETH Zurich supports the blood donation drive of “Blutspende Zürich” by giving employees of ETH Zurich the opportunity to donate blood at the Höggerberg. This year’s **blood donation drive** takes place on 22th November (10:30 – 15:00h) in HIT E 51 (Siemens Auditorium). It is not necessary to make an appointment.

## 6) New Guidelines and Information Sheets

- The new [Guideline](#) → “**Sustainable Procurement, Usage and Disposal of IT Devices**” contains specific advice on the eco-friendly use of IT devices as well as information on what you need to remember during procurement. The guideline was compiled in cooperation with the Sustainability Team of the University of Zurich (UZH). If you have any questions after reading the guideline, you can get in touch with [Armin Brunner](#) → from the IT department.
- The [Guideline](#) → “**Sustainable Events**”, which was also compiled in cooperation with UZH, shows how to reduce the environmental burden caused by a conference or seminar. However, the guideline is not limited to ecological aspects. In fact, it also includes general sustainability criteria.
- The [Information Sheet](#) → “How to use Fire Extinguishers and Fire Blankets” provides practical instruction on how to use the most common extinguishing devices. Pictures accompany the recommended course of action in each case for a better understanding.

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