Safety Protocol for the
Sapp Science Center for Teaching and Learning (STLC)

As an educational building, STLC should maintain strong safety practices for laboratory science to promote a culture of safety. Stanford approved PPE shall be worn at all times in laboratory spaces -- this is any room in which chemicals are stored. Food and drink are not allowed in such laboratory spaces.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provides an important layer of protection from potential chemical and laboratory hazards. **Minimum PPE requirements are defined by the chemicals in the laboratory space, not what is performed in the space.** Before entering any STLC laboratory, individuals should check that their clothing is compliant with the minimum PPE that includes:

- Stanford approved flame resistant laboratory coat and safety glasses
- Shoes that cover the foot and provide safe movement (i.e. no sandals, ballet flats, high heels)
- Socks and long pants

This minimum PPE covers exposed skin except for hands and head and must be worn at all times while in these spaces. Some activities may require additional PPE such as nitrile gloves for direct handling of hazardous materials. Note that these “used” gloves should be removed before touching computers, door handles, elevator buttons, or other general equipment to minimize contamination.

**Enforcement of PPE and Safety Policies**

Instructors within a laboratory room are required to complete the hands-on Chemical Safety Training, and are responsible to inform and instruct their students in the location and use of the safety showers, fire extinguishers and first aid kits. A culture of safety within the STLC laboratories requires that everyone (i.e. instructors, TAs, students, laboratory managers) is responsible to identify non-compliance so that it can be corrected quickly.

The Chemistry and Biology Laboratory Managers are in charge of creating a culture of safety within the STLC. They will perform joint walk-throughs on a periodic basis to assess PPE compliance. They will review and amend this safety policy each year to accommodate changes and provide the departmental chairs a yearly report.

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Professor Keith Hodgson  
Chair of Chemistry

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