



University of Pittsburgh

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MEMO

To: D. D'Emilio, Stockroom Personnel, and Faculty
From: D. H. Waldeck *DHW*
Subject: Chemicals, cryogens, and outreach
Date: September 8, 2009

The University and the Department strongly support outreach efforts that bring the wonders of chemistry to the community, especially elementary and secondary school students; however we must proceed with full consideration of risk and chemical hygiene. Hence, I am writing to clarify the Department policy in this regard.

The Department policy is to not provide members of the community with chemicals and/or cryogens as part of an outreach effort. Members of the Department (faculty, instructors, and graduate students) are allowed to use such items in outreach activities, but should not provide those items to members of the community. Undergraduate students may use chemicals and cryogens if they have been trained in chemical safety and are appropriately supervised by a faculty member. The Department asks that all personnel coordinate their outreach activities through Mr. David D'Emilio, the Department's Chemical Demonstrator.

This policy differs from previous common practice in that it forbids the donation of chemicals and cryogens to all non-Departmental personnel, including those private individuals who perform chemical demonstration activities and teachers who are not active members of the College in High School program. I note that teachers in this latter program have an official University status as 'voluntary instructor'. The coordinator for the College in High School program will keep the list of such persons up-to-date and will provide appropriate guidelines to these instructors as needed. While we will not provide materials and supplies to outside persons, nor allow them to procure such items, the Department encourages you to share your expertise with such persons and help guide them in their efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.