

IS THERE ONE SAFETY CULTURE?

Gail Hall, Boston College

Alt. Title: Naming the Dead Cat in the Middle of the Table

ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

UNIVERSITY CULTURE

TECHNOLOGY CULTURE

SAFETY CULTURE



Organization

- * Mission and Values
- * Resources
- * Hierarchy
- * Risk Tolerance
- * Educational Values
- * University “Culture”

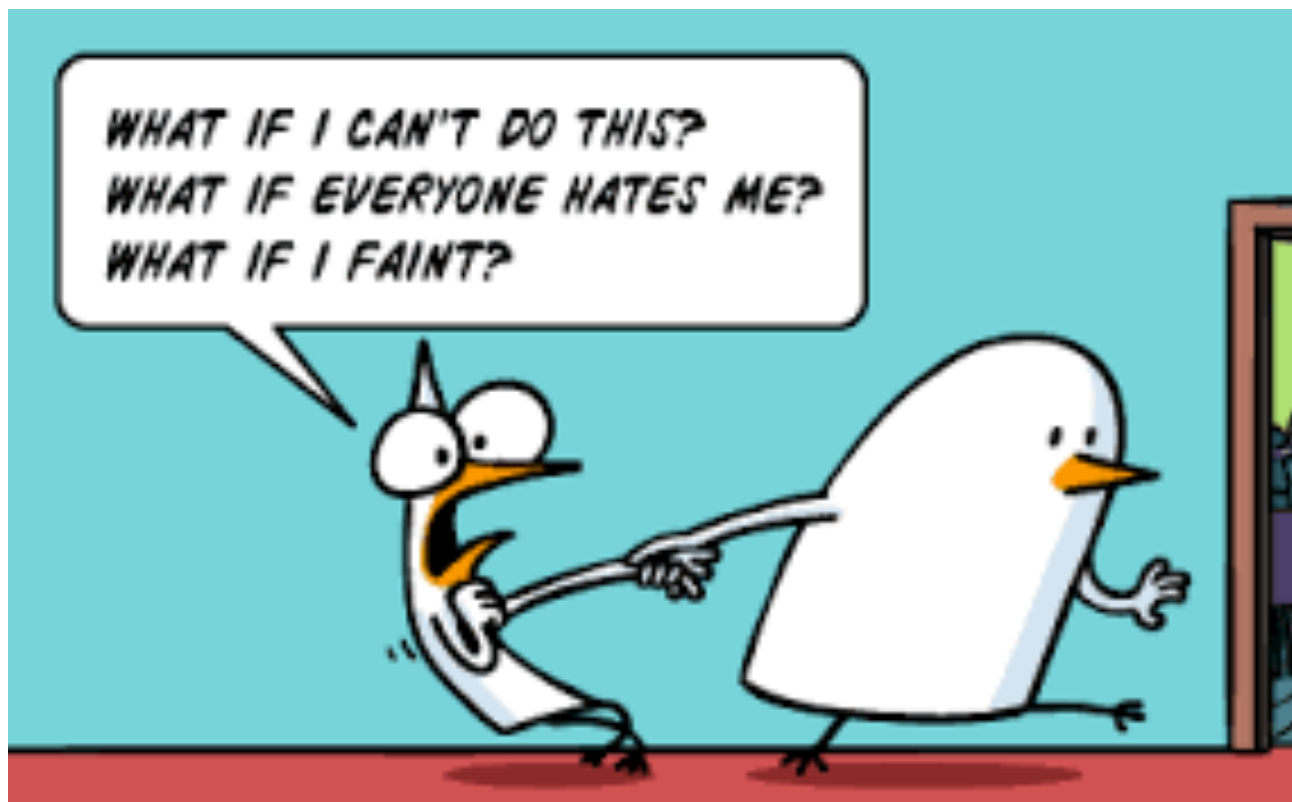
Education vs. Training

- * Access to Undergraduate Classes
- * Undergraduate Research Students
- * Grad Students as Mentors
- * Lab Specific Safety Training

Naming the dead cat again

- * Different education and experience
- * Different attitudes about safety
- * Different ways of communicating
- * Different cultural expectations

How Do You Feel?



HELLO

my name is

Anxiety

Risk Assessment & Mitigation



Risk = Likelihood X Severity

- * How likely is it that “X” will happen?
- * How bad will it be if “X” happens?

- * “Real Life” Examples
 - * Weather predictions and preparations
 - * Earthquake-proof lab design
 - * Fire
 - * Chemical Exposure

Lab Hazards

Types of Hazards

- * Chemicals
- * Processes/equipment
- * Physical - temperature, pressure
- * Mechanical

Severity

- * “None”
- * Broken Glass
- * Small Spill
- * Large Spill
- * Reaction out of control
- * Small Fire
- * Significant Fire
- * Injury
- * Loss of Life

The Biggest Hazard... YOU!

- * FATIGUE
- * MINDLESSNESS/ROUTINE*
- * DISTRACTIONS
- * ERRORS
- * LACK OF PREPARATION
- * EAR BUDS
- * NO PPE
- * PAY ATTENTION
- * MAINTAIN AWARENESS
- * SLEEP/BREAKS
- * MANAGE YOUR HEALTH
- * THINK!!!
- * WEAR PPE EVERY TIME

Lab Reference Book (Wiki?)

- * Lab specific / Department Specific
- * Maps
- * SOPs
- * References
- * Risk Assessment

Chemical Hygiene Committee

- * Working Group
- * Lab Safety Contacts

Conclusion

Is “Safety Culture” the new standard?

Is the Lab Standard still THE Standard?

Permission to Achieve Results Outside THE Standard?

Writing a Better “Lab Standard”