

# Environment, Health & Safety

# Safety Briefs

SAFETY NEWS FOR UCSD EMPLOYEES



AUG/SEPT 2006

## New Campus Fire Marshal Joel Ross



Joel Ross has been appointed UCSD Campus Fire Marshal in Environment, Health & Safety.

Joel has been at UCSD as a Deputy Fire Marshal since 2002. Prior to coming to UCSD, Joel was Assistant Fire Marshal at UC Davis for six years. Joel will be responsible for UCSD's comprehensive fire prevention program, and ensuring our new and existing facilities meet fire and life safety codes.

Contact Joel at [jross@ucsd.edu](mailto:jross@ucsd.edu), (858) 822-5706.

## September is Campus Preparedness Month

UCSD promotes September as campus preparedness month in coordination with National Preparedness Month, a nationwide coordinated effort lead by the federal Department of Homeland Security (<http://www.ready.gov/america/npm/index.htm>). National Preparedness Month is held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and schools.

UCSD emergency planners intend to provide the campus community with the highest standard of care possible during any emergency event. To ensure our campus is prepared, EH&S has developed a Campus Emergency Response Team, known as CERT.

Take emergency preparedness personally. During Campus Preparedness Month, talk with colleagues and family about what to do in the event of an emergency. Review the UCSD Emergency Operations Plan, your Department Emergency Action Plan, and your Personal Supplies Checklist for emergency events.

Find details on each of these topics on Blink at: <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/emergencyprep>.

For assistance regarding emergency preparedness efforts, contact Emergency Services Manager Phillip Van Saun at [pvensaun@ucsd.edu](mailto:pvensaun@ucsd.edu) or (858) 534-1064.



Decontamination of "victims"  
Photo: Adam Petersen, Calit2

## Emergency Exercise Tests Area Responders

UCSD's Atkinson Hall was the scene of Operation College Freedom, an urban-terrorist/chemical spill emergency exercise conducted on Tuesday, August 22, 2006. Organized by San Diego's Metropolitan Medical Strike Team (MMST), the exercise provided UCSD emergency preparedness personnel with a unique opportunity to interact with area-wide first responders.

Operation College Freedom involved MMST public safety personnel, city and county fire and police departments, SWAT, hazardous materials teams, Medical Response System personnel, researchers from the UC San Diego division of the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2), the UCSD Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine, and other university emergency operations personnel.

Get more details on the exercise on the MMST Web site at <http://mmstexercise.calit2.net/index.php>. For more information about emergency management technology UCSD researchers tested, see the Calit2 Web site at <http://www.calit2.net/newsroom/article.php?id=928>.



Responder practicing  
aerial fast-rope rappel  
Photo: Brandon Freeman, Calit2



Please Post or Circulate



## "Safety Training Days" on Enrollment Central

Register online at Enrollment Central:  
<http://enrollmentcentral.ucsd.edu>

Browse "EH&S—Safety" under Course Topics for classes and schedules. Learn more about UCSD safety training resources at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/safetytraining>.

## Ergonomics Resource Fund

Get funding from EH&S to help purchase ergonomically-designed office and lab products exclusively from Marketplace just by completing ergonomic training. It's easy. Read "Ergonomics Resource Fund" on Blink at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/ergofund> to learn how.

Explore the range of Marketplace Ergonomic Solutions at <http://marketplace.ucsd.edu/Ergonomic.asp>.



## Chartered Transportation of People

A high value purchase order must be used when chartering transportation of people, especially minors. UCSD Purchasing Department will provide you with a list of vendors that have been prescreened with the Public Utilities Commission for appropriate licensing and insurance requirements.

Requirements for transporting minors are more restrictive. Using a high value purchase order to secure transportation is an essential element for ensuring requirements are met.

Contact Purchasing Buyer Eileen Doyle for a list of prescreened vendors: [emdoyle@ucsd.edu](mailto:emdoyle@ucsd.edu) or (858) 822-5156.

## Campus Casualties

### Incident Reports

- A Campus Recreation employee stepped on and was stung by a stingray while ocean swimming with campers.
- A food service employee carrying a pan of hot dogs was splashed with hot water when the pan tipped.
- A Facilities Maintenance employee suffered acid burns on his face, neck, and arms when the battery in an emergency generator he was starting exploded.
- A maintenance mechanic slipped on ice plant, tumbled over a retaining wall, and landed on concrete, injuring his hand, wrist, rib, and knee.
- A painter slipped off a geodesic dome and fell six feet to the ground below.
- An administrative employee fell down building stairs, suffering multiple elbow, knee, chin, and hand bruises and cuts, plus a twisted ankle.

## How Was Your Trip?

**Dangerous. Trips, slips, and falls are among the most frequent types of accidents**, according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Falls fall into 2 categories:

- Same-level falls cause most slip and fall injuries, typically limited to bruises, sprains, and fractures.
- Elevated falls result in more severe injuries such as broken bones, internal injuries, permanent disability, and even death.

Many injuries from trips and falls are avoidable if we're alert to potential hazards and consciously practice these safe walking tips:

**Don't be in a hurry.** Trips, slips, and falls often occur when you're in a rush, take shortcuts, and don't pay attention to what you're doing. Stairs are an especially good place to slow down and use the handrail.

**Pay attention to your step.** Watch where you're going and walk sure-footed. Avoid unstable, shaky, or obviously slippery surfaces. If a slippery or wet surface is unavoidable, take slow, short steps with your toes pointed slightly outward. Keep your hands out of your pockets, ready to support you if you begin to fall.

**Clean up spills immediately.** Slippery surfaces often don't appear dangerous until you step on them. Cover icy and greasy spots with sand, dirt, or other absorbent material.

**Use nonskid shoes and surfaces.** If you work in an area that has slippery surfaces, wear shoes with slip-resistant soles. Ask your supervisor about the correct shoe for your job. Keep your shoes free from grease and oil. On large walkways, use mats or rough floor coverings for traction.

