

EH&S Newsletter: June 2025

Newsletter Highlights

Anchored in Safety, Sailing into Summer.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Heads Up For This Month	1
June Safety Month: Set Sail for Safety & Swag!.....	1
CampusOptics Launch: One Dashboard to Rule Them All (Safely).....	2
Steady the Helm: Navigate the '25 LSA Waters with Ease	3

Anchored in Safety, Sailing into Summer

Introduction

Ahoy, FIU crew! As summer heats up and hurricane season stirs the seas, it's time to batten down the hatches and sail smart. Whether you're braving the blazing sun or steering through stormy forecasts, safety is your first mate. Stock up on sunscreen, sip that sweet H₂O, and learn the signs of heat stress before they sneak up like a rogue wave. And don't forget—June kicks off National Safety Month, so we're dropping anchor with events, prizes, and tips to keep your shipshape and storm-ready. Let's navigate this summer with savvy, sunscreen, and a splash of swashbuckling fun!

Heads Up For This Month

- EH&S is making waves this summer with safety tips and a splash of salty charm! Whether you're baskin' in the sun or battlin' the heat, be a savvy sailor: spot the signs of heat stress, seek shady shores, slather on yer SPF, and sip smart to keep your tank full. With hurricane season brewin', don't be caught adrift—stock yer supplies, chart your plan, and weather the storm like a true safety swashbuckler! Stay cool, stay sharp, and sail safe all summer long.
- The Safety Shout Out for June goes to **Travis LaVoi**, Lab Manager at FIU's Center for Translational Sciences! Check out his Safety Shoutout feature or nominate someone/a group for an EH&S' Safety Shout by visiting <https://ehs.fiu.edu>.

June Safety Month: Set Sail for Safety & Swag!

Ahoy, Panthers! June is National Safety Month, and EH&S is dropping anchor on a month-long adventure packed with smart challenges, interactive events, and chances to win treasure! Whether you're a seasoned safety captain or just stepping aboard, there's a port of call for everyone.

We're bringing back the beloved **Safety Slogan Contest**! Put your wits to work and send us your most clever, catchy, and creative safety saying. Just one entry per person this time—so make it your best! Our EH&S crew will cast the votes to pick the winner. But if there's a tie, we'll let the campus decide with a final vote on our Instagram @fiu_ehs. The winning slogan will set sail in every EH&S employee's email signature!

Also on deck: the return of the **Safety Scavenger Hunt** with new clues and hidden treasures around campus. A digital adventure where you never know what you'll uncover.

New to the fleet: the **Test Your Safety IQ Quiz**—this one's all about **summer survival and hurricane preparedness**. Think you know your heat stroke from your heat exhaustion? Let's find out!

We'll be **tabling on campus** too, so stop by to chat with our crew, join fun activities, and grab a treat or two.

Want a shot at winning Panther Bucks? Join our **Safety Sweepstakes** by participating in *any* event or activity – no buried treasure maps required! Make sure you put your name into the hat for a chance to sail away with swag!

Keep your spyglass on our [EH&S homepage](#) for event announcements, schedules, and more. Don't miss the boat—June is your chance to learn, play, and sail away with safety gold.

Chart your course to our Instagram account: [@fiuehs](#) and follow us for all announcements. Anchors aweigh, safety mates!

CampusOptics Launch: One Dashboard to Rule Them All (Safely)

CampusOptics is officially setting sail this summer—and this time, it's built to go the distance. After months of preparation and collaboration, EH&S is proud to introduce a centralized platform that transforms the way safety is managed across FIU.

In the past, routine safety tasks like managing chemical inventory, requesting hazardous waste pickups, or tracking corrective actions required navigating multiple disconnected systems. CampusOptics changes that. Now, you'll be able to handle your lab's needs—from updating your inventory to submitting a waste pickup request—all in one intuitive, connected workflow.

But the benefits don't stop at chemical management.

Why You'll Love CampusOptics

- **Unified Chemical & Waste Management**
Move a chemical from inventory to an empty container, to hazardous waste, and finally into a pickup request—all in one seamless flow.
- **Compliance at a Glance**
Get real-time visibility into open safety issues, timelines for resolution, and who's responsible for follow-up.
- **Training Oversight Made Easy**
Track your training status—and your team's—with automatic reminders to help everyone stay up to date.

- **Effortless Incident Reporting**
Submit and track incident reports without bouncing between platforms, keeping your documentation and follow-up in one place.
- **Clear Leadership Visibility**
PIs and department heads can oversee all assigned spaces, manage safety trends, and delegate tasks directly through the dashboard.

As an added bonus, **your existing chemical inventory is already being migrated** into the system, ensuring your information is as current as you've kept it. For labs that routinely dispose of the same mixtures, CampusOptics also supports reusable waste templates to streamline recurring requests.

What's Next?

Our **beta testers are diving in this June**, and we're aiming for a **full launch on July 1**. To make the transition smooth, EH&S will be hosting a series of **virtual and in-person training sessions** where you'll learn how to navigate the platform, ask questions, and get hands-on support.

Stay tuned to ehs.fiu.edu for training schedules, user guides, and the latest updates.

Steady the Helm: Navigate the '25 LSA Waters with Ease

It's that time again—the annual Lab Self-Audit (LSA) is on the horizon, and this year we're making it clearer and easier than ever to stay ahead of safety.

For the first time, EH&S is creating a **pre-determined list of participating spaces**, eliminating the guesswork and helping everyone start on the right foot. No more wondering if the LSA applies to you—if you're on the list, you'll know it, and we'll be here to guide you from the first step.

The LSA is your once-a-year opportunity to **review the hazards, operations, and safety controls in your space**. It's not just a survey—it's a chance to pause, reflect, and actively reduce risk. Whether it's day-to-day lab work or unexpected events like evacuations, emergency shutdowns, spills, or injuries, **preparation starts here**. Spotting and addressing issues early helps ensure your lab is ready for whatever comes next.

Soon, we'll release a **preview of the updated checklist**, so you can start early, make improvements, and better understand the resources we provide. Many common issues can be resolved quickly, and we're here to make it easy.

This year's LSA features streamlined questions and clearer language based on your feedback—our goal is to make this tool more intuitive and helpful every year. EH&S uses your responses to offer guidance and support, not penalties. **We're not here to catch mistakes—we're here to help you catch opportunities for improvement.**

Keep an eye on ehs.fiu.edu for the checklist preview, key dates, and step-by-step resources. We'll be here to support you through every part of the process—so you can focus on what really matters: a safe, efficient, and resilient lab.