

PREFACE

This document has been prepared by a Task Force¹ created by the Committee on Chemical Safety, a standing committee of the American Chemical Society, to be in accord with standards specified in the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Laboratory Standard and modified by the Davenport Community Schools.

Four documents provided the basis for this Chemical Hygiene Plan.² While they will be cited in the bibliographic appendix, it is appropriate to recognize the work that others have produced, and from which we have appropriate ideas and, in some cases, exactly worded segments. They are cited in the footnotes at the end of this document.

The law and regulations derived from it are intended to help make the workplace safe for employees. This is to be accomplished by establishing procedures and guidelines that will help both the employer and the employee in the laboratory develop safe practices. Students are an important part of the operation of the school science laboratory. While students aren't specifically covered by the regulations found in the OSHA Laboratory Standard, it is most appropriate that they be considered part of the process and that in practice, students be included. For instance, certain training programs are required for laboratory workers. Such training is to be provided by the employer. The school district needs to implement appropriate safety training for students as well.