Radiation Protection Supervisor (RPS)

Under the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999 there is a requirement for Radiation Protection Supervisors to be appointed to control and supervise work with the ionising radiations. The Head of School or Director of Research Institute in which work with ionising radiation is undertaken must ensure, in consultation with the URPS, that one or more suitable Radiation Protection Supervisors (RPS) are appointed. Each RPS will have a designated area of responsibility within their School or Research Institute. Such persons should normally be a member of the academic staff. The RPS shall be an *ex-officio* member of the School Safety Committee and also of the Radiation Hazards Sub-Committee.

The responsibilities of the Radiation Protection Supervisor (RPS) are

i. authorising all work involving ionising radiation (see URPS above);
ii. obtaining advice for radiation workers on any aspect of the safe use of ionising radiations;
iii. stopping any ionising radiation work which is not in accord with the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999;
iv. reporting on radiation safety matters to the School’s Safety Committee;
v. deciding which experiments with unsealed sources contain more than a minimal hazard and arranging that such experiments are not carried out
   - *outside* normal working hours unless the RPS or a deputy who knows the emergency procedure is present in the building;
   - *during* normal working hours unless the RPS or a deputy who knows the emergency procedure can be contacted at any time;
vi. notifying the URPS when the upgrading of certificates seems necessary;
vii. keeping a complete record (including amount and date) of all radioactive material acquired and disposed of;
viii. providing the URPS with information about equipment and material acquired and disposed of when requested and notifying the URPS when a substantially larger amount of radioactive material than usual is about to be acquired or disposed of;
ix. providing the URPS with a list of emergency procedures and special regulations concerning radiation;
x. taking part at the appropriate interval in a tour of all Schools or Research Institutes containing radiation work;
xii. arranging appropriate medical tests for all personnel involved in work with ionising radiation;
xiii. issuing and arranging inspection of film badges or other personal radiation monitors where appropriate and keeping a permanent record of radiation exposure of all workers;

xiii. arranging suitable instruction for all persons working with ionising radiation;
xiv. obtaining, in the event of an accident, medical assistance, notifying the URPS and decontamination the radiation user and the laboratory involved in the accident;

xv. assisting in dealing with any emergency in the University;

xvi. authorising, with the URPS, all undergraduate work;

xvii. disposing of all radioactive material and ensuring that non-contaminated isotope containers are defaced prior to their disposal as conventional laboratory waste;

xviii. carrying out regular monitoring and where necessary decontaminating laboratories and ensuring that monitoring equipment is adequate, annually tested and in good working order;

xix. arranging with the agreement of the Head of School and the URPS, that there is an adequately trained person who can act as deputy during any extended absence from the University;

xx. providing material for dealing with spillage and decontamination events.

As at January 2016 the following are RPSs for the University:

- UGMS Keele: Mr. Stephen Clipstone
- UGMS Keele: Mr. L.R. Sagar
- UGMS Keele: Mr. N. W. Vaughan
- Chemistry and Physics: Dr. Richard H. Jones
- Earth Sciences: Mr. David Emley
- Life Sciences: Prof. Gwyn T. Williams
- Life Sciences: Mr. Ian Burns
- Guy Hilton Research Centre: Dr. Ying Yang