

UNSW School of Physics

The School of Physics promotes a safe and healthy workplace

Task Description – Laser Safety Officer

Scope

The School of Physics uses lasers for both teaching and research. Under its OHS obligations the school requires that lasers are used safely and that eye monitoring is carried out.

Purpose

The School of Physics Laser Safety Officer is appointed to oversee the safe operation of lasers. They will ensure that lasers are operated in ways that safeguard the OHS of staff, students and visitors within the school.

Responsibilities

This person will have the authority and responsibility to:

- Advise on safe use of lasers
- Advise on safety aspects of lasers when purchasing
- Inspect laser installations within the school
- Evaluate hazards associated with laser use and advise appropriate controls
- Approve standard operating procedures
- Ensure laser workers are appropriately trained
- Monitor and review a laser eye examination program
- Maintain a register of eye examinations of appropriate laser workers
- Investigate any laser related accidents within the school

Reporting

This person will report to the Head of School through the school OHS committee.

Accountability

With regard to the interests and requirements of a progressive research and teaching environment, the Laser Safety Officer will:

- Enable the school to fulfil its statutory obligations with regard to managing laser safety
- Ensure that the operation of lasers within the School of Physics is in accordance with UNSW OHS management system and policies

Competency and training

This person will be experienced in the use of lasers, and have an understanding of the statutory requirements of laser use in the workplace. The Laser Safety Officer will be appropriately trained.

Approved by School of Physics OHS Committee
13 October 2003