

Management of Hazardous Chemicals at Brown University

Kate Truslow Hanley

May 15, 1987

Abstract

During the academic year of 1986-87, I conducted a general study of the management of hazardous chemicals at Brown. I identified the regulations that are presently in effect regarding hazardous chemicals and hazardous waste disposal and evaluated the procedures in effect at Brown that serve as a response to these regulations. In this thesis, I discuss the problems of ensuring proper waste disposal, the degree of training of employees and students, the organizational methods of management and information gathering, and the physical and operational aspects of the University which impede compliance with regulations. The recommendations for improvement of Brown's management of hazardous chemicals include providing adequate training, obtaining and maintaining an accurate chemical inventory, and centralizing the purchasing and disposal of chemicals in a new building, as well as reducing volumes of waste generated.