

The International Summer Symposium on Laboratory Design

During the summer of 2005, Denise Allacher attended the International Summer Symposium on Laboratory Design at the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. The symposium focused on design requirements for different types of laboratories as well as unique guidelines for special laboratories, principles governing the design of a laboratory facility, ways to group and/or segregate the different activities taking place in a laboratory, and how the laboratory will be provided with required services and utilities. General chemistry, biological, biochemical, and other research and development laboratories and their master planning, procurement and design were major topics at the convention. Other hot topics included planning and design of bio-containment and chemical hazard containment laboratories including labs designated BSL-1 through BSL-4, and devices and systems promoting the occupant's health, safety, and productivity as well as energy and resource efficiency, flexibility and reliability.