As everyone settles in to the academic year it is important to remind everyone about the safe handling of sharps and needles. To minimize risk to yourself and others you should:

* focus on the task at hand, whenever uncapped sharps are handled
* anticipate animal movement/ response when sharps are employed
* not recap needles, but dispose of safely into a sharps container immediately following use
* ensure sharps are fully inserted into the sharps container and not left protruding from the opening
* do not force an item into a full sharps container
* only put sharps and needles into the containers
* always check your pockets for sharps prior to placing any clothing into the laundry