**PIPETTE WASHING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. After use, place pipettes tips up in the pipet jars kept at each bench.

The pipet jars contain water with a bit of clorox to prevent bacterial growth. The water level in the jar should be high so that all the tips are soaked. Otherwise, acrylamide and agar solidify in the tip and the pipet has to be thrown away because it is difficult to clean. If you use the pipets for acrylamide and agar, please rinse them before putting them in the jar.

2. Collect the pipets each day into a basket. Rinse the dirty pipets once or twice in the "dirty pipets" washer in 5036.

3. Soak the pipets in the detergent from Pierce.

Please note that this detergent is sticky and if it dries on the glassware it will never come off! See instructions from Pierce.

4. Immediately after removal from detergent, rinse pipets overnight (or > 4h) in cold water in the pipet washer.

Please note that the water pressure changes during the day. The rate of flow into the jar should be low so that the siphon is broken at the end of each cycle. Otherwise, the washer does not fill up and the pipets do not rinse even though water is running all night. However, the rate of flow should not be so low that the drain part of the cycle is not initiated. It is a good idea to check that the washer is filling and draining properly before you stop the washer.

5. Rinse pipets for 1 hour in house RO water.

See note above on flow rate. Do not run the RO water overnight.

6. Dry pipets in air with a kimwipe placed on top of the basket (to prevent stuff from falling into pipets).

7. Wear gloves and sort pipets.

Serological (blow out pipets that have a ring at the mouthpiece and volume gradations all the way to the tip) go in cans and are baked in cans. They are sterile in the cans. However, if you open a can, it is no longer sterile and the can must be re-baked. The measuring pipets are baked in a tray and distributed into drawers in individual benches. They are not sterile but since they are baked they are generally nuclease free.