

**Memo:** February 19, 2008

**To:** CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council

**From:** Howard Apsan

**Re:** Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes  
Hostos Community College, February 14, 2008

### **Opening**

The February meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Officers was held at Hostos Community College on February 14, 2008. The meeting began with greetings from Diahann McFarlane, EHSO at Hostos Community College. Sheryce Woolery of the CUNY Office of Environmental, Health, Safety and Risk Management recorded the minutes, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **EPA Audit Report**

The Audit Disclosure Reports for the New York City College of Technology and the Graduate School of Journalism have been submitted to the EPA. These were the final two audits conducted under the CUNY – EPA Audit and Disclosure Agreement. CUNY has no further obligations to disclose findings of audits to the EPA and is likewise no longer shielded from EPA inspections and resulting fines and penalties.

### **EHS Internal Audits**

An internal audit was completed at Queensborough Community College on February 4, 2008; other internal audits are planned for Lehman College on February 25, 2008 and Brooklyn College on March 17, 2008. As has been the practice, EH&S Officers from other campuses volunteered to serve on these internal audits. This practice provides added value to all involved. Anyone wishing to volunteer for an upcoming audit should contact Michael Spath, Environmental Compliance Manager, Central Office, at [michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu)

### **Environmental Compliance Subcommittee Report**

Bill Graffeo, Director of Environmental Health and Safety at Queens College, reminded everyone that the DEC Pesticide Use Reports were due on February 1, 2008, while Low Level Radioactive Waste, NYC DEP Community RTK (Tier 2) and DEC Annual Hazardous Waste Reports are due on March 1, 2008. Bill also stated that the Compliance Calendar is in its final stage and will be distributed upon completion.

The Environmental Compliance Subcommittee is currently drafting a survey for chemical inventory to help with the implementation of ChemTracker.

### **Health and Safety Subcommittee**

The Health and Safety Subcommittee has initiated a violation database management system to tackle Notices of Violation (NOVs) issued by regulatory enforcement authorities. The database is currently under construction in the Central Office and will soon be accessible to all campus EHSOS.

### **CUNY EHS Website and Newsletter**

EH&S Officers are continually encouraged to contribute articles, editorials, cartoons, web links, and any other items of common professional interest to both the CUNY EHS newsletter and the CUNY EHSRM website to [environmental.health@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:environmental.health@mail.cuny.edu).

### **Training**

The training portion of the February Council meeting consisted of a presentation by **Marty Costello, of Woodard and Curran** on “**Managing EHS at a Great Educational Institution: What CUNY Can Learn From Yale and Vice Versa.**” Marty shared his experiences as an EH&S leader at both Rutgers and Yale, providing us with valuable insights that will surely help us at CUNY. We thank Marty for an informative and thought provoking presentation.

### **Updates in Brief**

Environmental Health and Safety Officers are encourage to sign up for the CUNY A!ert, to receive text or voice notifications of campus emergencies or weather related closings. For more information, please visit [www.cuny.edu/alert](http://www.cuny.edu/alert).

A Recycling Survey was disseminated to the EHSO Council. The survey is needed to gather information on current recycling efforts at each campus to assess our compliance with state and city requirements.

The Medgar Evers College 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Issues Conference is scheduled for Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>, and will focus on:

1. **plaNyC and Campus Environmental Sustainability**

**2. Department of Homeland Security Chemical Facility and Anti-Terrorism Standards and their Potential Impact on the Academic Environment.**

The next NYCER meeting will be held on March 25, 2008, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. John's University, 101 Murray Street, New York, NY 10007.

The SESH Spring Conference is being organized by Stony Brook and will be held on April 10-11, 2008, in Port Jefferson, Long Island. For more information, please contact Kim Auletta at [kim.auletta@stonybrook.edu](mailto:kim.auletta@stonybrook.edu).

**Upcoming Council Meetings**

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2008, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at Bronx Community College, West 181<sup>st</sup> Street and University Avenue, Bronx, New York 10453. The meeting will take place in the Presidents' Conference Room on the main floor of the language hall. **David Deutsch, Account Manager, Education and Healthcare, Clean Harbors Environmental Services**, will provide a presentation entitled "Avian Influenza Update and Bio-Security Concerns."

**Adjournment**

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.