

Memo: April 12, 2010
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
Queensborough Community College, April 8, 2010

Opening

The Environmental Health and Safety Council meeting was held at Queensborough Community College on April 8, 2010. Mel Rodriguez, EHSO at the college welcomed everyone and hosted the meeting. Arthur Perkins, Assistant Dean for Campus Planning, also welcomed everyone and thanked the Environmental Health and Safety Officers for their critical role on the campuses. Sheryce Woolery recorded the minutes and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

EHS Internal Audits

Internal audits have been completed at the New York City College of Technology, the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, the CUNY School of Law and York College. An unscheduled audit is also planned for this spring. Anyone able to volunteer for an upcoming audit should contact Michael Spath, Environmental Compliance Manager, CUNY, at michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu.

Michael reported that the audits continue to identify compliance concerns and encouraged EH&S Officers to implement monitoring techniques so as to minimize risks on their campuses. Michael also reminded the Council to ensure that all tank pressure tests must be up to-date in preparation for upcoming tank inspections by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). EH&S Officers were also requested to double-check tank registrations and to use the physical addresses of tanks as opposed to the mailing addresses. Anyone needing assistance should contact Michael.

Environmental Compliance Subcommittee Report

Judi O'Toole, Chair of the Environmental Compliance Subcommittee, reported that the Subcommittee is developing a High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) Protocol which will be discussed in further details at the May Council Meeting. The subcommittee is also assessing CUNY-wide options regarding Universal Waste Management.

Health and Safety Subcommittee Report

Mel Rodriguez, Chair of the Health and Safety Subcommittee, informed the Council that OSHA has a new electrical safety requirement to protect the workplace from arc flash and other electrical hazards. The Council will be updated at the May meeting on a webinar training option regarding the new requirement. EH&S Officers are encouraged to participate in the webinar. The Subcommittee is also developing guidelines on proper equipment handling and is in the process of developing an inventory of the types of equipment used on campus that should be addressed. The Subcommittee is also seeking someone who can speak on the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard at an upcoming Council meeting or at a separate training session. Please forward any suggestions to Mel Rodriguez at mrodriquez@qcc.cuny.edu.

Lab Safety Subcommittee Report

A CUNY-wide Laboratory Safety Manual and Chemical Hygiene Plan is currently being developed. The Council will be updated further at the May meeting. Persons interested in volunteering for the Lab Safety Committee should contact Kurt Klein at kurt.klein@mail.cuny.edu.

CUNY EHS Newsletter and Website

EH&S Officers are encouraged to contribute articles, editorials, web links, and any other items of common professional interest to both the [CUNY EHS Newsletter](#) and the CUNY EHSMR website at ehs@mail.cuny.edu. EH&S Officers are also encouraged to visit the website periodically to review any regulatory updates or other information. As always, Officers are also encouraged to visit SharePoint at <https://ehsrm.cuny.edu/default.aspx> for information on upcoming events, to access forms, and to contribute to and/or review discussions. If you are experiencing difficulty logging in or need a new password, please contact Brian Cabezas, brian.cabezas@mail.cuny.edu.

Training

The training consisted of a presentation by **Nicholas Freudenberg, Distinguished Professor of Urban Public Health** at Hunter College, on **“Moving CUNY’s Smoking Ban Outdoors: The Benefits and Challenges.”** Dr. Freudenberg briefed the Council on the health effects of exposure to second-hand smoke, and the role CUNY can play in addressing the risks associated with tobacco use on campus. He also spent the last few minutes of his presentation addressing how

CUNY can promote healthy food choices on campus. We thank Dr. Freudenberg for an interesting and informative presentation.

Updates in Brief

The 2010 Earth Day posters, designed by Professor Lloyd Carr and Graphic Arts students at the New York City College of Technology, were distributed to EH&S Officers for re-distribution on their campuses.

The next NYCER meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2010, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at The City College of New York, Shepard Hall room 250, 160 Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031.

Upcoming Council Meeting

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2010, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, room 630T, Haaren Hall, 899 10th Avenue New York, NY 10019. **William Loch, Director of Environmental Services, Warren Panzer Engineers, P.C.** will present on **Environmental Challenges Today: A Brief Overview of New Regulations and Standards and Their Effects on Asbestos, Lead-Based-Paint and Indoor Air Quality Management at Higher Education Facilities.**

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.