

Memo: March 18, 2010  
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council  
From: Howard Apsan  
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes  
Hostos Community College, March 11, 2010

### **Opening**

The March meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at Hostos Community College on March 11, 2010. Diahann McFarlane, EHSO at the college welcomed everyone and hosted the meeting. Esther Rodriquez-Chardavoyne, Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance, also welcomed everyone and thanked the Environmental Health and Safety Officers for their continued commitment to the campuses. Sheryce Woolery recorded the minutes and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **EHS Internal Audits**

Michael Spath, Environmental Compliance Manager, reported that 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. Michael reminded the Officers to pay close attention to labs and facility spaces and thanked everyone who participated in the audit process. An unscheduled audit is also planned for this spring.

### **Environmental Compliance Subcommittee Report**

Judi O'Toole, Chair of the Environmental Compliance Subcommittee, briefed the Council on the Pharmaceutical Waste Management Guide. She explained how the changes might affect CUNY and provided some of the best management practices (BMPs) that were included. EH&S Officers were advised to review their training programs, paying special attention to improving training for RCRA compliance.

The Council was also notified that the DEP has extended the submission period for Tier II reports until April 1, 2010. For more information, please contact Judi O'Toole.

### **Health and Safety Subcommittee**

Mel Rodriguez, Chair of the Health and Safety Subcommittee, noted that the sub-committee is currently working on educational training programs with Grainger. These programs will be hosted at various campuses, but will be open to all. Previous training efforts with Grainger have been well received, so the sub-committee decided to develop a new series. Please contact Mel with suggestions for specific training modules.

### **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 EHSRM website at [ehs@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:ehs@mail.cuny.edu). In addition, the CUNY Risk Review, a newsletter focused on risk management issues throughout the CUNY system, is available on the EHSRM website. As always, Officers are also encouraged to visit SharePoint at <https://ehsrn.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](mailto:brian.cabezas@mail.cuny.edu).

### **Training**

The training consisted of a presentation by **Richard Walka and Matt DeVinney from Divirka and Bartilucci Consulting Engineers** on, **Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule and Reducing Air Toxics from Existing Stationary Diesel Engines**. Key elements of the rule were highlighted, including reporting and record keeping requirements; designation of property parameters; and use of the EPA's applicability tool. The presenters recommended that campuses develop a program that fits specific campus conditions. For more information on the final rule, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/new.html>. We thank Richard and Matt for an informative and interesting presentation.

### **Updates in Brief**

Despite the recent decline in H1N1 activity nation-wide over the past month, EH&S Officers were encouraged to remain vigilant on this issue for the remainder of the flu season.

Considering the recent snowstorms and subsequent closures of CUNY campuses, the snow closure policy is being reviewed and any modifications will be announced shortly.

In light of CUNY's ultimate interest in having a smoke-free university, EH&S Officers were encouraged to become familiar with their campus smoking policy.

EH&S Officers are encouraged to visit the EH&S website periodically to review any regulatory updates or other information.

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, 160 Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031.

### **Upcoming Council Meeting**

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2010, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am at Queensborough Community College, 22-05 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Oakland building, Loggia room, Bayside, NY 11364. **Nicholas Freudenberg, Distinguished Professor of Urban Public Health** at Hunter College, will present on **“Moving CUNY’s Smoking Ban Outdoors: The Benefits and Challenges.”**

### **Adjournment**

The Council meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.