

Memo: February 24, 2009
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
Medgar Evers College, February 19, 2009

Opening

The February meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at Medgar Evers College on February 19, 2009. Mohamed Bangura, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at the college, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sheryce Woolery recorded the minutes and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

EHS Internal Audits

Internal audits are scheduled for Baruch College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and LaGuardia Community College. An unscheduled audit is also planned for the spring semester. 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, CUNY, Central Office, at michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu.

Environmental Compliance Subcommittee Report

Michael Spath reported that the committee is establishing an agenda for this year's initiatives and is currently seeking new members. Interested persons should contact Michael Spath, at Michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu.

EHS Officers are also encouraged to visit the EHS website, review the EMS, and ensure that their campus complies with EMS requirements. Please forward all questions to Michael Spath.

Health and Safety Subcommittee

The violation database management system is now operational. For more information regarding passwords or problems accessing the website, please contact Kurt Klein, at kurt.klein@mail.cuny.edu.

The Health and Safety Subcommittee is establishing an agenda for this year's initiatives and is currently seeking new members. Interested persons should contact Kurt Klein.

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 at ehs@mail.cuny.edu. In addition, the recently published CUNY Risk Review, a newsletter focused on risk management issues throughout the CUNY system, is available on the EHSRM website.

Officers are encouraged to utilize Sharepoint to post documents, calendar events and to engage in discussions. Sharepoint provides us with a valuable communication tool, and at the same time protects the security of any proprietary or simply not-yet-ready-for-release documents. The website, <http://ehsrm.cuny.edu>, is password protected. If you would like to have access to the website, please contact Brian Cabezas at brian.cabezas@mail.cuny.edu.

Updates

Medgar Evers College will be hosting the "14 Annual Conference on Environmental Issues," on March 14, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The conference will be held in the Founder's Auditorium, 1650 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225. For additional information please contact Mohamed Bangura, at mbangura@mec.cuny.edu or call 718-270-6216.

The next NYCER meeting will be held on February 23, 2009, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at CUNY Central Office, 535 East 80th Street, New York, NY 10075.

The SSHA Spring Conference is scheduled for April 20 - 21, 2009, in Corning, New York. For more information please contact Shailendra Chainani, at schainani@jjay.cuny.edu.

The following label should be placed on all CFC refrigerants:

WARNING: Contains [insert name of substance], a substance which harms public health and environment by destroying ozone in the upper atmosphere.

A copy of the warning is available on the EHS website.

Training

The training consisted of a presentation by Heather Parlier, Assistant General Council, Legal Affairs, CUNY, on **“Environmental Law Refresher: What We Need To Know and What We Can Expect.”** Heather shared with us information she obtained from an Environmental Law Conference hosted by The Environmental Law Institute. The presentation focused on the Federal Laws surrounding the new administration. We thank Heather for an informative and interesting presentation.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2009, at The City College of New York, 160 Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031. The meeting will take place from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the NAC Building Faculty Dining Room. There will be a presentation by Michael Dinunzio, Account Executive, Dakota Software Corporation, on **“Using Technology Tools to Improve the EHS Auditing Process.”**

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.