

Memo: March 23, 2009

To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council

From: Howard Apsan

Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
The City College of New York, March 12, 2009

Opening

The March meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at City College on March 12, 2009. The meeting began with greetings from Richard Belgrave, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at City College. Robert Santos, Vice President for Campus Planning and Facilities at the College, also greeted the council and expressed the college's appreciation for the Council's efforts. Sheryce Woolery recorded the minutes and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

A special welcome was made to Tom Briggs, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at the College of Staten Island, who has recently returned from active duty deployment with the US Navy in Iraq.

EHS Internal Audits

Internal audits have been conducted at Baruch College on February 23 and John Jay College of Criminal Justice on March 2. An upcoming audit is scheduled for April 2 at LaGuardia Community College, and 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

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

Michael will also be working with the subcommittee prior to the next Council meeting and will provide an update to the Council on May 14.

To date, ChemTracker has been implemented at twelve colleges, which are using it as their chemical inventory management system.

Health and Safety Subcommittee

The Health and Safety Subcommittee is currently developing policy and procedure documents on fire prevention, safety training and spill response.

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

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 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 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

The next NYCER meeting will be held on May 20, 2009, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Marymount Manhattan College, 221 East 71st Street, New York, NY 10021. Tom Baker, Director of Corporate Compliance, Veolia Environmental Services, will speak on **“Universal Waste, E-Waste and Batteries: Recent and Pending Rule Changes That Impact Your Institution’s Compliance Programs.”**

Training

The training consisted of a presentation by Michael Dinunzio, Account Executive, Dakota Software Corporation, on **“Using Technology Tools to Improve the EHS Auditing Process.”** Mr. Dinunzio discussed the role of technology today with regards to the market place and to Environmental Health and Safety issues, particularly regarding compliance auditing, which has been the mainstay of Dakota for many years. We thank Mr. Dinunzio for an informative and interesting presentation.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2009, at Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Boulevard, Flushing, New York, 11367. The meeting will take place from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Rosenthal Library Conference Room number 1. Gerry Wren, Chief, New York City Fire Department, will speak on **Fire Prevention Strategies for CUNY.**

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.