

Memo: May 20, 2009
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
Queens College, May 14, 2009

Opening

The May meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at Queens College on May 14, 2009. Katharine Cobb, Vice President for Finance and Administration at Queens College 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.

EHS Internal Audits

This spring's scheduled internal audits have been conducted at Baruch College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and LaGuardia Community College. An unscheduled audit was conducted at York College. Upcoming audits in the fall are scheduled for the Graduate School of Journalism, the College of Staten Island, Bronx Community College and Borough of Manhattan Community College. An unscheduled audit will also be conducted in the fall.

As has been the practice, EH&S Officers from other campuses volunteered to serve on all of 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

Congratulations to Judi O'Toole who is now the new chairperson of the Environmental Subcommittee. Judi reported that the subcommittee plans to establish High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) Protocols to address flammable container storage, venting and discharge control, secondary containment and labeling requirements. Special thanks to Bill

Graffeo for serving as the Subcommittee Chair so ably.

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 any questions to Michael Spath.

Health and Safety Subcommittee

The Health and Safety Subcommittee continues to develop policies and procedures 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://ehsrn.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.

Training

The training consisted of a presentation by **Deputy Chief Gerald Wren and Battalion Chief Thomas Pigott**, both of the **New York City Fire Department**, on **Fire Prevention Strategies for CUNY**. The presentation provided a break-down of fire statistics across the country and also informed the council of the Fire Department's plan to introduce technological innovations to FDNY inspections. Both encouraged collaboration between the campuses and the local FDNY administrative officers to optimize response to fire protection on campuses. We thank Chief Wren and Chief Pigott for their informative and interesting presentation.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2009, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm at Kingsborough Community College, 2001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11235. The meeting will take place in the MAC Rotunda. This meeting will be a joint meeting with EHSRM and Public Safety. **Tom Briggs, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at the College of Staten Island** will provide a brief presentation on his **International Field Trip Safety**. Additionally, **Rob Neimeier, Managing Scientist, O'Brien & Gere**, will provide an update on

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SPCC Requirements and Spill Response Rules at CUNY. Immediately following the meeting will be our annual summer barbecue.

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.