

Memo: June 19, 2009

To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council

From: Howard Apsan

Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
Kingsborough Community College, June 4, 2009

Opening

The June meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at Kingsborough Community College on June 4, 2009. Fred Einerman, EHSO at the college, hosted the meeting and the annual beach barbeque that EHSRM shared with CUNY Public Safety. Bill Keller, Vice President for Finance and Administration at Kingsborough Community 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, LaGuardia Community College and York College. The audit at York College was an un-scheduled audit, designed to remind us that regulatory agencies may inspect campuses at any time and without advance notice.

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

The New York State Law for the PBS program has been modified. The key changes include: “a broader definition of ‘petroleum’ to include all fractions of crude oil; changing the definition of ‘facility’ to include underground tanks greater than 110 gallons; and requiring tanks that are newly regulated due to the changes in the definitions of ‘petroleum’ and ‘facility’ to be registered with the NYSDEC and in compliance with existing PBS regulations requirements by July 21, 2009.” For more information on the changes, please visit, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/53278.html> .

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.

EH&S Officers are encouraged to visit the EH&S website, review the EMS, and ensure that their campuses comply 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 EH&S Council will be briefed on upcoming training events at the next meeting.

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 **Rob Neimeier, Managing Scientist, and Dave Meixell, Senior Project Engineer**, both of **O’Brien & Gere on SPCC Requirements and Spill Response Rules at CUNY**. Rob provided an overview of the latest changes to the New York

State DEC Petroleum Bulk Storage Regulation. We thank Rob and Dave for their informative and interesting presentation.

Updates in Brief

The next NYCER meeting will be held on August 18, 2008, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Columbia University, Russ Berrie Conference Room, 1150 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, NY 10032. The guest presenter will be **Anne Rinchiso, Mass Prophylaxis Manager , NYC Department of Public Health**, who will provide a follow- up discussion on **PODs for Colleges and Universities**.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2009, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at The CUNY School of Law, 65-21 Main Street, New York 11367. The meeting will take place in the Faculty Lounge, room 330 F. **Mark Pennington Esq.** of Counsel, **John Osborne PC**, will present on **Minimizing Environmental Liability: A Lawyer's View**.

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm and was followed by the annual beach barbecue.