

Memo: September 18, 2009
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Officers Meeting Minutes
New York City College of Technology, September 10, 2009

Opening

The September meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety Council was held at New York City College of Technology on September 10, 2009. Derek Lee, EHSO at the college hosted the meeting and welcomed everyone to the college. Miguel Cairol, Vice President for Finance and Administration, 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.

Swine Flu

The Council was briefed on the upcoming flu season and the H1N1 influenza. To avert the spread of flu, persons should get vaccinated and follow proper hygiene care. Schools are asked to post "Cover-Your-Cough" and hand washing flyers, and to direct faculty, staff and administrators to the flu web portal at www.nyc.gov/flu for more information.

EHS Internal Audits

Upcoming audits in the fall are scheduled for Bronx Community College, Borough of Manhattan Community College, the College of Staten Island and the CUNY Law School. 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 Petroleum Bulk Storage (PBS) requirements have been modified. The tanks cannot be properly registered if they are not in compliance with existing PBS requirements. For more information on the changes, please visit the NYSDEC website at, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/53278.html> . A copy of all PBS registration should be forwarded to Michael Spath at michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu

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 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 and calendar events, and to engage in informative exchanges. 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 **Inspector Sandy Camacho** of the **FDNY** on “**Hazardous Materials in non-Laboratory Environments.**” Inspector Camacho provided a detailed overview of the 2008 NYC Fire Code with new provisions for Hazardous materials regulations. For more information please visit: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/fdny/html/firecode/firecode.shtml>

Updates in Brief

The next NYCER meeting will be held on December 16, 2009, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the New School, 66 West 12th Street, 7th floor, Orozco Room.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2009, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, 230 West 41st Street, room 308, New York, NY 10036. **Michael Arena, University Director of Communications and Marketing**, will present on “**Risk Management Communications.**”

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.