

Memo: October 18, 2011
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Council Meeting Minutes
New York City College of Technology, September 8, 2011

Opening

The Environmental Health and Safety Council meeting was held at the New York City College of Technology on September 8, 2011. The meeting was hosted by Miguel Cairol, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the college. Vice President Cairol welcomed the Council to the College and thanked the EH&S Officers for their work throughout CUNY. Sheryce Woolery recorded the minutes and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

Welcome

The Council welcomed Jennifer Wuotinen, EHSO at Kingsborough Community College and Julie Hassing, Account Manager at Triumvirate Environmental.

Environmental Compliance Update

Internal audits for the fall semester have been completed at Baruch College and Lehman College. An additional audit is scheduled for Brooklyn College. An unscheduled audit will also be conducted in the fall. EHSOs are encouraged to volunteer by contacting Michael Spath, CUNY's Environmental Compliance Manager, at michael.spath@mail.cuny.edu.

Michael reminded the Council of the previous Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) inspection conducted by Brian Falvey, encouraging EHSOs to check tanks and overflow containment basins regularly to ensure that tanks remain dry and clean. Michael also noted that internal audits show an apparent increase in repeat violations across many campuses.

Finally, Michael briefed the Council on the newly automated system for conducting audits. The system will allow for faster and more efficient audit reporting, and EHSOs can adjust the

program to conform with specific campus characteristics.

Health & Safety Subcommittee Report

Mel Rodriguez, Chair of the Health and Safety Subcommittee, informed the Council that the Committee is seeking clarification from PESH regarding several laboratory safety matters related to fashion preferences.

Kurt Klein, CUNY's Health and Safety Manager, addressed food safety in campus vending machines. He noted that although food services are maintained by outside vendors, CUNY is ultimately responsible.

Lab Safety Subcommittee Report

Richard Belgrave, Chair of the Lab Safety Subcommittee, noted that the Committee reviewed and incorporated comments it received regarding inspection and maintenance of fume hoods. The Council will be provided with an updated draft for review. Please provide comments to Richard Belgrave at rbelgrave@ccny.cuny.edu.

Presentation

Herman Schaffer, Director of Community Outreach, New York City Office of Emergency Management, presented on **“Emergency Preparedness: The Public/Private Partnership.”**

Mr. Schaffer spoke on OEM's preparedness efforts during National Preparedness Month, emphasizing the need for personal preparedness and planning. He also provided an overview of the Partners in Preparedness Program, which can be accessed at

http://home2.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/get_prepared/prepared_partnersinprep.shtml.

We thank Mr. Schaffer for this informative and interesting presentation.

EHS Newsletter

Please continue to submit articles for upcoming issues of the EHS newsletter. Copies of recent newsletters may be found at <http://www.cuny.edu/ehs>.

Upcoming Council Meeting

The next EHSO Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at The City College of New York, 160 Convent Avenue in Manhattan. The meeting will be held in the Amsterdam Room located in the NAC building, Faculty Dining Area. **Rick Foote, Senior Environmental Compliance Manager, Triumvirate Environmental**, will present on **“ISO 14000 After Fifteen Years.”**

Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.