

Memo: July 27, 2011
To: CUNY Environmental, Health and Safety Council
From: Howard Apsan
Re: Environmental, Health and Safety Council Meeting Minutes
College of Staten Island, July 14, 2011

Opening

The Environmental Health and Safety Council meeting was held at the College of Staten Island on July 14, 2011. The meeting was hosted by Kathleen Collins, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at the college. Ira Persky, Acting Vice President for Finance and Administration, welcomed the Council to the College of Staten Island 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.

Environmental Compliance Update

Upcoming audits in the fall are scheduled for Brooklyn College, Lehman College and Baruch 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 has analyzed findings from recent audits and noted that DEP and DEC inspections revealed that campuses have not cured all previously identified issues. Michael encouraged EHSOs to conduct frequent facility walk-throughs to reinforce regulatory compliance and minimize the number of findings during audits. EHSOs needing assistance should contact Michael.

Health & Safety Subcommittee Report

Mel Rodriguez, Chair of the Health and Safety Subcommittee, informed the Council of a phone system backup battery explosion at the college. There were no reports of injuries or significant

building damage. The college has since checked and replaced all batteries. Mel advised EHSOs to review the age and condition of batteries on their campuses and to conduct timely replacements.

Lab Safety Subcommittee Report

Richard Belgrave, Chair of the Lab Safety Subcommittee, stated that the Committee is working on updating the lab safety manual, with a specific focus on inspecting and maintaining fume hoods. The Council will be provided with drafts for review. Council members are asked to provide appropriate feedback to Richard Belgrave at rbelgrave@ccny.cuny.edu

Updates

The CSHEMA 2011 Conference will take place in Minneapolis from July 16-20. Peter Jayasakera, EHSO at LaGuardia Community College, will attend and provide an update on the conference at the September meeting.

Presentation

Dave Tompkins, Environmental Permitting and Planning Leader, at Kleinfelder Inc., a large consultant firm, presented on **“The Marcellus Shale: Opportunities and Challenges.”** Mr. Tompkins provided an overview on the hydraulic fracturing process in the Marcellus Shale. We thank Mr. Tompkins for this informative presentation on this high profile and very timely issue.

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 Thursday, September 8, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the New York City College of Technology, Atrium Faculty Lounge (A-632), 300 Jay Street in Brooklyn. **Herman Schaffer, Director of Community Outreach, New York City Office of Emergency Management,** will present on **“Emergency Preparedness: The Public/Private Partnership.”**

Adjournment

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