

Memo: April 2, 2008

To: New York Campus Environmental Resource (NYCER) Members

From: Howard Apsan

Re: NYCER Meeting Minutes
St. John's University – Manhattan Campus, March 25, 2008

Opening

The January NYCER meeting was held at St. John's University's Manhattan campus on March 25, 2008. The meeting began with a welcome by Colleen Greaney, Director of Environmental Health and Safety. Ariana Tobias of CUNY Central recorded the minutes, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

Audits

EPA audits are still being conducted at a number of NYCER institutions. Other institutions that have completed the EPA audits are working on sustaining their successes and are preparing for anticipated EPA inspections. Several institutions have instituted the practice of internal audits to maintain compliance standards. Surprise internal audits are especially valuable, as they prepare campuses for success in the event of an unscheduled EPA visit. We encourage everyone to share their enforcement experience with other NYCER members.

Presentation

The meeting continued with a presentation by representatives from the Disaster Planning and Response department of the American Red Cross in Greater New York. **Robert Wilson, Senior Director, Planning and Preparedness, David Dunn, Director, Disaster Staffing and Partner Groups, and Jeanine Pekkarinen, Director, Community Outreach & Preparedness** presented on "**Emergency Preparedness and Response: What do you do when disaster strikes?**" The presentation focused on educating communities about emergency preparedness using the formula, "Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed." The presentation was followed by an extensive discussion on emergency preparedness plans for universities, and volunteer

opportunities available to faculty and students. We thank Robert Wilson, David Dunn, and Jeanine Pekkarinen for an informative and thought provoking presentation.

Updates in Brief

The SESH A spring 2008 Conference is being organized by SUNY Stony Brook and will be held from April 10 - 11 in Port Jefferson, Long Island. For more information, please contact Kim Auletta at 631-632-3032 or e-mail kim.auletta@stonybrook.edu .

Upcoming Meetings

The May meeting of NYCER will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at Columbia University, The meeting will be held at MS, in Faculty Room 207, Low Library, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be a presentation by **Anne Rinchiuso, Program Manager, Bureau of Emergency Management, NYC DOH & Mental Hygiene** on **“NYC’s Mass Prophylaxis Plan and the Role of Universities.”**

All those able to host future NYCER meetings should contact Sheryce Woolery at (212) 794-5630 or sheryce.woolery@mail.cuny.edu .

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.