

Memo: October 17, 2008

To: New York Campus Environmental Resource (NYCER) Members

From: Howard Apsan

Re: NYCER Meeting Minutes
The City University of New York, September 23, 2008

Opening

The September NYCER meeting was held at The City College of New York on September 23, 2008. Richard Belgrave, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at City College hosted the meeting and Richard Metz, Vice President of Finance and Administration welcomed everyone. Sheryce Woolery of CUNY Central recorded the minutes, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

Audits

Lauren Kelly of Columbia University informed the participants that Columbia had inspections on two of its campuses on the same day. On July 29, 2008, the Lamont Doherty lab facility was inspected by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Columbia Medical Center was inspected by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Lauren was pleased to note that no violations were issued for either inspection. She also pointed out that Columbia is preparing for its triennial audit, which should take place in a few weeks.

Several institutions have established the practice of internal audits to maintain compliance standards and practices developed for the EPA audits. Surprise internal audits and spot inspections are especially valuable, as they prepare campuses for success in the event of an unscheduled regulatory visit. We encourage everyone to share their internal audit (planned or unannounced audit) efforts, as well as any regulatory enforcement experiences, with other NYCER members.

Presentation

The meeting continued with a presentation by **Dave Wilson, Project Associate, O'Brien & Gere** on **"Indoor Air Quality: Regulatory and Best Management Practice Considerations."** Mr. Wilson provided a very thoughtful examination of the risk factors associated with indoor air quality, including regulatory considerations and methods to improve indoor air quality. Mr. Wilson also noted that although there are no formal IAQ regulations, there are well-established guidelines that are generally accepted. We thank Mr. Wilson for an informative and interesting presentation.

Updates in Brief

The SEHSA 2008 Fall Conference will take place on October 19-23 at Crowne Plaza, Lake Placid, New York. Registration is now open, please visit <http://www.sesha.org/fall2008.html>. For more information you may contact Aldo Orlando at 718-951-5400.

Columbia University will be hosting a Laser Safety Training at the Medical Center on November 20, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. The cost is \$300, which includes breakfast and lunch. For more information, please contact Muhammad Akram at 212-305-6780.

Upcoming Meetings

The November meeting of NYCER will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at The New School University, 55 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011. The meeting will be held in the Theresa Lang Student Center, Arnold Hall, 3rd Floor. There will be a presentation by **Kathleen Callahan**, on **"Assessing the EPA College and University Initiative - and Some Thoughts for The Future."** Kathy, who is a professor at Columbia University, addressed NYCER several years ago in her capacity as Acting Regional Administrator of EPA Region II.

Those able to host future NYCER meetings should contact Sheryce Woolery at (212) 794-5630 or sheryce.woolery@mail.cuny.edu. Additionally, anyone wishing to suggest a presentation topic and or presenter is encouraged to contact Sheryce as well.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.