

Date: April 11, 2011  
To: New York Campus Environmental Resource (NYCER) Members  
From: Howard Apsan  
Re: NYCER Meeting Minutes  
Rockefeller University, March 16, 2011

### **Opening**

The March NYCER meeting was held at Rockefeller University, on March 16, 2011. The meeting was hosted by Frank Schaffer, Associate Director of Laboratory Safety and Environmental Health. Sheryce Woolery of CUNY Environmental, Health, Safety and Risk Management recorded the minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **College Updates**

Frank Schaffer reported that Rockefeller University was being audited by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the time of the NYCER meeting. The audit began on Monday March 14 and was expected to continue through Thursday March 17. The audit focused on issues such as chemical storage, particularly sodium azide and nitric acid; chemical compatibility; material safety data sheet accessibility; and the SPCC Plan. Frank will provide an update at the June NYCER meeting.

Chris Pettinato, Executive Director, EHS, Columbia University, reported that the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) conducted an announced inspection of the Medical Center Campus. The inspection was (RCRA) specific and focused primarily on records, hazardous waste manifest and the SPCC Plan. The SPCC Plan was found to lack emergency aid agreements.

Michael Spath, Compliance Manager, CUNY, reported that the DEC conducted a RCRA inspection at LaGuardia Community College. The college will provide an update at the June NYCER meeting.

Finally, Adam Steinman, Senior Vice President, College and University Market Leader, Woodard & Curran, reported that the EPA audited the Museum of Natural History, UMDNJ, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC). All of these institutions are awaiting written reports from the EPA.

### **Presentation**

The meeting continued with a presentation by Adam Steinman, on "**Meeting Greenhouse Gas Reductions by Implementing a Comprehensive Energy Management Strategy.**" Adam discussed the challenges of implementing a college/university sustainability program. He noted that energy managers that have energy data and the ability to control their heating and cooling systems use less energy, save money, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He suggested that for a sustainability program to be effective, the campus community must be engaged. Therefore it is important for colleges and universities to teach students about sustainability and conservation. Finally, Adam provided a case study of Williams College and the energy savings the college experienced after implementing a multi-pronged strategic energy program. We thank Adam for an informative and interesting presentation.

### **Updates in Brief**

Columbia University will be hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hazardous Waste Training Seminar on July 21st, 2011, at the Hammer Health Sciences Center (Library) located at 701 West 168th Street, Room 401. For more information please contact Carmen Hoepelan at [cgh4@columbia.edu](mailto:cgh4@columbia.edu) or 212-305-6780.

Upcoming NYCER 2011 meetings are scheduled for: June 14; September 13; and December 13. Those able to host a meeting should contact Sheryce Woolery at (212) 794-5630 or [sheryce.woolery@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:sheryce.woolery@mail.cuny.edu). Additionally, anyone wishing to suggest a specific presentation topic or presenter is encouraged to contact Sheryce as well.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

The upcoming NYCER meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 14, 2011, at Long Island University, Library Learning Center Building, 1 University Plaza, in Brooklyn, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The meeting will be held in Room 124 and will include a presentation by **Sandy Camacho, Chief Inspector, Hazard Control Group, FDNY**, on **Non-production Laboratory Fire Safety and Building Code Requirements.**

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.