Memo: April 18, 2006

To: New York Campus Environmental Resource (NYCER) Members

From: Howard Apsan

Re: NYCER Meeting Minutes
Polytechnic University, March 21, 2006

Opening:

The previous meeting of NYCER was held at Polytechnic University on March 21, 2006. Professor Charles Martucci, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at Polytechnic, served as host of the meeting, and Karen Belin of CUNY recorded the minutes. The minutes of the prior NYCER meeting were approved by acclamation.

Charles opened the meeting by welcoming the NYCER membership to Polytechnic University and giving a brief history of the college. Afterwards, the members took a few moments to introduce themselves.

Audits

At CUNY, John Jay College successfully completed its EPA audit on March 28th. The upcoming CUNY audit is scheduled for April 24th at Baruch College. Several other NYCER universities and hospitals are also preparing for their audits.

St. John’s University, Rockefeller University, CUNY, and Columbia University are considering joining the Stanford based ChemTracker Consortium chemical inventory system. ChemTracker is currently being piloted by Rockefeller, Queens College, the College of Staten Island, and Brooklyn College. Several other colleges are waiting to test the system as well. Kathleen Crowley, Environmental Health and Safety Officer at Columbia University, discussed Columbia Morningside Campus’ positive experiences as they have moved forward with ChemTracker.

Updates in Brief:

In an effort to expand safety awareness training efforts, several universities have begun holding various non-traditional training seminars. For example, SUNY and CUNY are holding Theater Safety Training Seminars. In both instances, a full day of training will be provided by Monona Rossol, Industrial Hygienist and President / Founder of Arts, Crafts and Theater Safety, Inc. A future CUNY EHS safety training seminar will focus on fine arts safety.
Presentation: EPA’s Proposed Rule for College and University Laboratories

The meeting continued with a presentation by Adam Steinman, Senior Vice President of Regulatory Compliance, at Woodard & Curran, on the EPA’s Proposed Rule for College and University Laboratories. Adam gave NYCER insight on the EPA’s proposed rule developing process, the major elements of the lab rule, current and future rulemaking activity, and the finalization and implementation of the lab rule. We thank Adam for his thorough and well thought out presentation.

Upcoming Meetings:

The upcoming NYCER luncheon meeting will be held on May 23, 2006 at St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center, at 114th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan, on the 4th Floor of the Muhlenberg Section in Room 410. The meeting will include a special presentation by Dr. Robert Kulikowski, Director, at the New York City Office of Environmental Coordination (NYC OEC), on the OEC’s recent report on “Sustainable New York City.”

The NYCER schedule for the year 2006 includes upcoming meetings on July 25th at Vaughn College, September 26th at the law firm Hughes Hubbard and Reed, and November 14th at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. All those interested in hosting future meetings may contact Karen Belin at (212) 794-5630 or at karen.belin@mail.cuny.edu. Thank you in advance.

The 2006 National Environmental Partnership Summit will be held in Atlanta from May 8 through 11, and will be hosted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4. Additional information regarding the summit can be found at http://www.environmentalsummit.org.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.