

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Environmental Health & Safety**

Date: February 26, 2008  
To: Safety Council Minutes  
Subject: Minutes of Meeting – February 20, 2008

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Ms. Lumley-Sapanski called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**II. WELCOME**

A. Ms. Lumley-Sapanski welcomed members to the February meeting.

**III. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 16, 2008**

A. The minutes were approved as printed and distributed.

**IV. TOPIC OF THE MONTH**

A. Mr. Tom Sowerby, University Police Supervisor and Eric Bauman, Security Systems Coordinator, gave a presentation on “Safety Considerations of SY 19”.

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE**

A. Ms. Lumley-Sapanski advised Council members not to post any information regarding OSHA. EHS will be providing the proper information and postings.

B. Ms. Lumley-Sapanski advised that emergency phone stickers are continuing to be placed throughout buildings.

**VI. FIRE PREVENTION**

A. Mr. Triebold reported to Council that there were thirty-three (33) fire alarm incidents during the month of January. Twenty-two (22) of the incidents originated within student residences and there were no active fires reported for University Park properties. Wednesdays were the busiest days for fire alarm activations.

- B. Mr. Triebold provided an update of the Corridor Use Committee. The committee has developed a draft document and is currently reviewing it. A document is being developed which will provide information and guidance to building occupants regarding what is and is not permitted to be placed in building corridors and to help ensure the safety of building occupants and emergency responders.

## **VII. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

- A. Mr. Foard showed a video of the water tower demolition and discussed the tight regulations prior to the demolition at the Behrend Campus.
- B. Mr. Speaker spoke about the shortcomings of waterless hand sanitizers. These materials are fine when soap and running water is not available, but they should not be used as a replacement for proper hand washing with soap and water. The hand sanitizers are alcohol-based, and over time will cause serious drying of the hands. Two other issues influence their effectiveness; jewelry should be removed before use, as it serves as a point where bacteria can collect, and fingernails should be no longer than 1/4" beyond the end of the fingertip (for the same reason).
- C. Mr. Speaker showed the "Why Don't We Do It In Our Sleeves?" video, which can also be viewed at <http://coughsafe.com/media.html>.
- D. Mr. Myers advised Council members that the idea for recycling empty chemical containers was an idea from custodial staff and researchers. The recycle bins have not been delivered to all the labs, the general recycling bins can be used till all bins have been placed in the labs. The recycle bins in the labs have the procedure taped to them. The "Empty Labels" are available from the EHS office for the empty chemical bottles. Mr. Myers distributed an information sheet "Disposal of Empty Chemical Containers". This is available at: [http://www.ehs.psu.edu/hazmat/recycling\\_chem\\_containers.pdf](http://www.ehs.psu.edu/hazmat/recycling_chem_containers.pdf)
- E. The Homeland Security information on chemical inventories has been received and is being processed. Thank you to Council members for their assistance in collecting this information.
- F. Mr. Linsenbigler reviewed trends relating to the nature of injury, body part affected, and cause of injury during calendar year 2007. Strains continue to be the most common type of injury at PSU, accounting for 1 out of every 5 "First Reports of Injury" (FROI). Both lower back and foot/toe injuries increased significantly since calendar year 2006. Falls/slips are the most prevalent cause of injury at PSU, leading to almost 25% of all FROI. The number of strains associated with repetitive motions reported during 2007 decreased by 35% from the previous year.

## **VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. The Topic of the Month for March will be “University Processes with Property Acquisitions and Leases” presented by Craig Rickards, Manager, Facilities & Real Estate.
- B. Mr. Linsenbigler distributed the safety handout “Driving at Night” and is available at:  
[http://www.ehs.psu.edu/help/info\\_sheets/Driving\\_at\\_Night\\_Info\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.ehs.psu.edu/help/info_sheets/Driving_at_Night_Info_Sheet.pdf)

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Ms. Lumley-Sapanski adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SAFETY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD MARCH 19, 2008 AT 118 ASI BUILDING AT 9:30 A.M.**

**Members Present:** E. Boeldt, S. Spicher for J. Burns, J. Burket, C. Colborn, E. Dobo, S. Foard, K. Frederick, D. Fronk, B. English for T. Griffiths, G. Henry, L. Holland, B. Holden, C. Kanour, P. Janowiak for G. Langsdale, M. Linsenbigler, K. Lumley-Sapanski, C. McGinley, K. Mozley-Bryan, K. Myers, P. Peworchik, R. Pruss, D. Rose, N. Wonderling for G. Shawver, C. Speaker, H. Summerlin, S. Triebold, L. White, J. Wieshaupt, D. Will

**Areas Not Represented:** Applied Research Lab, College of Earth & Mineral Sciences, College of Health & Human Development, Electro Optics Center, Facilities & Real Estate Leased, Information Technology Services, Military, Office of Physical Plant, Commonwealth Services, Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate School, Schreyers Honors College, Student Affairs

**Guests:** Joe Armstrong – PMA  
Olga Perez – Human Resources

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Auman for Jill Snook  
Secretary, University Safety Council

JMS/jms

