

**ACS COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY (CCS)  
225<sup>th</sup> ACS National Meeting**

**DRAFT  
(pending Committee approval)  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**March 24, 2003**

**Combined Open and Executive Session  
Sheraton New Orleans Hotel  
New Orleans, LA**

Dr. Ken Fivizzani, Chair of the Committee, called the Spring 2003 meeting of the Committee on Chemical Safety to order at 8:35 AM on March 24, 2003. The following Committee members, associates, consultants, and liaisons attended all or part of the meeting:

Dr. Robert Alaimo, Dr. Joseph Antonucci, Dr. Cherlynlavaugn Bradley, Dr. Jack Breazeale (NCW Task Force), Dr. Ellen Burns, Dr. Michael Cournoyer, Ms. Jean Delfiner, Dr. Laurence Doemeny, Ms. Barbara Foster, Mr. Robert A. Gates (CCWD liaison), Dr. Alan Hazari, Dr. Arthur Marcinkowsky, Dr. Daniel McDonald, Mr. Russell Phifer, Dr. Paul Schickedantz, Ms. Eileen Segal (DivCHAS liaison), Mr. Stephen Sichak, Sr., Dr. Herb Silber (ConC liaison), Dr. Rubye Torrey, Dr. Douglas Walters (AIHA liaison), and Dr. Wayne Wolsey.

ACS staff and governance present for all or part of the meeting included Dr. Lawrence Funke (CCS staff liaison) and Mr. Ray Garant (staff liaison, Committee on Environmental Improvement). Dr. Lester Bynum, Mr. Jim Kapin, and Mr. Hank Ramsey (former CCS Chair) attended as guests.

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Following introduction of members and guests, the minutes of the August 19, 2002 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

**CCS1-03 - The Committee VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2002 meeting.**

### **2. Chair's Report**

Dr. Fivizzani noted that there would be a dinner/roast to honor Jay Young, who has served this committee as a consultant for 18 years. The dinner will be held at the Café Sbisà on Decatur Street in the French Quarter on Tuesday evening, March 25, 2003. Committee members were encouraged to attend.

Dr. Herb Silber, liaison from the Committee on Committees (ConC) was introduced. Dr. Fivizzani discussed a communication from ConC that is a standard letter encouraging committees to increase their committee representation of women and chemists with disabilities. Dr. Fivizzani noted the report on "Sunset Review" of CCS. The purpose of the five-year "Sunset Review" is to make sure that the committee is viable and performing worthwhile activities within the society. Activities and achievements focused heavily on CCS publications, website, and outreach activities. With regard to general recommendations at the end, it was determined that the CCS has continued to function as an important member of ACS. A consideration that was mentioned was whether the subcommittee structure is operating appropriately. Another recommendation is to face the challenge of how to develop new members and bring them up to speed on the committee's work. Chair Fivizzani encouraged everyone to

consider potential members to serve on this committee and to bring their names to his attention. Another recommendation was to try to increase our visibility in the society. The committee should provide an oral presentation to council at least once per year.

An online conference, *Teaching Chemical Safety*, was held last fall. As a result, a group headed by Dr. George Wahl is working on an online course on chemical safety and is considering what should be included in the curriculum for this online course. Committee members are encouraged to send curriculum content suggestions to Dr. Wahl (george\_wahl@ncsu.edu).

Chair Fivizzani mentioned a National Research Council book, *Laboratory Design, Construction, and Renovation* and passed a copy for committee members to see.

### **3. Staff Liaison's Report**

Dr. Funke noted the CCS report that appeared in *Chemical and Engineering News*. The two-volume set of *Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories (SACL)* became available in early January 2003. Since then, over 2000 copies have been distributed. Both volumes are available on the committee website.

Occasionally, Dr. Funke receives requests for safety information through email and member services. When appropriate, the requests are passed on to committee members by emails and the response has been good. The information gathered is archived so that if additional requests for similar topics are received, responses are available. He expressed appreciation for the committee members' responses and encourages everyone to keep up the good work.

Dr. Breazeale requested the names of the persons who have ordered the Grade 7-12 safety booklet. Dr. Walters will send a copy of *SACL* to the AIHA for review.

### **4. Reports of the Subcommittees**

#### **A. Safe Practices - Mr. Russell Phifer**

The subcommittee has finished its work on the Mercury Spills booklet that is being prepared by the Task Force on Laboratory Environmental Health & Safety (Lab EHS). The booklet includes what one needs to know on how to clean up a mercury spill and includes references and resources. It was suggested that someone review the booklet for *CH&S* and send a letter to the editor of *C&EN* about the availability of the booklet, which is a joint publication of CCS and the Taskforce. Dr. Hazari noted that the PR is very good, but potential users need to know of the existence of this booklet. Ultimately, the goal is that if you type "mercury" into a Google search, the CCS website should be a "first page" selection. Dr. Funke is researching how much it would cost to publish all of our CCS publications on CD. Dr. McDonald reflected on the "value of having it on the web" and the ease of access for teachers, whose primary source of such publications is through the web. Ms. Delfiner reminded the committee that some high school teachers do not have access to computers and would appreciate the continued availability of hard copies.

The committee members discussed the lab manual "Greener Approaches to Undergraduate Chemistry Experiments". The manual compares conventional laboratory techniques to greener chemistry techniques. The committee has been asked to review the manual for safety prior to the Spanish translation. A number of experiments in it involve microwaving small quantities of flammable solvents in kitchen variety microwave ovens. Mr. Phifer noted that our primary concern is addressing the microwave safety issue and that the Safe Practices subcommittee would review the manual. Dr. Funke asked members to conduct searches to document whether

problems have occurred with microwaves in chemistry laboratories and to contact him (L\_Funke@acs.org) with the results.

Dr. Cournoyer (mec@lanl.gov) reported that he has encountered several incidents of reagent grade isopropyl alcohol that has formed peroxides. He is seeking additional information in order to create a policy statement on this issue. He asked the committee to contact him with information regarding any similar instances in their laboratories.

At the request of a colleague in another institution, Ms. Foster (bfoster@wvu.edu) requested information regarding the physical placement (and requisite codes) of fire extinguishers in academic laboratories.

As the editor of the "Upcoming Events" column in *CH&S*, Ms. Foster encouraged members to send notices of upcoming safety-related events and training sessions to her at least four months prior to the event for inclusion in *CH&S*.

#### **B. Resources - Dr. Daniel McDonald**

The committee discussed the feasibility of mailing both volumes of *SACL* to colleges and universities on the list of chemistry departments maintained by the ACS Office of Professional Training (estimated cost: \$1300-\$1400). The following motion was approved unanimously:

**CCS2-03-One copy of the two-volume set of *Safety in Academic Chemistry Laboratories* will be sent free to chemistry departments on the list maintained by the ACS Office of Professional Training.**

The committee will look for other groups that would be appropriate for similar distributions of committee publications. Dr. McDonald will obtain a list of community colleges.

Dr. Cournoyer is preparing a document on solvent purification techniques that are alternatives to distillation. Dr. Burns reported that a literature search yielded a lack of resources on procedures for quenching active compounds in laboratory solvent stills. It was noted that this topic would be covered in the solvent purification document.

The subcommittee discussed an inquiry regarding a "Stockroom Management" document. The subcommittee agreed that adequate resources currently exist. The subcommittee will compile a list of references that will be posted on the CCS website. Committee members are encouraged to email any known resources to Dr. McDonald (dmcdonal@cvcc.edu) by May 1.

The "Pocket Safety Guide" for introductory students (prepared by Dr. Cournoyer, Dr. McDonald, and Mr. Sichak) has been submitted to the committee for final review. Comments must be returned to the authors prior to May 1, 2003.

#### **C. Partnerships - Dr. Alan Hazari**

Dr. Wolsey chaired the subcommittee meeting for Dr. Hazari.

The revised edition of *Chemical Safety Manual for Small Businesses* now has a 2004 publication date. The subcommittee discussed liaisons or partnerships with other units of the ACS that have common interests in chemical safety, including the Division of Biochemical Technology and the Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology. Dr. Bradley reported on the contact that she made with Wayne Collins of the Analytical Lab Managers Association (ALMA). Dr. Walters reminded the committee that he has served for several years as the ACS liaison with the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA). Dr. Wolsey has not received a response from the Council on Chemical Research (CCR) regarding his email message.

Dr. Bradley discussed Project SEED. She reported that there would be about 291 SEED-I students and about 115 SEED-II students this summer. Dr. Bradley thanked the committee for providing copies of *SACL* for SEED students and mentors.

Dr. Breazeale, National Chemistry Week (NCW) Task Force CCS liaison, reminded the committee of the safety guidelines that were reviewed by the CCS members and published three years ago. NCW is interested in changing the name from “National Chemistry Week Safety Guidelines” to “Safety Guidelines for Community Activities”. Committee members were asked to review the NCW guidelines and to send their comments to Dr. Breazeale (breazew@cofc.edu).

## 5. Web Site Update

In his absence, Mr. Talley submitted a written report, which is included in the agenda book. Current projects include the Hazardous Waste resource information page for Small Quantity Generators. Please forward ideas or additional materials to be placed on the web site to Mr. Talley (erik@etalley.com).

## 6. Reports of CCS Liaisons

- **CEI/CCS Task Force on Laboratory Environmental Health & Safety**

Mr. Garant, staff liaison to the Task Force, reported that the Task Force would sponsor a symposium at the NY meeting on Laboratory Waste Management Regulatory Initiatives. A white paper to establish ACS policies in this area is under preparation and will go to the ACS Board for approval.

- **ACS Division of Chemical Health and Safety - Ms. Eileen Segal**

Ms. Segal reported that the National Research Council is distributing copies of a new publication, *Laboratory Design, Construction, and Renovation*, in a publicity promotion. The booklet will be available at a cost of \$35. Information can be found at <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/9799.html>.

CHAS is making a concerted effort to increase its presence by getting involved in regional and local section meetings. Negotiations are being finalized on a new three-year contract with Elsevier to print *Chemical Health & Safety*.

Award winners were announced at the meeting. Harry Elston received the Howard Fawcett Chemical Health and Safety Award. Peter Ashbrook received the Tillmanns-Skolnick Award. New CHAS Fellows are Harry Elston, Erik Talley, Emmett Barkley, and Daniel Crowl.

Dr. George Wahl is continuing work on teaching safety on the Internet. He is also considering the development of QuickTime movies for one to three pertinent modules. CHAS will be cosponsoring a symposium with TECH in New York, "Building a Strong Safety Culture and the Technician's Role in Safety". Ms. Segal asked if all of the CCS members are members of the Division of Chemical Health and Safety. She encouraged everyone to become a member by logging onto the chemistry.org website and joining online. The cost of membership is \$34, which includes a subscription to the journal.

- **Division of Chemical Health and Safety Program Chair - Mr. Jim Kapin**

At the NYC meeting in Fall 2003, Division programming from Sunday through Wednesday will contain topics related to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. On 09/11/03, no Divisions will schedule any 9/11 programming because there will be a Presidential Symposium, “Issues on Homeland Security—What Can Chemists Do?” This event will be a moderated panel and will feature a roundtable discussion with audience input. Mr. Kapin asked if CCS would like to be a cosponsor of the 9/11 event on Thursday. Any ideas/suggestions for appropriate speakers (e.g., policy-makers or people who contribute

to policy; political personages and/or academicians with whom you have a relationship) should be forwarded to Mr. Kapin (Jim@chemical-safety.com) as soon as possible. The following motion was approved unanimously:

**CCS3-03 - The Committee on Chemical Safety agrees to be a cosponsor of the Presidential Symposium “Issues on Homeland Security—What Can Chemists Do?” on Thursday, 09/11/03, at the New York ACS National Meeting.**

- **AIHA - Dr. Douglas Walters**

Dr. Walters reported that the AIHA Conference and Exposition, “Navigating Uncharted Territory”, would be held May 10-15 2003 in Dallas, TX. He will attend and will report on the main events at the NY ACS meeting. More information on the AIHce can be found on the website (www.aiha.org), Dr. Walters reported that the ANSI Z9.5 Ventilation Standard is finally completed. The final version will be released before the AIHA meeting in May.

- **National Chemistry Week - Dr. Jack Breazeale**

National Chemistry Week is a community-based program sponsored by ACS. This annual event unites ACS local sections, industries, schools, and individuals and emphasizes the importance of chemistry in our quality of life. This year, NCW will held October 19-25, 2003 and the theme is “Earth’s Atmosphere and Beyond!” The theme for the 2004 NCW will be “Celebrating Chemistry: Health and Wellness”.

- **Committee on Chemists with Disabilities - Mr. Robert Gates**

After a review of the Contact Lens Policy for ACS CWD, no changes were suggested. Mr. Gates reported that he is happy to be a part of the CCS so that students with disabilities will be represented. He would like to see a direct link to the CCS web page from the CWD web page. He reported that copies of “Teaching Chemistry to Students with Disabilities” were sent to all members of the CCS.

- **Office of Legislative and Government Affairs - Mr. Ray Garant**

Mr. Garant asked the committee to identify people for contact person positions. Please contact Mr. Garant (Ray\_garant@acs.org) if you are interested in serving as a contact person for IST (Inherently Safer Technology).

## 7. Old Business

Dr. Hazari reminded the committee that the Task Force on Publicizing Activities and Publications, which he chaired, has completed its work and that their report was given to the CCS to be put into action. Dr. Hazari asked CCS for the status of this project.

Ms. Delfiner reported that Dr. Stan Pine (DIVCHED) asked for volunteers during the last meeting to join a taskforce regarding incorporating safety throughout the curriculum. Dr. Torrey and Ms. Foster stated that they attended a taskforce meeting on March 22, 2003 with Dr. Robert Hill. It was noted that Dr. Hazari, Ms. Delfiner, and Dr. McDonald should receive email notices of future meetings. Dr. Funke agreed to send an email message to Dr. Stan Pine to include the above members on his taskforce email list.

Last year, Dr. Cournoyer and Ms. Foster volunteered to serve on an ANSI Standard for MSDS Review Group. They reported that they received an email on this project just days prior to the New Orleans meeting. The email stated that a draft standard for review that will be aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) is expected in the first quarter of 2003. The goal is to publish the final standard in the fourth quarter of 2003. They have not yet received

the draft standard. Because of the extended period of time between the request for help and the initial contact with members, Dr. Funke will check into the follow-through process when groups request our help.

There was much discussion regarding the need for Spanish translations of CCS publications. Dr. Fivizzani noted that the key for choosing the right translator is to choose someone with the right technical background in addition to appropriate language skills.

#### **8. New Business**

Dr. Walters gave an excellent presentation on “The Impact of IMC510 on Laboratory Safety, Design, and Ventilation” and distributed a helpful handout.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36AM.

Minutes prepared by Barbara Foster and Larry Funke