

Partnerships Subcommittee of the ACS Committee on Chemical Safety
Meeting Minutes
New Orleans, March 22, 2003

In Attendance: Ken Fivizzani, Doug Walters, Jean Delfiner, Cherlyn Bradley, Jack Breazeale, Larry Funke, Wayne Wolsey (Acting Chair / Secretary – for the peripatetic Al Hazari)

1. SMALL BUSINESS SAFETY MANUAL

Ken Fivizzani reported that the revision of the Small Business Safety Manual is moving ahead slowly. A few sections are completed and references have been updated. The entire manuscript is now in electronic format. Committee members will soon be asked to review particular sections. The publication date will be 2004. Larry Funke stated that the funding (about \$20 K) is in the budget.

2. SAFETY IN THE ACADEMIC CHEMISTRY LABORATORY (SACL)

The seventh edition of SACL is now out. Larry reported that a complimentary copy is being sent to all college chemistry departments and to the new Project SEED students and mentors. He also mentioned that the booklet, Managing Mercury Spills, written by Russell Phifer, may be produced in an electronic format.

3. PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER ACS UNITS

CCS has established partnerships or liaisons with other units of the ACS that have common interests in Chemical Safety. In the recent past, the Subcommittee on Partnerships proposed extensions to additional Committees, Subcommittees, and Divisions (see minutes from the Boston meeting), particularly through the exchange of minutes. So far, we have not seen any minutes or agenda from these other units.

It was reported that Mike Nevill, a member of the Committee on Corporation Associates and a health & safety professional, wishes to become active with CCS.

Al Hazari sent a suggestion that CCS explore the BioSafety area with the appropriate ACS Division—the Division of Biochemical Technology was designated. Wayne Wolsey mentioned nuclear / radiochemical safety as a similar area, with the Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology being cited as the relevant unit.

It was suggested that we try to get persons from the relevant Divisions and Committees to participate in CCS discussions.

4. INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

At the Boston meeting, we discussed making overtures to groups involved with industrial safety. Assignments were made to subcommittee members to make such contacts.

Cherlyn Bradley reported that she had made contact with Wayne Collins (wayne.collins@bpsolvaypc.com), who writes occasional short vignettes on chemical safety for the Analytical Lab Managers Association (ALMA).

Wayne Wolsey said that he had sent an e-mail message to the Council on Chemical Research (CCR) via their website, but did not receive a response.

Doug Walters reminded us that he has served for several years as the liaison between CCS and the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA).

5. PROJECT SEED

It was reported by Cherlyn Bradley that there would be 291 SEED-I students this summer along with 115 SEED-II students. Mentioned above was the impending distribution of SACL to the students and mentors.

6. NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

Jack Breazeale, CCS liaison with the National Chemistry Week Task Force, reported that the group is about to print an updated set of safety guidelines as Community Activities Safety Guidelines. He asked if any subcommittee members had submitted comments on the draft. None recalled receiving such a message. Larry was to be asked to forward this information after the New Orleans meeting. Committee members were asked to review the guidelines promptly and send their responses both to Larry and to Jack (brazew@ccofo.edu) by April 30.

7. UNION CONTACTS

Jean Delfiner told us that she had greater success on safety with the teachers' union in New York State than with the Science Supervisors in the individual districts.

Doug Walters mentioned that a member of the United Auto Workers union is active in AIHA and is very knowledgeable about health and safety issues.

8. CENTRALITY OF SAFETY IN ACS AFFAIRS

Jean repeated past committee discussions on the centrality of safety in all endeavors of Chemistry in general and the ACS in particular. She suggested that we try to get candidates for national President-Elect to comment on safety. One tack that we discussed is trying to get a question on safety into the set of questions which are placed before the candidates as they prepare their platform statements. Further discussion centered on how to write such a question. Consensus favored using the first sentence in the CCS Mission Statement --The Committee on Chemical Safety has as its prime responsibility the encouragement of safe practices in chemical activities.