

# 21<sup>st</sup> Bi-Annual EHS Director's Roundtable

November 11 & 12, 2008

Hilton Garden Inn

Louisville, Kentucky

## AGENDA TOPICS:

- 1) **Administrative Issues**—10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and gift; recognize new attendees; PCI as Roundtable sponsor; social hour in foyer outside Kentucky Derby Suite and patio; dinner in Twin Spires Suite followed by hospitality room (room # 626); brief conference call tomorrow at 9am with Bob Emery—reminder for data point submission; campus profile updates; Rounders list serve and web site supported by UAB—thank you; recognition and thank you to Brenda Osthus for excellent minutes all these years; dates, 1 ½ day format and location for spring '09 meeting need to avoid conflict with HHMI? ; attendees of Emergency Management Roundtable will join us tomorrow around 10:30am for joint discussion on emergency mgmt topics of interest to Rounders
- 2) **Top Issue/Concern on Campus**— Very quickly list your top 1-3 issues on campus. If we all have the same thing i.e. budget cuts, etc. please say “ditto” and move on. We will cover common top issues during the roundtable as outlined on the agenda topics. Also, please briefly describe your handout(s). Everyone less than 3 minutes please!
- 3) **Recent Inspections, Fines, and Regulatory Development Updates**— EPA, OSHA, FAA, DOT, NRC, TSCA or other agencies inspection experiences.
  - a. CFATS update – Maureen Kotlas
  - b. University of Florida – update on their EPA Region 4 inspection and Region 4 self/peer review audit initiative –poll on participation
  - c. U of Kansas RCRA inspection—final settlement update on SEP
  - d. NRC increased controls, fingerprinting and background checks for irradiators
  - e. NRC proposal to phase out CsCl irradiators
  - f. Higher Education Opportunity Act—emergency and fire safety reporting requirements
  - g. EPA proposed rule on RCRA in labs—status update from Robin Izzo
  - h. EPA advanced notice of rulemaking on continuing uses of PCBs in caulk—listed as goal in their 2009-2014 strategic plan change document with public comment closing 11/30/08
  - i. DHS advanced notice of rulemaking for ammonium nitrate—comment closes 12/29/08
  - j. Any experiences with TSCA PMN requirements and small research quantity exemption? Anyone getting TSCA training besides Harvard and maybe MIT?
  - k. Any other inspections, fines, or regulatory updates?

#### **4) New Incidents, Accidents, Compliance Investigations and/or Identification of Exposures**

- a. University of Illinois Chicago \$14M fire damage at School of Pharmacy—any further update?
- b. U of Kansas staff arrest for controlled substance manufacture in lab—any further update?
- c. Any update on University of California Davis student arrest on felony charges for possession of chemicals and explosives on campus?
- d. Any other incidents, accidents, investigations or exposures to discuss?

#### **5) EHS Administration**

- a. Annual Reports
  - i. Still doing them or anyone discontinued EHS annual report?
  - ii. Any successful efforts to streamline the process?
  - iii. Sending as pdf vs. other formats and/or distribution methods?
- b. EHS budget issues
  - i. Impact of budget cuts – frozen positions, travel restrictions, new chargebacks or alternative funding mechanisms, any outsourcing ?
  - ii. Anyone making an effective argument to keep EHS from across the board budget cuts?
  - iii. Anyone developing a list of EHS services/programs to minimize or eliminate if further budget cuts are mandated?
- c. Staff morale and motivation during tough times????
- d. Technology topics and trends – aka Randy's corner
  - i. Collaboration using SharePoint and capabilities of SharePoint
  - ii. Moving to a paperless office
  - iii. Integrating data campus wide ( updating central records, web pages, etc with OH&S training data and occupational health info)
  - iv. Use of [www.tripit.com](http://www.tripit.com) and student wireless polling – Courtney Kerr
  - v. Anyone using Smartboards?
  - vi. Any other technology topics?
- e. Campus EH&S Strategic Trends project by C2E2 – update from Peter Schneider
  - i. Anyone else doing strategic planning right now?
- f. Any reorganization of EHS recent or planned? – BU restructuring to support research safety
- g. Any other EHS administration topics?

#### **6) Conference call with Bob Emery @ 9am EST 11/12**

- a. A standardized, reproducible safety climate survey tool to accompany the CSHEMA benchmarking effort
- b. UTHHSC experience with taking over their occupational health/medicine programs

**7) Occupational health/medical surveillance programs – further group discussion**

- a. Reporting lines and program direction
- b. EHS role and relationship
- c. Staffing -- occupational health MD and/or nurse practitioner for oversight ?
- d. Scope and whether it is broader than just AAALAC and OSHA requirements and includes health and wellness
- e. Funding mechanisms?
- f. Any programs being contracted ?
- g. Any other topics?

**8) Biosafety, Biosecurity and Select Agent Issues**

- a. Update on Regional and National Biocontainment Labs
- b. NIH/OBA inspections – who has been inspected? Did you request inspection? Results—has it increased resources?
- c. CDC/SA inspections—are they stricter than they were previously?
- d. BSL3 work – how many use buddy system and limit time allowed in containment—11/10 post to biosafety listserv by Texas Biodefense Alliance
- e. NIH proposed rules for reviewing dual use research (not out yet)
  - i. NSABB meeting 7/15 – recap Maureen Kotlas?
  - ii. Southeast Regional Center for Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infections at <http://www.sercebtraining.duhs.duke.edu> (thank you Duke!)
- f. Anyone change level of information in IBC minutes as result of Sunshine project?
- f. ABSA updates? Talk of ABSA offering accreditation program
- g. Export controls and biosafety – program established? Any citations?
- h. EHS role in animal care facilities
  - i. Role of EHS for animal care staff
  - ii. Who does safety reviews (EHS, Vets, PIs?)
- i. MRSA any incidents on campus? Any initiatives on campus?
- j. Any other issues or topics to discuss?

**9) EHS Support of the Research Function**

- a. Open Laboratory EHS Issues
  - i. Written policies/procedures that are working?
  - ii. Separating RAM spaces?
  - iii. Eating/Drinking issues?
  - iv. Chemical use/storage?
- b. EHS coverage/oversight of start-up companies
  - i. Lease agreements – any good templates? Vetting process? Any lessons learned?
- c. Any new policies on lab security?
- d. Large scale moves with new research buildings coming on line – new PIs setting up labs – any good commissioning programs?
- e. Nanotechnology – anyone developed safety guidelines?

- f. Any new developments on research compliance initiatives?

**10) Sustainability**

- a. Who has written sustainability policies?
- b. Who has written sustainability plans?
- c. Who has a full-time sustainability coordinator?
- d. Where does sustainability program report?
- e. What is interface with EHS?
- f. Who has signed the Presidents Climate Challenge? Why or why not?
- g. Update on AASHE STARS rating system. Who's participating? Any experiences to share?
- h. Environmental management systems development and documentation

**11) Miscellaneous topics and questions**

- a. Construction growth on campus?
- b. Lab exhaust and energy conservation—Ken Kretchman
- c. How many have compliance hotlines now? Referrals to EHS?
- d. Anyone concerned about selling old lasers or other hazardous equipment through surplus property? How are potential liability issues addressed?

**12) Emergency preparedness issues**

- a. NACUBO Campus Safety and Security Project update – Dennis Sullivan
- b. Dept. of Education guidance on NIMS compliance for Higher Education
- c. Any new or interesting exercises/drills?
- d. Pandemic Influenza – still on radar screen?
- e. Recent incidents and media relations
- f. Terminology discussion – essential and non-essential staff, lockdown vs. securing campus
- g. CSHEMA regional seminar on emergency planning 12/15-16
- h. Other upcoming meetings i.e. IAEM, Academic Impressions (very expensive!), etc.

**13) Mass Notification Systems**

- a. Current thought about getting students, faculty and staff to sign up?
- b. Written protocols for activation? Who pushes “button” when and for what?
- c. Opt-in vs. Opt-out?
- d. Any actual uses and lessons learned?

**14) Update on CSHEMA news**

- a. Association management update and CSHEMA next steps – Jack Voorhees and Madelyn Miller