

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**DRAFT Minutes of Meeting #232, April 12, 2006**

**MEMBERS:**

Cathy MacLean (P)	University Appointee	Carolyn Green (P)	DUAG
Anne Weeden (P)	University Appointee	Ezra Edlestein (A)	DSU
Darrell Boutilier (R)	University Appointee	Zita Hildebrandt (P)	NSGEU
Marlene Daye-Smith(A)	University Appointee	Forest Fyfe (R)	DFA
Mateo Yorke (P)	University Appointee	Joe Dorey (P)	IUOE
Patrick McGrath (A)	University Appointee	Michael Armstrong(R)	IUOE
Paul Amyotte (P)	University Appointee	Dean Frizzell (A)	IUOE
Ruth Murray (P)	University Appointee	Troy Winters (A)	CUPE

(P)resent - (R)egrets - (A)bsent

William J. Louch - Director    Jan Taylor McIntyre - Recording Secretary    Stephen Ellis - H&S Officer

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Weeden called the meeting to order.

**2. DRAFT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Draft minutes of the March meeting were approved as distributed. Moved by P. Amyotte, seconded by Z. Hildebrandt. Carried.

**3. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**3.1 Flu Update**

The Committee received a copy of a letter from B. Neuman, Vice-President, Student Services to the Honourable Chris d'Entremont, asking that the Department of Health reconsider offering publically funded flu vaccine to students living in residence.

**3.2 2005/06 Annual Safety Award**

S. Ellis reported tentative plans to hold a Fire Warden Day on May 17. The formal presentation of the 2005 – 2006 Environmental Health and Safety Committee Award will be included in the schedule.

Members liked the idea of the award being blended with some education related to the nature of the award being presented. The Committee agreed with the May 17<sup>th</sup> date and asked the staff to continue with the details in planning the event.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**4.1 Pandemic Planning**

A. Weeden reported she and W. Louch have attended a Pandemic Information session organized by the Faculty of Medicine. B. Neuman, Student Services also attended and will probably be heading up the Dalhousie Planning process. A reporter from the Dalhousie Gazette spoke with W. Louch to get information on what Dal was doing in the planning preparation. J. Langley's presentation to the Committee last year covered much of the same ground as was covered by the Faculty of Medicine session.

Much of the concerns that are being raised are due to the focus on the Avian flu in the media. W. Louch provided the Committee with an overview and the differences between the Avian flu and the virus responsible for a Pandemic. If a serious pandemic were to arise during the academic year, it is possible that the University would have to contend with a significant interruption in the teaching schedule.

W. Louch will continue to keep the Committee updated as information on the Plan's development progresses.

#### **4.2 Fire Safety Plan**

W. Louch reported as the Fire Regulations require that a fire safety plan be prepared for all major buildings. S. Ellis has begun to work on plans starting with the Tupper/CRC buildings. S. Ellis circulated the recently completed Tupper Plan which was prepared in co-operation with Facilities Management, Tupper Building Services and the Tupper Fire warden.

#### **4.3 Lab and Clinic Safety for Support Staff**

Members received the draft of a handbook that was distributed to staff in Facilities Management who participated in a series of information sessions conducted by W. Louch and P. Jones. The Committee was asked to review the draft and forward any comments or corrections before the document is finalized at the end of April.

Both Committee members, J. Dory and C. Green attended the sessions. J. Dorey commented that it was quite interesting and indicated that he was surprised to learn how much radiation exposure is required before harm occurs.

### **5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Committee reviewed the Director's report included with the meeting materials. W. Louch noted that CPR courses have been conducted by S. Ellis and requests for 4-5 more sessions from other units have been received.

### **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 6.1 Sampling correspondence was provided for the Committee's information.
- 6.2 The Committee received correspondence between A. Weeden and B. Mason regarding the revised Environmental Health and Safety Policy.
- 6.3 The Committee received correspondence regarding the use of "We Share the Air" materials from the School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) in British Columbia.
- 6.4 'Leaders of the Pack' news article printed in the Dal News was provided for the Committee's information.
- 6.5 Smoke-Free Workplace Articles were provided by W. Louch for the Committee's review.
- 6.6 A scheduled power outage took place in major buildings on the Carleton and Studley campuses connecting power lines. The power line replacement followed a system failure which took place some months ago. Although a few small issues arose, the work was completed without any major problems. The Safety Office took advantage of the shut-down to survey emergency lighting in several buildings.

6.7 Deputy Chair Vacancy - Z. Hildebrandt offered to accept the position of Deputy Chair. Under the newly revised terms of reference, the Deputy Chair acts in the absence of the Chair and moves to become the Chair in the following year.

Members unanimously accepted Ms. Hildebrandt's offer.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.

Next meeting is scheduled:

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

9:00 - 10:30 am

Room 304

Weldon Law Building