May 9-11, 1999
REPORT SUBMITTED TO BOARD OF DELEGATES & BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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I. Injury and Illness Experience

My last report cited a concern that colleges and universities do not have an adequate reporting system that accurately and consistently captures student injury and illness experience. This concern was brought forward at New Orleans and it was decided by members of the Council and our Division that we should explore additional methodologies to improve the reporting systems for campus incidents and institute better approaches for analyzing and disseminating information on campus injury and illness experience. The Council had in the past collaborated with the American College Health Association [ACHA] to assess student injury and illness experience and a report of findings was issued but this important data collection and analysis effort has not continued. The Chair of our division appointed a working group, headed by Jimmy Matthews from Ohio University, to lead this effort and to work with appropriate Council staff.

II. Safety, Health and Environmental Issues

Fatal Fires in Campus Housing, Including Fraternity and Sorority Housing

The incidents of fatal fires in college and university housing are a major concern. January 19, 2000, a fire occurred at Seton Hall University dormitory in which three students died and fifty-four students were injured. On Mother's day 1996 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, a fraternity fire killed five students and injured three. In 1997, only twenty-eight (28) percent of campus building fires occurred in sprinkler protected buildings. New buildings are normally required to have advanced safety systems such as sprinklers but such requirements are normally not retroactive for existing structures. NFPA has no record of a fire killing more that 2 people in a completely fire sprinklered building. A bill has been filed in the U.S. Senate that would provide $100 million for each of the fiscal years 2001 through 2005 that to assist in providing fire sprinkler systems in student housing.

EPA continues to target colleges and universities

The enforcement action taken by EPA against colleges and universities remains a major concern. The targeting of higher education started in the New England but has now spread to other regions. As referred to in my previous report, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's [EPA] has stepped up compliance efforts aimed at colleges and universities. March 11, 1999, EPA Regional Administrator John DeVillars sent a foreboding letter to all 258 New England College and university presidents. The presidents were advised that EPA had taken enforcement action against the University of New Hampshire [UNH] and fined that institution $308,000 for 15 alleged violations of
EPA's waste management laws. Since that report, Harvard University has undergone a rigorous EPA inspection. May 25, 1999, EPA's Region III issued a release alerting colleges and universities throughout the Mid-Atlantic States about their responsibility to comply with environmental laws and regulations. Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire was inspected during the first part of this year for compliance with the hazardous waste regulations.

III. Division and Section Activities

Division Activity at Congress

The Division had a full program at Congress including sponsoring sessions and holding executive committee meetings. A full description of the Division activities is available in the minutes produced by our Recording Secretary. One action taken was to support the request from the Lab Safety Section that the Section be dissolved and that the Lab Safety Committee of the Division be re-established.

The 47th international Conference on Campus Safety planned for Stanford in 2000

Plans are well underway for a Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association [CSHEMA] conference to be held at Stanford University July 16-20, 2000. The program "CSHEMA 2000: Future Vision" has been developed to provide our members with cutting-edge developmental opportunities as well as to share a glimpse of what the future portends for the EH&S profession at colleges and universities. Larry Gibbs of Stanford is the Host Committee Chair for this exciting conference. Over twenty-five (25) different Professional development Seminars will be offered.

Following Stanford the 2001 Conference will be held at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Campus Safety Updates NACUBO Chapter on EH&S

In 1992 the National Association of College and University Business Officers [NACUBO] published the 5th edition of College and University Business Administration which contained a chapter on Environmental Health and Safety. The principal authors for that chapter were from the EH&S offices at Iowa State University and the University of Massachusetts. The Campus Safety Division was approached by NACUBO to participate in the 6th edition to be published in 2000. Don Robinson from the University of Massachusetts and Matt Finucane from the University of Pennsylvania agreed to assist in this project and others from Campus Safety assisted in writing and reviewing the updated EH&S chapter.

Benchmark Program

Benchmarking and best practices continues to be a priority for our members and for several years various benchmarking initiatives have been implemented. The professional benchmarking firm of LTC Collaborative of Friday Harbor, Washington, continues to provide the benchmarking service to the Division members through FY2000. There is some concern about a decline in participation that will result in less income to support this and other CSHEMA efforts. The new web site will be further
refined and it was agreed that the domain belongs to our Division and not LTC.

**Spring meeting to be held at NSC headquarters April 12-15, 2000**

For the second consecutive year, the CSD Executive Committee decided to hold a spring meeting at Council headquarters. Last year the three-day meetings proved to be so successful that the Chair, Roger Pugh, decided that we should consider making this an annual event. Once again we will conduct Executive Committee meetings and meet with Jerry Scannell and Alan McMillan to review divisional issues and to discuss the strategic partnership between the Council and CSD. This work should avoid having lengthy Executive Committee meetings at Stanford.

**Division Featured in March Issue of NSC Safety and Health magazine**

Judith Merritt and our division manager were featured in March 2000 Safety and Health magazine [p.75]. She spoke about the structure of our division and the upcoming Stanford conference.

**CSD Certification Process**

The CSD prompted by efforts of the Utilities Division is exploring the possibility of a certification program for the membership. The members of this task force are Don Robinson, Wayne Wood, Richard Thatcher, James Balsamo, and Byron Tepper. The group is more inclined to recommend pursuing an EH&S Program Certification process whereby the program operations are reviewed and an evaluation system established to recognize programs that meet certain standards.

**Lab Safety Section**

- Web site is: http://www.cshema.labsafety.umaryland.edu

The Lab Safety Section requested that the section status be dissolved and the former lab safety committee within the division be reactivated. Don Clark made this motion at the divisional executive committee at Congress on behalf of the lab safety group. As VP and member of the Board of Directors, I will process this request through the Standards and Procedures Committee of the Council's Board of Delegates.

**CSHEMA Division Listserver continues to be a success**

Dr. Fay Thompson, Director of EH&S, at the University of Minnesota has provided a discussion listserver resource for CSD members. Dr. Thompson authorizes users of this service and this has resulted in a valuable resource to our members.

**ANSI Z 590**

An article on the ANSI Z590 draft standard will be published in an upcoming issue of the NSC Safety and Health Journal. I was interviewed for this article and tried to convey the concern that the standard seemed to aim at title protection and this and other reservations were previously expressed by Dr. Glendon Miller, chair of the professional relations committee.

**IV. Intervention Strategies for NSC**
**EPA and Environmental Venue**

EPA will be prominently represented at the upcoming Stanford University Campus division conference in July. It is felt that the more familiar EPA is with campus operations and challenges, the more realistic will be their expectations. Bud Ward on behalf of the Environmental Health Center has made some initial contacts with EPA to explore various ways of partnering on environmental compliance issues. At Congress Tom Balf from ML Strategies in Boston joined our Environmental Venue committee meeting to discuss possible ways of the Council becoming involved in EPA's XL [excellence in leadership] programs. A strategic planning session of the Environmental Venue Committee is planned for April 12, 2000 at Council headquarters.

**Enhance Collaboration between Divisions**

It continues to be clear to me that all twelve divisions have issues in common yet we do very little partnering in addressing these topics. I would suggest that at both the mid-year meeting and at Congress time be provided for the divisional VPs and Chairs to meet and discuss issues of common interest.