MINUTES

**University Safety and Health Committee**

October 6, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

Clocktower Room, Student Center

Attendees: Brenda Albert, Jean Alicandro, Clifford Anderson, Richard Bachoo, Sharon Braverman, Laurie Colburn, Laurie Dunn, Dominic Forcella, Neil Glagovich, Rene Karas-Johnson, Sally Lesik, Jason Powell, Ray Primini (DAS), Joseph Starczyk, Coleen Sturken

Guest: Dr. Chistopher Diamond

Absent: Karen Perezi

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Karas-Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. N. Glagovich moved, seconded by C. Anderson, to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2009, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

H1N1 Update with Dr. Diamond from University Health Services

Dr. Christopher Diamond, University Physician, reported that CCSU is well prepared for an outbreak of the H1N1 flu. The University’s priorities are: (1) to slow the spread of the flu; (2) have a plan in place if an outbreak becomes widespread on campus.

Many steps have already been taken related to a possible H1N1 outbreak:

* Risk reduction through use of hand sanitizers and sanitizing surfaces
* Planning for a voluntary isolation area for sick students who cannot go home
* Seasonal flu & H1N1 flu vaccination clinics will be offered on campus
* Up-to-date H1N1 information on website ([www.ccsu.edu/flu](http://www.ccsu.edu/flu))

Dr. Diamond explained H1N1 flu symptoms and stated the current guideline is to stay home if you have flu-like symptoms and do not return until you are fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medications.

Dr. Diamond said the current emphasis is on educating students to protect themselves against the H1N1 virus. Additionally, individual faculty and staff members need to be responsible for wiping down work surfaces in their own areas.

J. Alicandro provided an update on what Facilities is doing to help protect students in the Residence Halls against the H1N1 virus.

Review of Smoking Awareness Campaign (9/1/09 – 9/4/09)

N. Glagovich reported that he worked with 16 student volunteers on the Smoking Awareness Campaign that took place September 1st through the 4th. L. Dunn created an announcement on the campaign that was sent to all faculty and staff and posted to the Students Announcements section of CentralPipeline. N. Glagovich reported that over the course of the week, main entrances to campus buildings had an arc marked off in chalk extending 25-feet from the building entrance to indicate the smoke-free area pursuant to CCSU's Smoking Policy. In addition, the student volunteers wrote anti-smoking messages in chalk within the marked off areas.

N. Glagovich stated there was one comment that appeared outside an entrance to the Student Center that drew some criticism. However, in general, the campaign was very successful in that it informed the campus community of the University’s Smoking Policy and also generated a great deal of discussion and awareness on the issue of smoking on campus.

N. Glagovich suggested the campaign be an ongoing one and that next time we have more oversight to ensure the chalked messages are acceptable. It was also suggested that next time the Residence Hall buildings be included. N. Glagovich and J. Alicandro will discuss ideas for a future campaign that may include the Inter Residence Hall Council (IRC).

Discussion Regarding Campus Smoking Ban

The Smoking Awareness Campaign generated discussion both for and against a smoke-free campus. J. Powell commented that the administration is not moving towards a smoke-free campus at this point and it would be difficult to enforce. D. Forcella commented that from time to time the issue of a smoking ban in state buildings does come up at the legislature, but nothing has been approved.

Review of Email Received

Chairperson Karas-Johnson reviewed the emails that had been received since the last Committee meeting in May. Most emails were related to the recent Smoking Awareness Campaign.

Terms of Committee Members

Secretary Dunn reported that she had been attending to membership related issues. There were two members who had been elected by the Faculty Senate and whose terms expired in May 2009 (R. Karas and N. Glagovich). Candace Barrington, informed L. Dunn that the Faculty Senate would no longer be electing members to the Safety and Health Committee as the Faculty Senate’s Safety and Environmental Health Committee was dissolved in May 2006 and replaced with the University Safety and Health Committee in accordance with C.G.S. 31-40v.

L. Dunn spoke with CCSU-AAUP President Jason Jones and CCSU-SUOAF President Fred Bonvicini and they agreed they will now appoint representatives to the Committee. AAUP has reappointed N. Glagovich and SUOAF has reappointed R. Karas-Johnson. J. Alicandro will serve as a SUOAF representative and S. Braverman has been appointed as the third SUOAF representative.

L. Dunn noted that the Committee’s by-laws set a two-year term length and a three-term cap for Officers. However, there are no specified term lengths or caps for non-officer members. L. Colburn asked that the following data be obtained before the Committee considers any changes to the bylaws related to membership:

* What is the makeup of the committee membership at our sister universities?
* What proportion of employees does each bargaining represent at CCSU?

Secretary Dunn will gather the requested data for the next meeting.

**As May Arise**

D. Forcella announced that on 10/9/09 the new Environmental Health and Safety Officer, Terrence Ferrarotti, will begin serving at CCSU.

N. Glagovich reported that he would like to see an initiative to reduce the use of mercury-based instruments in the sciences. The Committee was supportive of this initiative and R. Bachoo suggested funding be pursued through the departmental budget.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by N. Glagovich and seconded by J. Alicandro. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie G. Dunn

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Secretary