Date: February 26, 2014

To: New York Campus Environmental Resource (NYCER) Members

From: Howard Apsan

Re: NYCER Meeting Minutes
Pace University, December 10, 2013

Opening
The December NYCER meeting was held at Pace University on December 10, 2013 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Brian Anderson welcomed NYCER to the Pace University downtown campus. Patrick Guerdat of CUNY Environmental, Health, Safety and Risk Management recorded the minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclamation. NYCER members are encouraged to visit http://www.cuny.edu/nycer for information and updates.

Updates

Flu Season
According to the November 23, 2013, Influenza report by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH), activity in NYC is still minimal. Please visit the DOHMH (http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/home/home.shtml) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) websites (http://www.cdc.gov/) for updated data and flu prevention guidance.

Meningitis
Eight cases of meningitis B were confirmed at Princeton University. The Bexsero vaccine, which is the only broad coverage vaccine to help protect against this strain, is currently not licensed by the United States. Princeton received a conditional approval from the FDA to import the vaccine to curtail the spread of the disease. Four cases at the University of California, Santa Barbara and one case at Monmouth University were also identified during the same time period.

Winter Preparedness
New York has been having some of the most pronounced winter weather in recent memory, and its colleges and universities have been impacted significantly. Winter weather preparations and winter health and safety tips can be found on the OEM’s website http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/hazards/winter.shtml.

Fire Code Update
Following the City Council hearing on November 21, the FDNY incorporated updates to the Fire Code, and plans to have it finalized by the end of 2013. The revisions specifically focus on innovative approaches to emergency planning and preparedness.
Audits
The EPA conducted unscheduled inspections of York College in October and New York University Medical Center in December.

Typhoon Haiyan
Universities throughout the city established funds for charitable donations to assist the Philippines in its recovery efforts from Typhoon Haiyan. Approximately 6,000 people were killed and millions were displaced.

Superbowl XLVIII
Many of the events associated with the Super Bowl will take place in New York City. Between Wednesday, January 29 and Saturday, February 1, increased security is expected throughout the region. Additionally, there will be street closures and delivery restrictions around Broadway, which will be known as “Super Bowl Boulevard” for the entire week. For more information, please visit the NYC Office of Emergency Management’s (OEM) Partners in Preparedness website http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/businesses/partnersinprep.shtml.

Presentation
Don Weiss, Director of Surveillance, Bureau of Communicable Disease, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, gave a presentation on “Meningococcal Disease in College Students.” We thank Don for his informative and interesting presentation.

Upcoming Meetings
The City University of New York will host the upcoming NYCER meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at 205 East 42nd Street, Room 7-70.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.