



# CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Environmental Health and Safety  
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## **SUPERVISORS, PLEASE POST**

Following are the topics discussed at the Health and Safety Committee meeting, held on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at 2:00 PM. Present were:

- Steve Langlois - Environmental Health & Safety
- Mary Debraie – Wellness Manager
- Dave Silva – Mechanical Trades
- Scott McEver – Student Life
- Janet Messina – Custodial Services
- Joumana Hajj - Dining Services
  
- **Old Business:**
  - Review/Approval of Minutes of last meeting.
  
  - Fall Protection – Evans Hall: This issue is ongoing. Steve is working with Jim Norton to figure out the best method of protection for employees who have to climb the ladder in Evans Hall (Either a ladder cage, or access through the Music Library archives or projection booth.). This will most likely be included as a summer project, when new funding is available.
  
  - Summer Vehicle Safety: Steve brought up the seasonal issue of grounds and custodial personnel riding in the back of pick-up trucks and box trucks. This is illegal under State and Federal law. All occupants must have a working seatbelt. Scott McEver mentioned that Student Life owns a 7 passenger van that sits unused during the summer, and he would be willing to let Physical Plant use it to transport employees about campus. Steve will let Ed Pistel know about this option.
  
  - Dining Services Eye Protection: Joumana commented on an item in the September minutes, regarding the use of safety glasses by Dining Services employees. She stated that all employees are very aware of the policy. Safety eyewear is stored with the cleaning supplies, and is required to be worn whenever using those products. This issue will be monitored. As stated in the minutes, employees who fail to adhere to this policy, could face disciplinary action.

- **New Business:**

- **Review of Accidents and Incidents:** There were no lost time injuries. There were a total of 4 slips on ice, caused by inadequately plowed/sanded/salted parking lots and sidewalks. This precipitated a discussion on how snow/ice removal can be improved. The problem is, that after hours, students often park in “Staff/Faculty” parking areas. This obviously prevents effective plowing during and after snowfalls. If not completely removed and sanded/salted, these areas become extremely hazardous for pedestrians. It was recommended that the college establish a “Parking Ban” policy for campus parking lots, whenever snow is anticipated. When in effect, the parking ban would be communicated to all members of the campus community. Individuals, who fail to move their vehicle in a timely manner, would be towed at the owner’s expense. By having parking lots free of vehicles, Grounds personnel will be able to effectively treat these areas. Steve will discuss this issue further with the Director of Campus Safety, VP for Administration and the Dean of Student Life.
- **Traffic Safety:** A discussion was held regarding a traffic mirror being installed at the corner adjacent to the Print Shop. Several employees have mentioned that they consider this a dangerous curve. Evidently there had been a mirror there in the past, but had been vandalized then removed. Steve will discuss this with Physical Plant and Campus Safety, and arrange to have a new one installed.
- **Confined Space Program Update:** Steve reported that a database has been created and he has finished the training module. Currently, he is in the process of labeling those spaces. He asked for input from the committee as to the best (cost effective) method of labeling manholes. OSHA mandates such labeling, but manholes are problematic due to exposure to traffic and weather. One suggestion was that a metal plate be welded to the manhole cover. Another was to simply cut a circular disc out of sheet metal, affix a commercial label, and place in the manhole opening under the manhole cover. Other design options will be discussed with Physical Plant Trades people.
- **Training Update:** Steve has completed Hazard Communication annual refresher training for Custodial personnel, and has scheduled Buildings and Grounds. Mechanical trades will be trained in late April. Annual Asbestos Awareness for Custodial, Building and Mechanical Trades will be conducted in early May. All future training will be held on Friday mornings, in Blaustein Humanities Center, room 210. Hazard Communication for Dining Services will be held in August. Other required training will be scheduled as the year progresses. All training will be posted on the Training Calendar on the EH&S web site
- Steve also mentioned he would like to conduct the required HAZCOM training for new employees online. Joumana reminded him that many Dining Services employees cannot read or write (and in some cases, speak) English, and would have trouble with any written training. Steve stated that he will rethink this plan.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.