Campus Safety Committee Minutes

Meeting Date 11/8/10

Attending:

Bret Murphy, Ken Pope, Steve Garcia, Bob Byram, Mary Ray, Heather Steel, Heidi Johnston and Kara Coates (acting as chair in Pat Anderson’s absence).

Absent:

Tom Bruns, Adriana Mendez, Pat Anderson

Topics Discussed:

The topic of the meeting was:

Should department labs/teaching areas be inspected by outside partners? This was presented as discussion only, no action being taken.

Steve Garcia and Bret Murphy both provided some information on the subject. In the past Barrick has conducted an inspection of sorts without notifying instructors of their intention to do so before hand. Nor was Pat Anderson aware of it. Barrick feels that because they support several students’ scholarships, they are entitled to inspect our facilities.

Those on the committee don’t have a problem with an inspection per se but they do have several concerns. First of all it was brought up that the word ‘inspection’ implies that the body conducting the inspection has some authority. This lead to other questions such as:

1. What liability does the instructor have if Barrick finds something wrong and what happens if we disregard their findings?
2. Shouldn’t the college pick up the tab for the instructor’s liability insurance?
3. Will this lead to other labs on campus being inspected?
4. How often should the inspection be allowed and shouldn’t Pat Anderson escort them?
5. Is there a conflict because we adhere to OSHA regulations while Barrick is under MSHA?

Upon further discussion of the committee’s concerns it was discovered that in the past Barrick has footed the bill to make corrections when something was found to be in need of improvement. This should continue to be the case. All agreed that there has to be collaboration between the college and whoever is doing the inspecting. Parameters need to be put in place to avoid future conflicts. The parameters should include:

1. Notification and acceptance by instructor before any visit.
2. A checklist should be provided to the instructor prior to visit.
3. It should be up to the instructor when and how often this takes place.
4. Pat Anderson should be involved in the inspection.

It is felt that our students not being trained in MSHA requirements should not be an issue as all Barrick employees attend MSHA training on a regular basis. We are providing quality education to our students and feel confident that they are leaving here with the skills needed to be great employees for any future employer.

It was also brought up that the college should be inspecting their own labs on a regular basis before allowing any outside body to inspect them. Again possibly using a checklist would be helpful as well as standardized MSDS binders for all labs and having an emergency plan in place.

Bret Murphy pointed out that this could be a win- win situation if done in the right way. This concluded the discussion of lab inspections.

Other business: More goggles are needed for visitors taking tours of our campus. What are the CERTS dates?

The committee adjourned with no further action or discussion.