MINUTES FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS
COUNCIL ON PRACTICES AND STANDARDS (CoPS) MEETING

April 17, 2009
By Conference Call
Des Plaines, IL
Prepared: May 3, 2009

George Pearson – Vice President of CoPS
Wayne Jones – Academics
Chris Gates – Management
Debby Shewitz – Consultants for Bob Coffey
Mike Hayslip – Construction
Neil Webster – Construction for Mike Hayslip/2nd part of call
Jack Fearing – International
Mark Shirley – Healthcare
Frank Baker – Fire Protection
Leslie Batterson – RM/I for Mark Oldham
Mike O’Toole – Mining
Fred Fanning – Public Sector
Pam Perrich – IH for Eric Stager
Lamar Hutchinson – Oil & Gas
Judy Freeman – Environmental
Michael Coleman – Manufacturing
Frank D’Ambrosio – Transportation
Tim Fisher, Staff
Rennie Heath, Staff
Jolinda Cappello, Staff
The meeting was called to order by VP George Pearson at 10:05am.

There was one additional agenda item to be added: approval to contact the Board of Certified Professional Ergonomists about an alliance.

The minutes of the February 13, 2009 CoPS conference call meeting had been circulated for approval. A motion was made by Michael Coleman, duly seconded, and approved. Chris Gates abstained.

VP Pearson reported on the ASSE Board of Directors’ meeting that took place February 20 and 21, 2009 in Napa, CA. He noted that the meeting included a strategic planning session at which the Body of Knowledge was one of three major issues discussed. In addition, the BOD approved a "Prevention through Design" standards project for the Standards Development Committee.

Rennie Heath reported on the following items for CoPS at the ASSE Professional Development Conference June 27 – July 1 in San Antonio, TX. She reiterated that the times and days of the practice specialty, branch and common interest group advisory committee meetings had not been changeable for this year. Room numbers were being forwarded to the administrators and chairs. She reported that Booth Duty would be available by early May. She added that although Booth Duty would not be necessary during the concurrent sessions, practice specialty, branch, and cig group members would be welcome at the CoPS Booth at any time. There was discussion among meeting attendees that Booth Duty was a good time for member recruitment. She reminded attendees that CoPS Administrators would be reimbursed for travel and other normal expenses for two nights in order to attend the House of Delegates meeting on Sunday, June 28th at Noon. She noted that 13 of the 16 practice specialties had nominated someone to receive their respective Practice Specialty SPY.

Chris Gates led a discussion of the status of the CoPS Awards and Honors program for the 2009 PDC. VP Pearson noted that he had not received any formal vote on the changes to the matrix that were being suggested. One of the major items is the exact dates to be covered by the matrix. Another item brought up by Mike O’Toole was the definition of professional publications as used in the matrix, especially concerning the Journal of Safety, Health and Environmental Research vis a vis the Academics Practice Specialty newsletter for points on the matrix. Drs. O’Toole and Jones said they would get back to Mr. Gates. Mr. Gates said that more analysis needs to occur. He thanked Pam Perrich for her help with the project. Judy Freeman suggested that discussion and a vote should be continued to the CoPS meeting at the PDC.

Next there was discussion concerning an appropriate award to outstanding Branch members. Michael Coleman noted that said members needed recognition. Judy Freeman moved that a
Branch Contributor Award be established for the outstanding member of each of the branches. It was seconded and unanimously approved.

Finally, Mr. Gates noted that the Awards and Honors Procedures would need to be rewritten which should be accomplished by the time of the PDC meeting.

Jolinda Cappello reported that she had rewritten the Practice Specialty Writing Guidelines and that they could be found on the CoPS Home Page.

Tim Fisher noted that a Utilities Branch was being suggested. Such a branch had been discussed previously; however, an opportunity has presented itself that would make more achievable the number of potential members needed to establish a branch. Frank D’Ambrosio asked if there was an appropriate practice specialty to mentor such a branch. Construction, Environmental, and Management all expressed a willingness to undertake mentoring a Utilities Branch. Public Sector was also thought to be appropriate since many utilities are public or quasi-public entities. A final vote will be taken at the PDC meeting.

Chris Gates reported that the Hospitality Branch of the Management Practice Specialty would like approval to change its name to “Service Branch”. It was so moved by Leslie Batterson, seconded and approved.

Pam Perrich requested approval for the Ergonomics Branch of the Industrial Hygiene Practice Specialty to pursue an alliance with the Board of Certified Professional Ergonomists. VP Pearson requested that a profile such a relationship be presented to him for CoPS approval, but the consensus of the meeting was for the Branch to prepare a motion for the next CoPS meeting.

The final item on the agenda dealt with a request from the Council on Professional Development as to whether the practice specialties, branches and common interest groups would be interested in presenting poster sessions at subsequent PDCs beginning in 2010 in Baltimore.

Discussion resulted in the following: Can we get some additional clarification of what is actually being requested? The Council already requests sessions and not all of them are accepted. Would these not be the source of possible poster sessions? Or, is the request for some other type of assistance with poster sessions? Why recruit for additional sessions when nearly 50% of Council’s session proposals are not selected in the first place? The people not selected to speak would seem to be the best source for poster sessions. A response is expected at the next CoPS meeting.

Unless otherwise requested, the next CoPS meeting will take place Sunday morning, June 28, 2009 at 7AM in the Room Lone Star B at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

Michael O’Toole moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Rennie Heath, Manager, Practice Specialties