

AIHA-NCS Developing World Outreach Initiative
First Meeting: Cal-OSHA Offices, Room 1301, State Office Building,
1515 Clay Street, Oakland, CA
March 28th, 2006
Time: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Volunteers Present: Patty Beach, Garrett Brown, Randy Cook, Diana Harrington, Richard Hirsh, Jeff Hogue, Kelsey Ingmundson, Rachel Jones, Pearl Moy, Lesliam Quiros, Sara Sousa, Colleen Thornton, Natalia Varshavski, and David Zalk.

Pertinent Documents Distributed:

A. Draft Proposal for NCS-AIHA Industrial Hygiene Developing World Outreach Initiative.

B. Meeting Agenda

1. Fourteen volunteers met at the Cal-OSHA offices for the first meeting of the Developing World Outreach (DWO) Initiative. The meeting began promptly at 5 pm. The meeting began with introductions of the volunteers and advisors (Garrett Brown, Richard Hirsh and David Zalk) and general discussion of the initiative, the types of assistance to be considered, the potential recipients, the vehicles for delivery, and the boundaries of this project. Richard emphasized that the group keep their efforts focused on manageable, realistic projects given the limited resources available. He also emphasized that the group would have to identify its own leader and that the final project(s) will be determined by the group.
2. Garrett Brown outlined the types of groups he recommended that the committee interface with: non-governmental organizations (e.g. unions, worker rights organizations), universities, and professional associations (e.g. IOHA, ACGIH-FOHS, AIHA International Affairs committee, WHO coordinating centers, NIOSH Global Collaboration Program). He cautioned against projects which could financially benefit a commercial entity.
3. The group held an open discussion to brainstorm ideas, expectations, and expertise. Some of the comments and ideas from that session included:
 - a. Equipment available at Chevron and UC Berkeley, possibly Ashtead Technology Rentals, though equipment shipments may be difficult due to custom tariffs and calibration and maintenance of old equipment might be prohibitive for the recipients.
 - b. Technical expertise via the web would provide inexpensive and timely assistance to potential recipients.
 - c. Translation of IH documents and/or facilitating compilation and posting of links to those translated documents might be feasible. Survey membership on bilingual capabilities.

- d. Ensure that the group effort provide a measurable impact on worker health and safety.
 - e. Possibility to work through UC Berkeley's international connections, leverage the Fogerty grants.
 - f. Work directly with industries in developing countries for direct impact on worker health.
 - g. Focus on efforts to build capacity of EHS personnel in China or elsewhere, which could include developing and executing Fundamentals of IH training courses. Perhaps work through National AIHA on this possibility.
 - h. Facilitate dialogue and engagement between foreign country travelers and local H&S university programs.
4. Natalia Varshavski was nominated and agreed to serve as the Interim Lead Coordinator for the DWO Initiative at least for the next 3 meetings. Rachel Jones agreed to serve as secretary. **Action:** Natalia to lead next 3 meetings, Rachel
 5. The group split into 2 break-out sub-committee sessions (see Attachment 1 for each sub-committee list with email addresses).
 - a. One group formed to create and implement a survey to inventory NCS member resources: people (e.g. skillsets, subject matter expertise, languages, travel capabilities, willingness), connections (e.g. international links, universities, associations, NGOs, etc.) and materials (e.g. texts, equipment). A free text section should be included in the survey to capture any additional comments. A suggestion was made to use <http://www.surveymonkey.com/> to administer the survey for free.
 - b. The other group formed to create a needs inventory by contacting international organizations to determine who, what, and where assistance is needed. Jeff Hogue agreed to draft a letter to be sent to these organizations and the group assigned 3-4 organizations to contact for each volunteer.
 6. Another group will be needed at a later date to determine transmission mode options – that is, to determine how resources should be deployed: shipments, travel to countries, monetary donations
 7. The group reconvened and agreed to attempt to meet monthly, with the next meeting scheduled for early May (tentative dates are either May 4th or May 9th). Rich Hirsh agreed to survey all volunteers, including the 6 not in attendance, to determine the optimal date.
 8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Attachment 1

Sub-committee A – Resource Inventory via AIHA-NCS Member Survey

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Natalia Varshavski: NVAR@chevron.com,

Sub-committee B - Needs inventory

Garrett Brown: gdbrown@igc.org
Randy Cook: arcenterprises@sbcglobal.net,
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Other potential volunteers include:

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