Safety & Security Talking Points for EH&S

Month of November

Campus Emergency Preparedness:

1. ***Emergency Drills/Training –*** The EH&S department met with Superintendent/President Dr. Blake last Thursday 09/29/16 to discuss emergency drills. Dr. Blake directed that the following action items take place:

   - Completed ***Campus Wide Great American Shakeout*** on October 20th, 2016
   - ***Library Building Evacuation*** – scheduled for November 17th
   - ***Lockdown Drill*** (Fall 2016) – ***Campus Wide***
   - ***Policy Group/EOC Table Top Exercise*** – the Emergency Response Working Group met and Laura Gropen was assigned the task to meet with Dr. Blake in order to set a date for this exercise
   - ***Emergency Drill/Training Schedule – 2016/2017***
   - ***AED Training*** during Plenary - (Chief DiMaggio and I currently provide emergency response general awareness training during this period)
   - ***Annual Campus Wide Emergency*** Response ***Drills – Two during 2017 Spring Semester*** (one during the day & one during the night) and ***two during 2017 Fall Semester*** (one during the day & one during the night)
   - ***IS-100 & 700 FEMA Training*** – Interactive web based course that will serve as a conduit for ***all Palomar employees*** to receive an Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS) for Higher Education and the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Safety:

1. SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 – 2ND FLOOR LIBRARY INDOOR AIR QUALITY (IAQ) STUDY

   Task summary:

   - Site access to the library will be arranged by the EH&S department including the roof areas and/or mechanical rooms where air handling units are located
   - The library areas studied will represent a normal condition during the sampling activity
   - Some samplers are noisy but they are of short duration. A total of 15 minutes of noisy sampling time is estimated in total – other sampling is quiet
   - Samples will be analyzed on a 48-hour RUSH turn-around time
   - Five particulate air samples will be placed in several 2nd floor locations and 2 locations outdoors - bio-aerosols will be assessed in accordance with protocol airborne mold sampling. Since there are no regulated exposure threshold levels for airborne molds, interpretation of air sampling results will be based on comparison of indoor and outdoor spore contents. Particle concentrations including pollen, glass fibers, epithelial cells, insect and dust mite parts will also be addressed and compared to recommendations provided in current, peer-reviewed studies
   - Two sorbent tube samples will be used to sample for formaldehyde for analysis by NIOSH Method 2016 or equivalent. They will be placed on the 2nd floor, one in each complaint area, unless field readings indicate measurable concentrations of contaminants in other nearby areas
   - Three evacuated canisters will be used to perform sampling for analysis by the Environmental Protection Agency Method TO-15
   - Other IAQ direct reading instrumentation will be utilized to assess temperature, humidity, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide
   - The library indoor air testing will not exceed one day

NOTE - From this initial evaluation of the interior air quality of the second floor, further investigation may or may not be recommended, such as further assessments for contaminants on the 1st and 3rd floors.

General overview of results from 2nd Floor Library IAQ study:

Indoor air quality parameters investigated during this assessment included temperature, humidity, CO levels, CO_2 levels, airborne gases and vapors, formaldehyde, ultrafine particles and total spore and particulate concentrations. Air quality measurements were performed throughout the day within the 2nd floor of the Library Building, and air samples were collected from within several areas for nearly a full day of routine operations. Real-time readings throughout the day indicated that the building is efficiently removing indoor air and properly mixing fresh, outdoor air.

Spore and particulate concentrations were measured in three areas of the second floor and indicated what should be considered a "normal indoor fungal ecology" with low levels of particulate contaminants such as epithelial (skin) cells. Evacuated canisters were utilized in two different areas within the Library second floor, and submitted to a laboratory for subsequent analysis via Mass Spectroscopy. The analytical method (USEPA Method TO-15) included analysis of a broad spectrum of volatile organic vapor analyses. Some chemical, most commonly associated with household and commercial cleaning products, were detected in parts per billion (ppb) range, including ethanol, acetone, and isopropyl alcohol. The levels of the detected compounds were present in concentrations that should not cause concern. Particularly toxic compounds or compounds widely recognized as being carcinogenic were not identified in the laboratory analysis.

Formaldehyde, while detected in both second floor samples collected, fell within the usual ranges found in indoor air quality samples for commercial buildings and classrooms. In summary, during on-site investigation, Ninyo & Moore could not find sufficient evidence to corroborate a health concern nor did sampling and subsequent analytical testing indicate a problematic condition.

Based on the results of the IAQ study, no further action is recommended concerning further specialized investigation of indoor air quality in the building at this time.

- We found the typical cleaning products in the samples collected at the Circulation Desk and area LL208B - all in trace (very low) levels
- The formaldehyde samples came back at 5.3 to 7.7 ppb, which is low to typical for a commercial structure (much lower than a typical home which the latest study says is approximately 17 ppb)
- Mold spore samples found very low levels of indoor spores consistent with commercial indoor air systems that are rated good to highly efficient
- Epithelial (skin) cells were in the "low" category for an average indoor environment
- Real-time instrument readings showed no elevated ultrafine particle concentrations detected and no ambient organic vapor noted
- CO and CO_2 levels indicated good circulation and good mixing of fresh, outdoor air
- No unusual condition noted in what was a relatively comprehensive IAQ study

Hazmat:

1. September 2016 - (4) Medical Waste Shipments
2. October 2016 – (4) Medical Waste Shipments