

Note from the Associate Vice Chancellor - Karren Bee-Donohoe

Environmental Excellence Awards: Congratulations to Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) and Suffolk Community College (SCC) for their recent DEC Environmental Excellence Awards. The SBUH program extends sustainable practices from patient care to digital imaging, and includes rooftop gardens that provide healthy produce for patient meals. SCC's program includes extensive ride share participation, eco-friendly commencement gowns made from 100% recycled water bottles, and 33 water filling stations to reduce plastic bottle use. Congratulations to both for their excellent and innovative programs.

AiM O&M: AiM project manager Dan Burgan is working closely with campuses committed to the AiM O&M program, collecting data and scheduling training. The implementation of the 6 pilot campuses is progressing, with an anticipated go live early in 2019. The remaining campuses will have staggered go live dates based on the completeness of the data collection process. The work of the pilot campuses has been instrumental in achieving a standardized framework which still permits flexibility for individual campus needs. Thank you to Alfred State, Brockport, Cortland, Delhi, Potsdam and Upstate for your hard work.

Large Scale Renewable Energy (LSRE) Project: Work is progressing to hire a consultant to guide SUNY to the Chancellor's goal of 100% of grid sourced electricity from renewable sources. In addition to the 100% goal, it is important to the coalition of SUNY campuses and private universities, and to SUNY as a whole, to incentivize new renewable development in NYS, not just to contract with existing renewable projects. A narrated presentation covering the LSRE concept and financial mechanisms is available on the OCF website under Energy Management or by clicking LSRE above.



TOOLS
TRAINING
COMMUNICATION

Upcoming Events

SUBOA
January 30-31, 2019
Albany

PPAA Winter Conference
February 5-6, 2019
Saratoga



NIMS 2018 - Barbara Boyle

Last year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released a refreshed version of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a common, nationwide approach to enable the whole community to work together to manage all threats and hazards, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. All SUNY campuses are required to operate within NIMS guidance and utilize the NIMS Incident Management System (ICS) for planning and management of emergencies.

While the core concepts and principles remain unchanged, the revisions reflect real-world experience. It clarifies that NIMS is more than just ICS, it also allows for greater flexibility in the organization of Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) and explains the relationships between ICS, EOCs, and senior leader and policy groups.

FEMA also published implementation objectives for NIMS 2018, focusing on policies and processes to support NIMS implementation goals: consistent and interoperable identification; management and sharing of incident resources; integrated decision making; unity of effort among incident personnel; and clear communication and information management.

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Adding the *Social Cost of Carbon* to the NY Electricity Wholesale Market - Kathleen Slusher

Electricity markets across the US are discussing how to add the social cost of carbon to electricity wholesale markets. The *social cost of carbon* is a valuation of the long term damage caused by CO₂ and related gasses, intended to be a comprehensive accounting of climate change impact. Placing a cost on carbon emissions is one strategy to reduce harmful emissions. The New York Public Service Commission (PSC) has asked the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) to investigate adding carbon to NY wholesale electricity supply prices.

The questions of: “How to include the carbon charge to each generator’s hourly price?” and “What market mechanisms must be changed to accomplish this goal?” are being debated under a special task force at NYISO called the Integrating Public Policy Task Force (IPPTF). This group has been tasked with exploring pros and cons for adding the cost of carbon, and what mechanisms can be used to charge the generators. The IPPTF dissected the process into manageable steps and meets almost weekly to tackle the resultant questions.

While NYISO operates the NY State market for electricity supply, any changes to the market must be approved by the market participants and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Once IPPTF completes its work, market participants will decide if adding the cost of carbon to the wholesale electricity price is the proper avenue to address the emissions issue, and if so, how the charge will be managed.

Prevailing Wage Rates - Jessica R. Miller

Whether entering into a multi-million dollar contract for a major renovation, or a small purchase order for painting, prevailing wages apply. Article 8 of NYS Labor Law requires contractors on public works projects to pay workers the prevailing wage and fringe benefits for the locality in which the work is performed, regardless of the dollar value of the contract or purchase order.

It is the responsibility of the contracting entity to provide the prime contractor with a copy of the appropriate prevailing wage schedule. Schedules are issued annually by the Department of Labor (DOL) on July 1st of each year on a county by county basis. The contracting entity must register the project or activity with DOL to obtain a case

The fact that NY electricity is a tradeable commodity on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) is just one issue that complicates matters. Other complications include existing long term contracts for the commodity under NYMEX prices, and current contracts for Zero Emission Credits and Renewable Energy Certificates.



One thing has been made clear; adding the federal designated *Social Cost of Carbon* will likely cause a significant increase in NYISO wholesale electricity related expenses. According to economic consultants, most of this expense will be offset by reductions in other programs such as the current requirement by the PSC to purchase Renewable Energy Credit and Zero Emission Certificate outside of the wholesale market.

As the discussions continue, OCF will keep campuses informed of the progress towards a resolution to move the environmental related charges to the wholesale market and under what mechanism the costs will be borne.

number and the appropriate schedule. This may be done through the [DOL website](#).

The prime contractor must obtain an affidavit from each subcontractor certifying that a copy of the wage schedule was received. Contractors and subcontractors must also maintain and submit copies of certified payrolls to the contracting entity.

A contractor may be barred from bidding on public work if in a six year period two willful determinations have been assessed. A willful determination involves falsification of records, kickbacks, or supplements. To check the NYS debarment list, visit the DOL search page for debarments.



Update on Community College Capital Request for 2019/20 NYS Budget - Rebecca Goldstein

This year’s capital request represents a continued multi-level strategic effort to ensure facilities are in good working condition, and community colleges have appropriate academic facilities and student services space. Each college performs long-range master planning for facilities, and evaluates annual capital activities based upon building conditions and operational needs. This planning is done in coordination with local sponsors that fund 50 percent of the project costs.

- **\$48.6 million** is the current request for 2019/20, which represents the 50 percent State share of projects identified and planned by the community colleges. Local sponsors must commit to provide local funds and provide necessary documentation prior to projects being considered for inclusion in the State budget for matching State funds.

- Currently 21 colleges are requesting funds to advance \$45.4 million for 59 critical maintenance, safety and infrastructure projects and \$3.2 million for 4 projects related to new academic program needs.
- The bulk of projects in this year’s capital request relate to academic or student life/services space (85%), with the balance going toward administrative space and/or campus central services.
- Note: The figures represented indicate the estimated request as of December 15, 2018.

Roundup on Roundup - Barbara Boyle

Monsanto was recently ordered by a California court to pay \$289M to a school groundskeeper who claimed that the company’s weedkillers, including Roundup, caused his terminal cancer. This is the first lawsuit that went to trial claiming Roundup and other glyphosate-based weedkillers cause cancer. There are more than 8,000 suits pending against Monsanto.

The groundskeeper claimed that he developed non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma after using Roundup and another weedkiller as part of his job in a county school system. He claimed to have used the weedkillers up to 30 times per year. While Monsanto claims more than 800 scientific studies support the company position that glyphosates do not cause cancer, the jury and judge found differently. The judge said that Monsanto "acted with malice, oppression or fraud and should be punished for its conduct."

In September 2017, the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency concluded the chemical was not likely carcinogenic to humans. In 2015, the World Health Organization’s cancer group classified glyphosates as “probably carcinogenic to humans”.

It is not crystal clear if the products are carcinogenic, but campuses should use them with caution, if at all.



Campuses have long been required to adopt integrated pest management programs, and the application of any pesticides should only be after careful consideration of alternatives.

Under Department of Environmental Conservation laws, campuses that use pesticides, even those available at a local hardware store, are required to be registered as a pesticide business, and the applications must be made by or under the supervision of a licensed applicator. Annual reports are required.

It is important to remember there are special regulations that restrict the use of pesticides near children in day care and school programs.

AiM Property & Space: Is Your AiM data up to date? - Patrick Deloughery



Keeping campus data up-to-date in AiM is crucial to providing an accurate picture of all campus space, who is using the space, and the useful life of campus assets. AiM provides valuable, real-time information, to make informed decisions to key personnel on campus and at System Administration and the Construction Fund. However, the data cannot be of value, if not accurately maintained.

The AiM Property and Space module went live in January 2017, and many campuses have not made substantial updates to their data since. Has your campus acquired or disposed of real estate? Has your campus built or acquired additional buildings or leased space? If so, the property profile for those assets needs to be updated. Has the primary usage of a building changed? Has a department moved? Those changes should be captured in the Space module. Additionally, asset life cycle data must be updated for State Operated and Statutory campuses.

For recent renovations, were the changes to the characteristics of the rooms captured in the Property mod-

ule? Was the status of demolished space changed to "Inactive"? These are important questions that should be asked regularly.

In the past, campuses had a very limited and rigid window to provide updates in the Physical Space Inventory system. Once that window was shut the data was locked down until the next window opened. With AiM, updates can be made regularly and in real-time. Maintaining this data will reduce the effort required to support larger space surveys at a building or department level, because minimal changes will be needed.

The AiM Help Desk is ready to assist you. The Help Desk can provide you with a current snapshot of your property and space data, help campuses develop self service reports, help identify data issues, and help update campus space using the [Property Action Form](#) and [Location Import Template](#).

The Help Desk can also provide more specific individualized support upon request. Additional training is being developed with a planned rollout in the coming months. Please contact the Help Desk at AiMHelp@suny.edu for assistance.

Hypodermic Syringes - Barbara Boyle

Hypodermic syringes are used on campuses in many research applications, completely separate from those associated with healthcare and controlled substances. For example, they may be used in laboratories to transfer small quantities of materials in research and class laboratory activities.

Educational institutions are permitted to obtain and possess these syringes under State Education Law ([Part 811](#)) and Department of Health Law ([Part 80.133](#)). Notification to both the State Education Department and the Department of Health commissioners is required for these permitted uses.



The notification is made once, but there are requirements to update when substantial changes occur.

Under the DOH law, entities must file the form [DOH-2278, Certificate of Need to Possess Hypodermic Syringes and Needles](#).

The DOH regulation requires that the campus identify a responsible party, keep stocks under two layers of locks, maintain a running inventory, and conduct an annual physical inventory by June 30.

Universal precautions must be used when disposing of syringes, similar to disposal restrictions for regulated medical waste.