

August 30, 2005



Dear ,

As an affiliate of APPA, which has recently partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Sector Strategies Program, we are hoping to inform you of the latest activities between APPA and EPA and also of Cornell's involvement and independent efforts. We are particularly interested in introducing you to the development of Cornell's safety, health and environmental management system. Many of your organization's publications have been addressing a wide range of campus environmental issues, including environmental management systems (EMS). We hope that you have the opportunity to review and support our efforts at Cornell. For your convenience, we have provided relevant links to the articles published by APPA and other partnership organizations.

EPA's Program

In acknowledgment of the increasing attention the environment is receiving in all aspects of college and university management, six higher-education national organizations have recently partnered with the Colleges and Universities sector of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Sectors Strategies program. The six organizations include:

- [Howard Hughes Medical Institute \(HHMI\)](#)
- [American Council on Education \(ACE\)](#)
- [Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers \(APPA\)](#)
- [Campus Consortium for Environmental Excellence \(C2E2\)](#)
- [Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association \(CSHEMA\)](#)
- [National Association of College and University Business Officers \(NACUBO\)](#)

The [U.S. EPA's Sector Strategies program](#) consists of twelve industry sectors, including the [Colleges and Universities sector](#). The EPA is hoping, through this sector initiative, to support colleges and universities' efforts to improve environmental performance while reducing their regulatory burden by providing guidance from a sector liaison and other technical staff assistance. Guiding this effort is an oversight committee made up of representatives from EPA and the above national organizations, as well as working groups with members from colleges and universities across the nation.

Cornell's Efforts

Cornell is represented on the EPA EMS Working Group by Laurie Cecere, Manager of the Cornell Management System for Safety, Health and the Environment (CMS). The CMS is Cornell's approach to integrating compliance and selected other objectives into day-to-day decisions and practices to benefit Cornell's safety, health and environmental performance. Currently, the CMS is in the Development Phase being led by a Steering Team made up of representatives from a cross section of Cornell units. Over the next year, procedures and tools will be tested and improved by Pilot organizations within Cornell and safety, health and environmental program administrators to ready the system for future campus-wide implementation.

We have provided you with a copy of the CMS Annual Review which contains detailed information on the origin and Planning Phase of the CMS as well as our significant accomplishments. More CMS related content is available on the CMS website, www.cms.cornell.edu. If you have any questions related to this letter or the CMS please contact me at lec37@cornell.edu or 254-6477.

Sincerely,

Laurie Cecere
CMS Manager

Enclosure

cc: Bert Bland, Director, Environmental Compliance Office
Ted Murray, Interim Director, Environmental Health & Safety

An electronic copy of this letter has been posted on the CMS website with active hyperlinks.

Publications and Sites of interest:

Environmental Protection Agency

Sector Programs Page, <http://www.epa.gov/sectors/index.html>

Colleges and Universities Page, <http://www.epa.gov/sectors/colleges/index.html>

EMS Working Group Site, <http://campusems.org/>

NACUBO

Environmental Health and Safety Page, <http://www.nacubo.org/x346.xml>

Campus Sustainability Page, <http://www.nacubo.org/x2153.xml>

EPA Sector Initiative Page, <http://www.nacubo.org/x323.xml>

Business Officer Magazine

“Accidents Can Happen,” July 2005, <http://www.nacubo.org/x6472.xml?ss=pf>

“The Payoffs of Planet Friendly Initiatives,” June 2005, <http://www.nacubo.org/x6330.xml?ss=pf>

APPA

Facility Manager Publication

“Making The Business Case For Sustainability: It’s Not Just About Getting Points,” July/August 2005

<http://www.appa.org/FacilitiesManager/articleDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=2408&parentid=2393>

January/February Sustainability Issue

<http://www.appa.org/FacilitiesManager/index.cfm?ItemNumber=2248>

ACE

Press Release

“ACE and EPA Urge Institutions to Evaluate Campus Environmental Programs”

<http://www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=10166>

Cornell University

CMS Website, www.cms.cornell.edu

CMS Annual Review, http://www.cms.cornell.edu/documents/CMS_Annual_Report_version_1.pdf

CMS Corner Update, July 2005, http://www.cms.cornell.edu/documents/CMS_Corner_July_2005.pdf

Cornell Sustainable Campus Site, <http://www.sustainablecampus.cornell.edu/>