

## **A Message from the Director**

Dear Colleagues and Prospective MHS Students,

Thank you for your interest in our Master of Health Science (MHS) program in Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (OEH). The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health is the oldest and largest school of public health, and we have been training public health leaders from around the world for almost a century.

The OEH Program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (BSPH) traces its roots to Dr. Anna Baetjer who joined the faculty in 1924 and began research on the health effects of heat stress and other workplace hazards. Dr. Baetjer was active on the faculty until 1989 when she passed away. In 1951 Dr. Baetjer was the first woman elected president of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. The modern day OEH Program began in 1977 with the award of a National Institute for Occupational Health (NIOSH) training grant. This training grant has continuously supported the program since this time.

Drs. Lees, Geyh, Rule, and I are the principal faculty in the program. Dr. Lees and I share a combined 42 years of faculty service, and have provided continuity of leadership and direction to the Program since the mid-1980s. The program has been ABET accredited since 1990.

The OEH Program has three broad educational objectives:

1. Train students to recognize, evaluate, and control factors in the workplace and the environment that may cause illness, injury, or impairment;
2. Provide students with functional skills in biostatistics, epidemiology, administration, behavioral sciences, and environmental health specific to the practice of occupational and environmental hygiene; and
3. Prepare students for advanced careers and/or further graduate study through comprehensive education and training.

Program graduates are typically employed in industry, unions, consulting, government, military or academia. They are usually immediately engaged in a wide range of activities requiring a broad set of problem-solving skills which increasingly have environmental as well as occupational implications. A high proportion of graduates move into senior management and policy-making positions within ten years of graduation.

We have two options for earning the MHS in OEH. We have a traditional face-to-face residential program which requires one-and-a-half years to complete and includes a three-month internship. We also offer a new part-time/online option which will enable working professionals who live at a distance from East Baltimore to participate in this training opportunity. The part-time option requires 2 years to complete, but can be extended out to 4 years if necessary. These students will be able to complete all required coursework through a combination of online and compressed-format Institute courses. The degree program course and non-course requirements and admission criteria will remain the same as those for the current full time students.

While considering the Hopkins MHS in OEH, I encourage you to take some classes, either online or on-site in our 8-week terms, or in our short-format institutes. A maximum of 16 credits may be taken before matriculation but still applied to the total of 78 credits required for the MHS degree (as long as they are part of the core curriculum).

We welcome your interest in the Hopkins MHS in OEH and hope that you will join the ranks of our alumni who are making a difference - working to protect health around the globe and save lives, millions at a time.

Patrick N. Breyse, PhD  
Educational Program Director, Division of Environmental Health Engineering  
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health