

U.S. Mentor Faculty

The University of Massachusetts is the Commonwealth's only public research university system. It consists of five campuses in Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell and UMass Medical School in Worcester with over 72,000 students and 18,000 staff. The UMass Lowell campus has a national reputation in science, engineering, management and technology. It offers 120 bachelor's, 36 master's and 26 doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences within its five colleges. The College of Health Sciences has 5 departments including work environment, nursing, clinical laboratory and nutritional science, physical therapy and community health and sustainability. The Department of Work Environment (DWE), established in the fall of 1987, offers NIOSH-funded Master of Science (MS) and Doctor of Science (ScD) degrees in: a) occupational and environmental hygiene-industrial hygiene, b) occupational safety/ergonomics, c) occupational epidemiology, and d) work environment policy. A number of associated Centers in the College bring strength to our research and graduate teaching including: the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute, the Loren Kerr Ergonomics Institute, the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, the Center for Work, Environment, Nutrition and Human Development and The New England Consortium (TNEC) for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Worker Health and Safety Training. These groups conduct a broad spectrum of research and projects, much of which is funded by NIOSH, NIEHS, and foundations that support occupational and environmental health programs. UMass participants in the GEOHealth Hub include:

See <http://www.uml.edu/Health-Sciences/WE/faculty/default.aspx>

Dr. Susan Woskie, Ph.D. (Training grant PI, AOC member and mentor) is a Professor and Director of the ABET certified Occupational & Environmental Hygiene Program. Seven years ago she received a Fulbright Scholars grant to work at Mahidol University in Thailand, where she is now an adjunct faculty member and has continued to work with the faculty there on occupational health research, including a NIH Fogarty R21 project with Dr. Kongtip. She was Co-PI, with Dr. Kongtip, on the GEOHealth Hub planning grant. Her interests are in exposure assessment for epidemiologic studies, exposure modeling and biomarkers.

Dr. Bryan Buccholz, Ph.D.(mentor) is a Professor of Ergonomics and Chair of the Department of Work Environment. His research focus is on the development of biomechanical models that provide a better understanding of the patho-mechanics of work-related musculoskeletal disorders so that effective interventions may be perfected.

Dr. Laura Punnett, Sc.D. (mentor) is a Professor of Epidemiology and Ergonomics. Her research focus is on the epidemiology of work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) and the assessment of the effectiveness of workplace interventions.

Dr. Dhimiter Bello, Sc.D. (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Occupational & Environmental Hygiene. His research focus is exposure biology and he has a laboratory that focuses on measurement of external exposures and biomarkers for use in mechanistic toxicology approaches.

Dr. David Kriebel, Sc.D. (mentor) is a Professor of Epidemiology. His research focuses on the epidemiology of cancer and non-malignant respiratory disease, as well as occupational injuries. He has also written and lectured on the role of epidemiologic evidence in science policy decision making.

Dr. Maria Brunette, Ph.D. (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Ergonomics. Her research focuses in applying human factors and systems engineering to the design of work systems aiming to improve the health of working communities. She is the director of the UMass Lowell WHO Collaborating Center for Occupational Health.

See <http://www.uml.edu/Health-Sciences/Nursing/faculty/default.aspx>

Dr. Barbara E. Mawn, R.N., Ph.D. (mentor) is Professor and Graduate Program Director of Nursing. Her PhD is in Social Policy from Brandeis University. Her research interests include health promotion and health disparities as they impact occupational safety and health. Dr Mawn has worked in Thailand for 4 years and was part of the GEOHealth Hub planning grant.

See <http://www.uml.edu/Health-Sciences/CHS/faculty/default.aspx>

Craig Slatin, Sc.D. (mentor) is a Professor of Work Environment Policy and Community Health. His research has addressed health and safety training evaluation, health disparities – particularly within the healthcare workforce, and the political economy of the work environment. He is the editor of *New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy* and director of the New England Consortium, a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) funded Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Worker Health and Safety training organization. Dr Slatin was part of the GEOHealthHub planning grant.

Rutgers University is a large, public, comprehensive research university and land grant institution located in New Jersey. Rutgers has 33 School and Colleges with a total student enrollment of 65,000+ students and over 9,000 full- and part-time faculty university-wide. In 2013, the Rutgers Biomedical Health Sciences (RBHS) Campus in New Brunswick and Newark, NJ, was created and includes the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Jersey Medical School and the School of Public Health. Schools of nursing, dentistry, health-related professions, and pharmacy are also members of RBHS. The School of Public Health (SPH) has concentrations on this campus include: Biostatistics; Environmental and Occupational Health; Epidemiology; Health Education and Behavioral Science; and Health Systems and Policy. Currently the UMDNJ-SPH has over 100 faculty and over 400 Masters and doctoral students. The Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI) promotes a broad understanding of health effects associated with environmental and occupational chemical exposures. Through its six Divisions, EOHSI supports basic and clinical research in environmental health sciences and environmental exposure measurement and assessment, provides graduate training programs for Ph.D. and postdoctoral students and medical residents, supports an occupational medicine clinic, provides educational programs for various professional and non-professional groups, outreach to affected communities, and the development of public health policies related to environmental issues. Rutgers faculty participating in the GEOHealth Hub include:

Dr. Mark Robson (subcontract PI, AOC member, and mentor) is a Professor of Plant Biology and Pathology and is a Professor of Public Health. He has been working in Thailand for 20 years where he had a Thai ITREOH Project for over fifteen years with Chulalongkorn University. Dr. Robson also established one of the first environmental risk assessment courses in Southeast Asia. Originally funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) it is now funded by the Chulalongkorn National Center of Excellence for Environmental Management. Dr. Robson continues to teach a portion of this course annually. Since 2001 over 400 students have taken this course. Dr. Robson was also a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Southern Thailand in 2005. Following the Tsunami of December 2004, Dr. Robson received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to work with the Thai and Indonesian universities to develop and improve environmental health educator capacity in schools of nursing. <http://plantbiopath.rutgers.edu/faculty/robson/robson.html>

Dr. Nancy Fielder (mentor) is a Professor of Environmental and Occupational Medicine and a neuropsychologist. She has worked in Thailand for the past seven years. She has had a NIH Fogarty R21 project that was a result of her participation in the ITREOH previously mentioned. Her expertise is in the effects of pesticides and other neurotoxins on development and behavior in workers and in children. <http://eohsi.rutgers.edu/eohsi-directory/name/nancy-fiedler/>

Dr. Jason Richardson (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Medicine. He is a molecular toxicologist specializing in the neurological effects of pesticides and his research interest is in developing molecular markers of exposure and disease. He has also participated in the ITREOH providing workshops and training. <http://eohsi.rutgers.edu/eohsi-directory/name/jason-richardson/>

Mt Sinai School of Medicine Currently has over 1,100 students enrolled in six degree-granting programs (MD; PhD, MS and MPH). The Department of Preventive Medicine consists of 42 full-time and 164 adjunct faculty and is a nationally and internationally recognized as a center of excellence in preventive medicine, occupational and environmental medicine, community health and environmental pediatrics. The Department contains six Divisions: Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Data Management, Occupational Medicine, Environmental Health, Preventive Medicine, International Health and Social & Behavioral Sciences. The Division of International Health serves as a resource to facilitate the interaction between researchers at the Department of Preventive Medicine and leaders in science and medicine around from the world. The Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine identifies and treats diseases of environmental origin in those who are occupationally exposed. It houses the World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program and Data Coordination Center, and the internationally respected Irving J. Selikoff Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine. The Division also runs the New York/New Jersey Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health – a NIOSH-funded training grant program. There are two residency programs, each a two-year combined academic/practicum experience: 1) The Occupational Medicine Residency Training Program, where the clinical component of the training program is based at the Mount Sinai Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health; and 2)

The General Preventive Medicine Residency Program which awards a Master in Public Health upon completion. Mt. Sinai faculty participating in the GEOHealth Hub project include:

Dr. Luz Claudio, PhD (subcontract PI, AOC, mentor) is a Professor of Preventative Medicine and Director of the Division of International Health where she trains and mentors new investigators and is creating global health programs in partnership with developing countries. Her research is focused on health disparities. <https://www.mountsinai.org/profiles/luz-claudio>

Roberto Lucchini, MD (mentor) is a Professor and specialist in occupational medicine. He is the Director of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Director, the World Trade Data Center, and the NIOSH Education and Research Center of the New York/New Jersey Region. His research focuses on the health effects and mechanisms by which metals, pesticides, persistent organic pollutants and particulate matter produce neurotoxicity. <http://icahn.mssm.edu/profiles/roberto-lucchini>

John Meyer MD, MPH (mentor) is an occupational medicine specialist and Director of the Occupational Medicine Residency program. His research focus is in occupational hazards to pregnant women, and in the health effects of social disparities that arise from occupation. <http://icahn.mssm.edu/profiles/john-d-meyer>

Dr. Elizabeth Garland, MD, MS (mentor) is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Division of Preventive Medicine and Community Health and also Director of the General Preventive Medicine Residency. In addition she does research in pediatric health disparities related to asthma, nutrition, active living designs and immunizations. <http://icahn.mssm.edu/profiles/elizabeth-j-garland>

Thai Mentor Faculty.

Mahidol University has 6 campuses and 32 Faculties including the premier faculties of public health, science medicine and tropical medicine and 5 university hospitals. Within the Faculty of Public Health the Department of Occupational Health and Safety was established in 1969, and now offers Bachelors' and Masters' degrees and has the only PhD program in Thailand specialized in OSH. Over the past 42 years, the Department has graduated over 1100 Bachelors' degree students specializing in OSH. These students work in public and private sectors across Thailand. In 1982, Mahidol developed a Master's degree program in OSH and since then has produced over 200 Masters' graduates who work in government offices, state enterprises and the private sector. In 2012, the Mahidol University Faculty of Public Health offered the first doctoral degree program (PhD) specializing in OSH in Thailand. Prior to this, doctoral students seeking a PhD focused on OSH were required to obtain an OSH doctoral degree abroad or choose from a general DrPH program. This program is expected to help meet the need for OSH faculty as demands for the bachelors' and masters' degree OSH graduates to work as workplace safety officers increases. A number of other universities in Thailand have opened training programs for Bachelors' and Masters' degrees specializing in OSH but they have had difficulty finding doctoral level faculty for these programs (e.g. Burapha, Khon Kaen and Thammasat).

See <http://phoh.ph.mahidol.ac.th/#>

Dr. Pornpimol Kongtip, Ph.D (PI research grant, AOC, mentor) is an Associate Professor of Occupational Health and Safety. Her research interests include occupational and environmental exposure assessment, health risk assessment and biological monitoring. She has published several studies measuring pesticide biomarkers in agricultural workers. Dr. Kongtip has worked with Dr. Woskie on a NIH R21 project on pre-natal pesticide exposures and newborn neurodevelopment and she was Co-PI of the GEOHealth Hub planning grant.

Dr. Sara Arphorn, Dr.Biol.Hum (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Occupational Toxicology with extensive experience working with informal sector workers. Her research interests include ergonomics, health disparities and Participatory Action Orientated Training.

Dr. Chalermchai Chaikittiporn, Dr.P.H. (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Occupational Health and Safety. He has been Dean of the Faculty of Public Health, Vice President of the University, chair of the South-East Asia Public Health Education Institute Network (SEAPHEIN), Regional Director of Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH), President of the Occupational Health and Safety at Work Promotion Association of Thailand (OHSWA) and President of the Ergonomics Society of Thailand (EST). His research interests are in noise, dust and fiber exposures and health impact assessments.

Dr. Wantanee Phanprasit, Dr.P.H., (mentor) is an Associate Professor of Occupational Health and Safety and is Chair of the Department of Occupational Health and Safety. Her research interests are in exposure assessment and health risk assessment.

See <http://phep.ph.mahidol.ac.th/en/staff.html>

Dr. Mathuros Tipayamongkholgul, Ph.D. (mentor) is an Assistant Professor in Epidemiology. Her research interest is in the environmental factors related to disease, spatial epidemiologic methods and forecasting models for emerging and re-emerging diseases in Thailand.

See <http://phpn.ph.mahidol.ac.th/staff.html>

Dr. Pimpan Silpasuwan, Ed.D. (mentor) is a Professor of Public Health Nursing. Her research areas include occupational health and safety program development, OSH for home-based, migrant and healthcare workers.

See <http://phse.ph.mahidol.ac.th/eng/staff.html>

Dr. Prayoon Fongsatitkul, Ph.D. (mentor) is an Associate Professor in Sanitary Engineering and is currently Dean of the Faculty of Public Health and President of the Thai Public Health Education Institutes Network (ThaiPHEIN). His research interests are in water quality modeling, waste water treatment and environmental quality management.

Dr. Suphaphat Kwonpongsagoon, Ph.D. (mentor) is a Lecturer in Environmental Engineering. Her interests are in environmental modeling and management, as well as environmental impact assessment.

See <http://pheh.ph.mahidol.ac.th/eng/staff/staff.html>

Dr. Duangrat Inthorn Ph.D. (mentor) is an Associate Professor in Environmental Health. Her research interests are in environmental impact assessment and the use of bioremediation for treatment of wastes and wastewater.

See <http://www.tm.mahidol.ac.th/social-environment/?q=staff>

Dr. Kraichat Tantrakarnapa, Ph.D (mentor) is an Associate Professor of the Social and Environmental Medicine in the Faculty of Tropical Medicine. His research interests include climate change, migrant workers, environmental impact assessment, computer applications in environmental management, geospatial modeling.

Dr. Jintana Sirivarasai, Ph.D. (mentor) is a Lecturer in Graduate Program in Nutrition and Master of Science Program in Occupational Health and Toxicology, at the Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital. Her research focuses on environmental and occupational toxicology, and more specifically, biomarkers, gene-environment and gene-gene interactions with environmental exposures.

Bureau of Occupational and Environmental Disease Control, Department of Disease Control in the Thai Ministry of Public Health

Dr. Somkiat Siriruttanapruk, M.D., Ph.D., (mentor) is a senior advisor on occupational and environmental health under the Department of Disease Control in the Thai Ministry of Public Health. He is board certified in Occupational Medicine and was previously Director of the Bureau of Occupational and Environmental Diseases (BOED). He has worked with the Thai Board on Occupational Health and Safety, under the Thai Workmen's Compensation Fund, the Thai Health Promotion Foundation and WHO and the ICOH scientific committee on occupational respiratory diseases. His research interests are in occupational disease surveillance and prevention and development of occupational health service systems.