

Environmental and Occupational Health

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

Overview

Making our world safer and more sustainable requires learning more about the hazards we face and translating that knowledge into policy. The Environmental and Occupational Health Department is at the center of national and global conversations about using science to protect workers, the public, and the environment from toxic substances and dangerous conditions. Faculty and staff in the Department have earned a national reputation as researchers and leaders in articulating how public health science is best used in regulatory decision-making, and are called on frequently by congressional committees, federal agencies, national scientific organizations, international public health entities, and the media to discuss environmental hazards and the policies addressing them.

Academic Programs

- Doctor of Public Health – Environmental and Occupational Health
- Master of Public Health – Environmental Health Science and Policy
- Graduate Certificates – Public Health and Emergency Management; Environmental and Occupational Health
- Joint degree programs in collaboration with the School of Law and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Building Knowledge through Research

Among the areas in which faculty members currently conduct research are:

- Scientific evidence in public policy
- Occupational health and safety
- Ecosystem change and human health
- Scientific integrity
- Air and water quality
- Risk science and environmental health
- Environmental justice
- Child health and the environment

Cutting-Edge Programs and Community Activities

- *The Project on Scientific Knowledge and Public Policy (SKAPP)* examines the use of science in public health decision making; its website, DefendingScience.org, provides in-depth case studies on hazards from bisphenol A to hexavalent chromium and background on regulatory issues.
- *Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment* is a federally funded center, cosponsored with the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC, providing technical expertise to clinical providers and community groups.
- The project on *Public Health Preparedness in Arlington County* is a collaborative project with Arlington, Virginia's County Health Department to improve emergency preparedness in the community. The project involves outreach and survey research with county residents, many of whom are immigrants.
- Members of the EOH Department regularly contribute to the public health blog *The Pump Handle*, which explores the workings of health-related federal agencies, new research on known and potential hazards, challenges to scientific integrity, and many other public health issues.

THE CAPITAL CONNECTION
TO A HEALTHIER WORLD™

The GW Advantage

- Our Washington, DC location, at the hub of activities, resources and decision making that drive the future of health in America.
- Talented faculty committed to addressing environmental hazards around the world, and imbuing emerging professionals with the skills to do the same.
- Research, training and service opportunities for students at local, national and international organizations where environmental health policy is made.

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