



National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council

*Enhancing the education and training of students
in environmental health science and protection*

July 2018

Greetings EHAC Program Directors,

This is EHAC's inaugural email newsletter in which you'll find important accreditation and policy updates, reminders of accreditation related deadlines, publications, EHAC related news, scholarship and internship opportunities for EHAC students, stories from students excelling in school and in the field and job postings from EHAC accredited programs. [Please note: you may need to click on "Display Images Below" in order to see photographs, etc.]

Accreditation Dues/Fees Reminder:

EHAC notified all Program Directors of changes in invoicing date and dues/fee structure related to accreditation and reaccreditation in 2017, and again in the spring of 2018. The current invoice date for accredited programs and programs that will be reaccrediting in 2019 is October 1, 2018. EHAC's current fee structure is as follows:

Annual Accreditation Dues	Approved by Email Vote of Council – March 2018 – will be enacted on Oct. 1, 2018
Undergraduate program	\$2,300
Graduate program	\$2,300
Undergraduate with Graduate program	\$3,450 (this includes the 2nd program at 1/2 the cost)
Accreditation Process Fees	Approved at 2017 Annual EHAC meeting and enacted October 1, 2017
Initial Accreditation	\$750 per program
Re-accreditation (occurs every 6 th year)	\$500 per program

Please contact Leslie Mitchell at 206-522-5272

or executive.director@nehspac.org if you have any questions or concerns.

2018 EHAC Annual Meeting

The EHAC Council convened its 2018 Annual Meeting in conjunction with NEHA's AEC on June 23-24, 2018, in Anaheim, California (photo of Council above).

New Council Members:

EHAC welcomes the following new and returning members to the EHAC Council for the 2018-2021 term (biographies can be found at www.nehspac.org, Board members are in bold):

- **S MAJ Jason Finley (Vice Chair for Undergraduate Programs) - Practitioner, Kentucky. EHAC Email: vice-chair_undergraduate_programs@nehspac.org**
- Dr. Steve Johnson - Practitioner, Seattle
- Dr. Swatantra Kethireddy - Academic, Mississippi Valley State University
- Dr. Ying Li - Academic, East Tennessee State University
- COL (Ret.) Wendell Moore - Practitioner, Maryland
- Dr. Tim Murphy - Academic, University of Findlay
- Dr. Rania Sabty-Daily - Academic, California State University, Northridge
- Dr. Laura Suppes - Academic, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
- **CAPT Don Williams (Director-at-Large) - Practitioner, Arizona. EHAC Email: Director-at-Large@nehspac.org**

Programs Reviewed:

Eleven undergraduate and graduate programs were reaccredited for another six years (some with conditions) and three programs were granted one year extensions:

Reaccredited Programs:

- Boise State University:
 - Public Health BS - Environment and Occupational Health Science emphasis
- East Carolina University:
 - Environmental Health BS
 - Master of Science in Environmental Health (MSEH)
- Eastern Kentucky University:
 - Environmental Health Science BS
 - Master of Public Health – Environmental Health Science
- Eastern Tennessee University:
 - Environmental Health BS
 - Master of Science in Environmental Health (MSEH)
- Mississippi Valley State University:
 - Master of Science in Environmental Health
 - Also have BS degree that is on a different accreditation schedule
- University of Findlay:
 - Environmental Safety and Occupational Health BS
 - Master of Science in Environmental, Safety and Health Management (degree offered online as well)
- University of Georgia, Athens:
 - Environmental Health BS
- University of Illinois, Springfield:
 - Master of Public Health – Environmental Health Concentration (degree offered online as well)

One Year Extensions granted to:

- California State University, Northridge
- East Central University in Oklahoma
- Old Dominion University in Virginia

Policy Updates:

Council moved forward on a number of policy updates as they work to clarify

Governing Policies, Undergraduate Requirements and Graduate Guidelines for accreditation. Updates to the EHAC Governing Policy include:

- Removal of restricted number of “retired” individuals who can serve on the EHAC Council.
- Revisions to EHAC Elections Policy to clarify the elections process.
- Institution of a Website Privacy Policy.
- Minor changes to bring policy in alignment with current practice.
- One policy decision that was tabled for more discussion was the subject of how to measure the amount of and quality of environmental health (EH) practical experience program directors have acquired. EHAC policy requires program directors to have EH practical experience but the requirement has no metrics for assessing quantity or quality of that experience. Historically, EH professionals have achieved an undergraduate degree, entered the job market to gain experience and then returned for a master and/or terminal degree, which eventually led to a teaching position. However, the current and growing trend for EH faculty shows a trajectory from undergraduate education straight to graduate and post graduate degrees and then directly to a faculty position – with no field experience in between. EHAC Council is discussing how to maintain a faculty practical experience standard in the face of this significant change in EH practice and academic culture. Your thoughts on this topic are welcome.

New Committees:

Council established a number of new standing committees at the June Annual Meeting to assist with updating and systematizing EHAC's accreditation and evaluation processes, reviewing, revising and integrating EHAC policies, requirements and guidelines and *importantly, to develop a white paper detailing the value of an EHAC accredited degree to students, programs and employers*. Committee membership is open to accredited program faculty so if you are interested in helping with any of these endeavors, please contact Leslie at executive.director@nehspac.org.



2018 National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) Members and Friends

EHAC Accreditation Logo for your Program

EHAC has a new website and URL address (www.nehspac.org). We have updated our program accreditation logo to reflect these changes. **Council requests that you display this logo on your accredited program description web-page.**

Our program is
accredited by the
National
Environmental
Health Science
and Protection
Accreditation
Council (EHAC).
www.nehspac.org



Notifying EHAC of Program Director Changes

Per EHAC Governing Policy, it is required that the EHAC Board be notified of any changes in program director or the program itself that a program might experience. Notice of program director (PD) changes should be given to the EHAC office at the time of the change to aid in the Board review process of the new PD.

In an effort to systematize the review process for new program directors and to emphasize the requirement for “pertinent experience relevant to environmental health science,” EHAC is asking all incoming program directors to provide a written narrative demonstrating their practical experience in the field of environmental health (EH). This stipulation is particularly important to the Board in cases where a PD's CV relates a research-oriented career but shows a limited amount of environmental health related field experience.

The Board asks that newly appointed PDs provide a letter documenting all environmental health related field experience and a narrative explaining how any research related experience is connected to EH field/practical experience. EHAC greatly values EH related field experience in EHAC Program Directors, as they serve as the primary advisers to EH students trying to determine what path they would like to take in the environmental health field. EHAC desires programs to have PDs that can advise students on the breadth and depth of opportunities in

EH, especially field related opportunities.

Self-Study Templates

EHAC is in the process of completing templates that will aid accrediting and reaccrediting programs in the completion of their Self-studies. These templates will include all of the required sections in Undergraduate Requirements and Graduate Guidelines. The templates will also include a course comparison grid for addressing "Table 2" requirements.

Additionally, Council decided to provide schools with both an undergraduate and graduate program that are closely aligned with the opportunity to submit one Self-study that covers both programs. The EHAC office will also be preparing a template to address this potential situation. Please note that 3 site visitors will still be required for programs opting to submit a combined Self-study. Please contact the EHAC office if you have questions about whether your programs can pursue this combined Self-study option - 206-522-5272 or executive.director@nehspac.org.

Please stay tuned as templates will be available in mid August.

EHAC Staff - Moving to a "Virtual Office"

EHAC's administrative office is boarding the virtual office train and will be moving from our brick and mortar office in Burien, Washington to a virtual situation as of November 1, 2018. EHAC Council approved the move at their June Annual Meeting based upon the significant financial savings that will result as EHAC will no longer have to pay rent and utilities and high internet rates, etc. This move will also facilitate cloud based file storage and an internet based, systematized accreditation and reaccreditation process. EHAC Council, Board and Staff are excited about the move and the cost savings and other opportunities for growth that it presents.

EHAC's mailing address and other contact information will remain the same for the

near future:

EHAC

P.O. Box 66057

Burien WA 98166

Phone: 206-522-5272

Email: ehacinfo@nehspac.org

EHAC Accredited Student News of Note

EHAC will feature student and graduate news of note in future newsletters. Please send EHAC your student related success stories to Leslie at executive.director@nehspac to feature in this newsletter.

California State University, Northridge

[Dorian Burleson: a Journey of Determination and Resilience](#)

csunshinetoday.csun.edu

When we come into this world, we don't get to choose our environment.

Circumstance often finds us at our weakest, not our strongest. With a track record of beating the odds, whether posed by doctors, addiction or society, Dorian Burleson has a story few can grasp and fewer can overcome.

Missouri Southern State University (MVSU)

MSSU Graduate gains Commission with the US Public Health Service (USPHS). This is an email received by MSSU Program Director Mike Fletcher from a graduate of MVSU's Environmental Health and Safety Bachelor of Science program.

Good evening,

I just wanted to send you an update to let you know that I have become a Commissioned Officer with the USPHS as of Friday. Attached is a photo of me with Vice Admiral Adams, our US Surgeon General. I hope all has been well, and some time soon I'll try to make it in to see everyone again. And if students ever have any questions and want a realistic expectation of the Corps feel free to give them my info and I'd be glad to help!

Sincerely,
LTJG Timothy Arr



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