



OEHS Newsletter

May 2009

Editor – Bill Watt

We are still alive and well even in these times of tumultuous changes. Who would have thought we would ever see an economic collapse, the American auto industry on the verge of disappearing and a pandemic in our lifetimes, much less all at once. It is not news to those of you still living in Michigan, but Michigan is the epicenter of the economic and auto industry problems. I hope the swine flu stays away.

In spite of the times, WSU and OEHS survive and thrive.

Department and College Organization

At the University level President, Dr. Irvin Reid's departure after 10 years of excellent leadership is sorely felt. Fortunately, his successor, Dr. Jay Noren, looks to be a highly competent leader. The fact that Dr. Noren served as Co-Director at the Wisconsin Occupational and Environmental Health Resource Center at University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1976-1983 does not hurt either. Dr. Noren holds an MD from the University of Minnesota and a Master's in Public Health from Harvard University.

At the (Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences) College level the reorganization and condensation of departments has settled in. The College went from nine departments to four, with OEHS became a "Program" within the Department of Health Care Sciences. Dean Beverly Schmoll left EACPHS and Wayne State University for a similar deanship at the University of Toledo last May. The search for a new dean continues and although we have seen some good candidates, there is not indication of a new dean yet. In the mean time, Dr. Howard Normile continues as Interim Dean.

Faculty

Pete Warner received a College excellence in teaching award for 2008 and Sharkey Mingela was nominated for the award for 2009. Bill Watt was made a Fellow of the AIHA, joining other OEHS faculty Ed Kerfoot, Sharkey Mingella and Roger Wabeke who had already attained Fellow status.

Here is the current OEHS faculty:

- Fractional
 - Ed Kerfoot, Program Director & Associate Professor
 - Sharkey Mingela, Associate Professor
 - Dennis O'Brien, Associate Professor
 - Pete Warner, Professor
 - Bill Watt, Associate Professor
- Adjunct
 - David Bassett, Professor
 - Deepak Bhalla, Professor
 - Pat Brogan, Associate Professor
 - Bonnie Taffe, Assistant Professor
- Part-time
 - Brad Joseph
 - Steve Paul
 - Roger Wabeke
- New Part-time
 - Tony Casaletta (MiOSHA)
 - Bob Pawlowski (MiOSHA)
 - Tom Schenk (GM)
 - Doug Thiel (BASF)
 - Others TBD
- Emeritus
 - Andrew Reeves

In Memoriam - Leonard Jensen

It is with regret that we inform you of Leonard Jensen's passing this April. Dr. Jensen was both an OEHS alum and a long time instructor. Those of you who had him for class will have appreciated his vast EHS knowledge and his great sense of humor. Leonard worked at Ford Motor Company, Chrysler Corporation, City of Dearborn, and as a consultant. He was active in professional organizations and was a past president of MIHS. He will be sorely missed.

Distinguished Alumni

We are proud to announce the 2008 OEHS Outstanding Alumnus award for Gene Kortsha. Gene is well known in IH circles and is a former AIHA president as well as former GM IH Director. Gene joins our impressive list of

Distinguished Alumni:

2004	Cindy Ostrowski
2005	Roger Wabeke
2006	Hank Lick
2007	Pat Brogan

Students

The program continues to offer the MS in OEHS with a major in Industrial Hygiene or Industrial Toxicology along with Graduate Certificates in Occupational Safety or Environmental Health and Hazardous Materials Control and a Post-Masters Certificate in Industrial Toxicology. For the 2008-2009 year we had 38 graduate students (not counting outside students taking our classes) which breaks down as follows; 25 MS students (6 IT/19 IH) and 13 Certificate students (10 OS/3 EHHMC). In addition, many of the MS students are combining a graduate certificate with their degree to broaden their background and increase their marketability, e.g. MS in IH with a graduate certificate in OS for a total 39 credit hours.

The students come from a fairly broad set of backgrounds. Undergraduate schools include WSU, UofM, OU, Madonna, MSU, GVSU, EMU, Kalamazoo College, U of Windsor, U of W. Ontario, and Cal. State Poly. Undergraduate majors include Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Health, Engineering, Fire and Safety. As always with OEHS students, most are working and going to school part time, and many of those who work are working in the EHS field.

OEHS student, Abbie Batog, received the 2008 MIHS WSU Outstanding Student Award at Student Night in February. Abbie graduated with a 3.9 GPA and had a double major, industrial hygiene and industrial toxicology.

Facilities and Equipment

We continue to enjoy the excellent facilities and equipment in the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences building at 259 Mack Avenue, on the south end of the DMC. As well as computer equipped classrooms we have distance learning facilities including the 200 seat state of the art auditorium, and of course, the entire building is WIFI. The multi-purpose lab for air sampling, ventilation, noise, optical microscopy, etc. is well equipped and has an adjoining analytical lab. Recent instrument donations from BASF, Chrysler, GM and Ford have been very valuable. Donated equipment is always welcome. We are especially proud of our equipment rental agreement with Argus-Hazco which allows us to teach with state of the art equipment with minimal cost to the program.

Recent improvements in our facility include the establishment of an Industrial Hygiene Museum and the acquisition of the George Clayton library.

A large room in the 5th floor OEHS Suite has been converted to the Industrial Hygiene museum. It is still "under construction" but is already filled with IH instruments, some of which even you old guys won't recognize. Many thanks to Sharkey (Dr. Mingela) for his work in setting up the museum. If you have any old instruments, photos, memorabilia, etc. of either OEHS or industrial hygiene, please consider donating them to our museum.

In addition to the museum, the Ralph Smith Reading Room has been moved from the 4th floor to the 5th floor OEHS Suite. The room serves as both a reading room and a classroom equipped with a ceiling projector and computer. Now it has expanded substantially. Initially there were a number of references available to which was added Dr. Smith's collection. Last year an OEHS alum, Robert Gadon, donated a collection of books and papers which expanded it further. Then early this year Sharkey was in contact with Bob Lieckfield from Bureau Veritas (formally Clayton Analytical Labs) and Bureau Veritas donated nearly the entire George Clayton Library collection. Sharkey has been working diligently to organize our now substantial collection of references. It's still a work in progress but looks very impressive.

Scholarships

We have about 10 different scholarships available for OEHS students but we continue to look for additional scholarship. We are especially proud that one of our students, Lisa Macauley was the recipient of one of four 3M Scholarships last year. This year's 3M scholars have not yet been announced but we are hopeful of another OEHS winner since 5 students applied. Earlier this year Thornton scholarships were awarded to Eric Allen and Chris Tiede. Mark Walsh, Chris Tiede and Namhee Shin won Michigan Safety Conference Scholarships in April at the Michigan Safety Conference.

New Classes

In an effort to stay current and provide relevant instruction to OEHS students, we have developed two new classes and are working on a third.

OEH7260 Construction Health and Safety will be available this fall. OEHS grads Robert Pawlowski and Anthony Casaletta from MiOSHA have developed the class to provide instruction on this much need topic.

Doug Thiel from BASF and Oakland University has developed OEH 7130 Emergency Response to provide our students with knowledge of this timely topic. It will be available in the winter 2010 term.

Finally, we are meeting with a focus group to explore the development of (a) class(s) in Institutional Health & Safety. It is felt that universities, hospitals, etc. have a need for formally trained EHS personnel. If we do, in fact, offer this (these) course (s), it may even develop into another graduate certificate program.

ABET Re-Accreditation

We are pleased to announce that the IH track has been reaccredited by ABET after the 2007 submission and site visit.

We were notified in mid-2008 that OEHS has been granted full reaccreditation and the length of reaccreditation suggests the program is highly thought of. This is truly an accomplishment that speaks well for the quality of WSU OEHS.

Supporting the EHS Community

OEHS has found a role in the EHS community beyond educating EHS professionals. For the last two years, our seminar program has been opened up to the public, mainly the IH community. IHs can keep current and pick up (CIH and CSP) continuing education credits for free. In addition, OEHS hosted the MIHS mini-conference last year and we have supplied a location for MIHS to host three AIHA "Webinars".

OEHS Advisory Board

Our 15 member Advisory Board has undergone some changes. Lance Franklin left WSU to take a similar position (director of EHS services) at Virginia Tech. Replacing Lance at WSU and on our board is OEHS grad Tom Perez. Namhee Shin replaced Lisa Macauley as the student representative.

Here is the current list of OEHS Advisory Board Members:

Yasmeen Alexander – Ford Motor Company
Patricia Beattie - General Motors Corporation
Peter Buczek – General Motors Powertrain Operations
Andrew Comai – United Auto Workers
Jay Fitzgerald – Argus Supply Company
Donald Hart - American Industrial Hygiene Association
James Kenyon – MiOSHA
Lawrence Lemke – Wayne State University
Robert Lieckfield – Bureau Veritas
Cindy Ostrowski – CAO Consulting, LLC
Robert Pawlowski – MiOSHA
Thomas Perez – Wayne State University
Karen Ridella – Chrysler, LLC
Namhee Shin – Wayne State University (student rep)
Douglas Thiel - BASF Corporation

Alumni Role

We are proud of the more than 400 OEHS alumni and value their opinions. There are many things you can do besides being an outstanding EHS professional and enhancing our reputation. Consider actions like:

- Express your opinion to us on classes and subject matter that should be included in the OEHS curriculum.
- Offer to give a seminar or a guest lecture.
- Keep us abreast of trends and needs in the EHS real world.
- Identify yourself as a WSU-OEHS grad.
- Recommend potential students to our program.
- Nominate candidates for the “Distinguished Alumni” award.
- Offer financial support.

We would like to keep in touch with our friends and alumni. Please visit us or e-mail us at ac2605@wayne.edu and give us your current contact information. The general OEHS phone number is (313) 577-1551 and our website is <http://www.cphs.wayne.edu/oehs>.

Bill Watt

Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences



Occupational &
Environmental
Health Sciences

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY



At



In the

