

Environmental Health Sciences Historical Timeline

1874

In 1874 the University offers instruction in public hygiene, including “sewerage and drainage of towns, heating, lighting and ventilation of dwellings and public buildings.”

1922-1944

Courses in sanitary science are taught by Health Department staff.

1939

Drs. William and Charles Mayo provide endowment to help establish a School of Public Health and a Mayo Professorship in Public Health.

1944

The Board of Regents creates the School of Public Health (SPH). The man named head of the new school, Gaylord Anderson, is serving in the U.S. Army Medical Corps at this time, so student health service director Ruth Boynton holds his place.

1945-1951

Dr. Gaylord Anderson and Harold Whittaker expand programs for health officers, public engineers and public health nurses that lead to masters degrees.

1951-1961

Herbert Bosch is director of environmental health program and adds courses in air pollution and control of radiation hazards.

1959

Richard Bond and Dr. Ruth Boynton develop a program in environmental health and safety and collaborate with Bosch to develop courses in water and food sanitation, air pollution, laboratory safety, occupational hygiene, and accident prevention.

1959-1970

Summer course in ground water development brings in hundreds of engineers from developing countries. NASA planetary quarantine research projects are funded.

1962-1973

Richard Bond is named department director. Courses are developed in hospital engineering and radiation protection.

1973-1981

Conrad Straub becomes head and expands research mission on department. Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) is funded.

1981-1989

Donald Barber serves as head and creates environmental chemistry and toxicology specialty tracks. Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing, environmental and occupational epidemiology, and occupational injury control programs are added.

1989-1995

Ian Greaves is recruited as division head; adds environmental health policy specialty. Richard G. Bond Professorship endowment is created.

1995-1999

Jack Mandel becomes division head and is named Mayo Chair in Public Health. There are 22 faculty members in the division and research funding exceeds \$2 million annually.

2000-present

William A. Toscano, Jr. is appointed Division Head in June 2000. Under his leadership the division continues to build strong research and educational programs. Two new specialty tracks, exposure sciences and global environmental health, are added. External research expenditures totaled approximately \$14 million in 2006.