

Many studies and investigations in various stages from design through data analysis and publication are currently underway in the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology (BEOE). Examples of these include two studies of the impact of the World Trade Center collapse on respiratory health of people living nearby, as well as the Love Canal Follow-Up Health study which seeks to determine if there is increased long term risk of cancer, mortality, or adverse reproductive outcomes associated with having lived on the Canal.

BEOE staff are currently collaborating with other units in the NYSDOH, as well as the CDC, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and other public health partners to plan and implement an Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) program, which will link environmental hazard and health outcome databases to enhance our ability to conduct surveillance. BEOE is also currently funded by the CDC to conduct activities related to the National Asthma Control Program and public health emergency preparedness/ bioterrorism. BEOE staff also conduct field investigations that require a rapid response to address community environmental exposures.

Dr. Fitzgerald and Hwang will work with the fellow being placed in this assignment to determine projects of mutual interest in two or three of the following areas: research studies, EPHT or other surveillance activities, and community health investigations. Depending on what is chosen, the Fellow has the potential to be working on study design, data collection, data analysis, writing results to be published as well as community outreach and education. He or she would also have the opportunity to be trained in bioterrorism/public health preparedness and response and would complete a major project with a presentation and summary report. To accomplish these objectives, the Fellow would rotate through two or three sections within BEOE to gather experience and work closely with section chiefs. To continue his or her formal education, the Fellow would also have the opportunity to take courses at the University at Albany's School of Public Health (SPH) and to consult with SPH faculty, as well as attending the annual CSTE conference.

Assignment Location: Troy, NY

Primary Mentor: Edward F. Fitzgerald, PhD
Director, Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology (2001-present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, Yale University (1981)

Secondary Mentor: Syni-An Hwang, PhD, MS
Assistant Bureau Director, Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology (January 2001-present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, Carnegie-Mellon University (1984)
MS, Carnegie-Mellon University (1981)