



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCE AND PROTECTION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (EHAC)

Date: 17 July 2019

To: Seth Walk, PhD and Mari Eggers, PhD, Co-Program Directors
Montana State University, Department of Microbiology and Immunology (MBI)
Environmental Health Degree Program (MSUEHP)
Montana University
109 Lewis Hall/P.O. Box 173520
Bozeman, MT 58717

From: EHAC General Chair: Tania M. Busch Isaksen

Re: Microbiology and Immunology Undergraduate option in Environmental
Health (MBI-EH) program - Full Accreditation for 6 years, 2019-2025

Dear Dr. Walk and Dr. Eggers,

The National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) met on July 8, 2019, in Nashville, TN to consider Montana State University's (MSU) application for accreditation of their Microbiology and Immunology Undergraduate option in Environmental Health (MBI-EH) program. The Council found the MSU program to be a solid, science-based undergraduate environmental health academic program that meets EHAC Undergraduate Accreditation Requirements. MSU's program shows strength in its rigorous study and science foundation, the interdisciplinary nature of the department and program, the experience and community involvement of faculty, thorough preparation of students for the RS/REHS exam, as well as many hands on and "real world" experiences for MSU students and opportunities to improve public speaking skills. Significantly, MSU's MBI-EH program enjoys passionate support from MSU faculty.

Therefore, the Council has voted to grant MSU's Microbiology and Immunology Undergraduate degree option in Environmental Health **full accreditation for six years**. In accordance with accreditation guidelines, your next Self-study document will be due 6 months prior (December 2024) to the Annual Meeting of the EHAC Council in 2025.

The Council would also like to reiterate the recommendations noted in your site-visit report, including:

- we support a budget model that allows for reinvestment into your re-emerging program;
- we support 2 new proposed courses for the curriculum: Water & Wastewater / and Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) – and strongly recommend they be delivered by MBI-EH faculty;
- we encourage the development of a student environmental health association;
- we encourage the department to develop a marketing plan and adequately fund outreach; and
- lastly, we strongly encourage you to diversify your advisory committee membership by adding industry representation.

The Council applauds MSU's rigorous science-based MBI-EH program and its thorough self-study submission. Congratulations on your program's many strengths and future contributions to the EH profession.

The National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC)
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Email: executive.director@nehspac.org * www.nehspac.org.

Please contact Executive Director Leslie Mitchell at executive.director@nehspac.org with any questions regarding the undergraduate program accreditation approval.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tania M. Busch Isaksen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tania M. Busch Isaksen, PhD, MPH

Cc: Robert Mokwa, PhD, Provost
Nicol Rae, Dean College of Letters and Science
Mark Jutila, Regents Professor