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Boo Hoe Kwa is Professor of Global Health and Associate Dean for International Programs at the College of Public Health, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, USA. He was born in Taiping, Malaysia and received his primary and secondary education at St. George's Institution in Taiping and his high school education at St. Xavier's Institution in Penang, Malaysia.

He went to Australia for his university education and graduated with his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia where he studied parasitology under Prof. J.D. Smyth. He returned to Malaysia and received his Ph.D. from the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where he worked on his dissertation in immuno-parasitology. He became Associate Professor at the University of Malaya, where he taught biology and parasitology from 1972 to 1986.

During this period, he was awarded the Nuffield Fellowship to do research in parasitology at Imperial College, London, England in 1976-77. In 1984 he was awarded a W.H.O. Visiting Scientist Grant to conduct research on lymphatic filariasis at the Harvard School of Public Health and was appointed Visiting Fellow in Tropical Public Health. In 1986 he moved to the United States and joined the College of Public Health, University of South Florida. He started his career in public health at USF, becoming Professor at the College of Public Health in 2000 and served as Chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health (2002-2004).

In 2004 he founded the new Department of Global Health and was appointed the Foundation Chair and Professor of Global Health and served in that capacity from 2004-2012. During his tenure in USF, he returned to Penang when he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to teach at Universiti Sains Malaysia, and he was Visiting Professor at USM in Penang from 1998-1999. His current interests are in global public health, health ecology and sustainable development.

In 2012, he stepped down from serving as Chair of the Department of Global Health and was promoted to Associate Dean for International Programs and serves in that position currently at the College of Public Health, University of South Florida.