From Particles to Populations:
A retreat to kick off the University of Utah Program for Air Quality, Health and Society
Fort Douglas, March 4, 2013

PROGRAM GOAL
Over the next 3 years, the goal of this program is to catalyze growth of a Center for Air Quality, Health and Society in Utah that would take advantage of the unique environment in the state to become a national leader in understanding the consequences of air pollution for human health and economic development. In addition, this Center will be a recognized, credible resource for universities, business and industry, education, public health and public policy.

RETREAT AGENDA
8:00–8:15 a.m.  Welcome and introduction
Vivian Lee, Senior Vice President for Health Affairs

8:15–8:30 a.m.  Setting the stage – The problem and the opportunity
Robert Paine, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

8:30–9:35 a.m.  Science and engineering panel – Moving beyond required measurements
Three 15 min talks and 20 min discussion; Moderator: Kerry Kelly, Chemical Engineering
- Fine particle sources, transport and measurement
  JoAnn Lighty, Chair, Chemical Engineering
- What we know and don’t know about weather - air quality linkages
  Kevin Perry, Chair, Atmospheric Sciences
- Spatial patterns of atmospheric carbon in the Salt Lake Valley
  Jim Ehleringer, Director, Global Change and Sustainability Center

9:35–10:00 a.m. Economics & policy – Making cents of air quality
Jennifer Robinson, Director, Center for Public Policy and Administration

10:00–10:30 a.m. Break

10:30–12:00 p.m. Biomedical panel – A wealth of opportunities for mechanistic research
Four 15 min talks and 20 min discussion; Moderator: TBD
- Children and ambient air pollution – Living like canaries in a coal mine
  Michelle Hofmann, Department of Pediatrics
- Platelet activation and air pollution – One cell linking many diseases
  Andy Weyrich, Pulmonary Division and Molecular Medicine
- Air quality, oxidative stress, and vascular health
  Russ Richardson, Geriatrics
- The opportunities of using linked medical databases
  in studying health effects of air quality
  Ken Smith, Director, Utah Population Database

12:00–1:00 p.m. Lunch & keynote –
Air pollution and human health: Science, controversy, and public policy
Arden Pope, Brigham Young University

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Breakout sessions

• Questions to be considered by individual Breakout groups:

1. What are key strategies to promote/facilitate collaboration across university units?
2. What are key strategies to draw investigators not currently studying air quality to the area? How can we enable research concepts which might apply to air pollution to be integrated into ongoing research? How can we sustain the current enthusiasm for studies of air quality? What infrastructure is required?
3. How should we engage groups external to the University?
   What kinds of relationships might be most successful in each instance?
   a. Division of Air Quality
   b. Additional government organizations
   c. Industry
   d. Other universities
4. How can we promote and take advantage of engagement with the community?
5. Can we identify challenges and opportunities for partnering with groups within the University?
6. What short-term goals should be identified and how will they promote our long-term goals?
7. What roles and goals should this Program have for education and training?
8. What are our greatest strengths? What are our greatest liabilities or impediments?
9. How should we seek to link health and economic data?
10. What can we learn concerning approaches to influencing individual behavior for a broader societal good?

• Question for all groups:

1. What are key missing data impeding future studies?
   a. Better characterization of pollutants and atmospheric chemistry?
   b. Personal exposure and monitoring? Indoor vs. outdoor exposure?
   c. Geospatial variability in pollution exposure and health outcomes?
   d. Disease-specific mechanisms?
   e. Ways to translate new knowledge to practice and policy?
2. What should be the criteria for our seed grant program?
3. How can we sustain the current enthusiasm for studies of air quality?
4. What is your best out-of-the-box suggestion?

2:00–2:50 p.m. Reporting out and discussion
2:50–3:00 p.m. Summing up and next steps

Thanks to the Southwest Consortium for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP) for supporting this retreat. Support for the Air Quality, Health and Society Program is being provided by the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Research, and the College of Engineering.

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