



# EPA's Air, Climate, & Energy Research Program

*Dan Costa, Sc.D.*

**March 5, 2014**

Office of Research and Development  
Air, Climate, & Energy Research Program





# Who and where we are in EPA: an illustration

## Office of Research and Development

- Comprises six research programs, including ACE
- Intramural and extramural components
- Funds grants to develop science that enables smart policy design and implementation

## Office of Air and Radiation

- Enacts policies that ORD-funded and other science may inform
- OTAQ (located within OAR) regulates air pollution from motor vehicles, engines, and fuel, to protect public health



# ORD National Research Programs: Building Sustainability and Systems Thinking into EPA Research

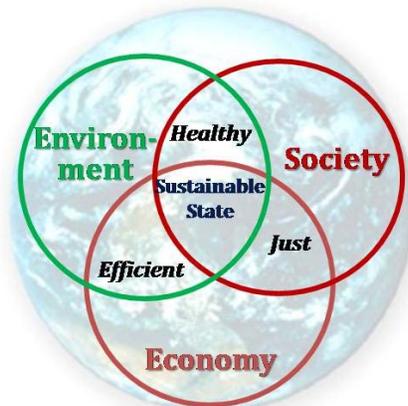
## Previous ORD Research Programs

Air  
Drinking Water  
Human Health  
Mercury  
Homeland Security  
Endocrine Disruptors  
Sustainability

Global  
Water Quality  
Ecosystems  
Land  
Human Health Risk Assmt  
Safe Pesticides/Products  
Computational Toxicology



## New ORD Research Programs



# Earth Systems



## Air

Ambient Air Quality  
Pollutant Deposition

## Climate

Changes in:  
Temperature · Extremes  
Precipitation · Sea Level

Exposures to and Effects on:

Ecosystems · Watersheds  
Human Health and Communities

## Responses

Mitigation  
Prevention  
Adaptation

## Social Factors

Population · Public Health · Economy  
Technology · Transportation · Behavior  
Water/Food Supply · Land Use Change

## Responses

Mitigation  
Prevention  
Adaptation

## Energy

Emissions of Air  
Pollutants  
and Other Environmental  
Stressors

# Human Systems



# How ACE responds to policy office research needs

- Administrator Priorities
- OAR AA communications
- OAR topic discussions with staff and science advisor
- ACE programmatic and project reviews
- Science community exchanges
- One-on-one communications
- Unanticipated issues that arise



# ACE Research Themes

## Theme 1: Assess Impacts

Assess human and ecosystem exposures and effects associated with air pollutants and climate change at individual, community, regional, and global scales



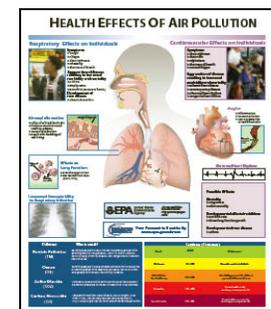
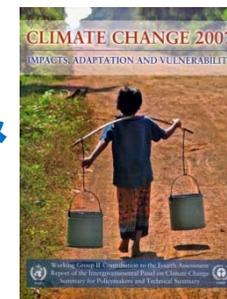
## Theme 2: Prevent and Reduce Emissions

Provide data & tools to develop and evaluate approaches to prevent and reduce emissions of pollutants to the atmosphere, particularly environmentally sustainable, cost effective, and innovative multipollutant and sector-based approaches



## Theme 3: Respond to Changes in Climate & Air Quality

Provide human exposure and environmental modeling, monitoring, metrics and information needed by individuals, communities, and governmental agencies to adapt to the impacts of climate change and make informed public health decisions regarding air quality



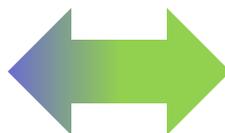
# ACE Themes and Research Topics

## ACE Themes

Theme 1:  
Assess Impacts

Theme 2:  
Prevent / Reduce  
Emissions

Theme 3:  
Respond to Changes



## Research Topics for ACE Partner Needs

Climate Impacts  
Mitigation and  
Adaptation

Emissions and  
Measurements

NAAQS and  
Multipollutant

Modeling/Decision  
Support Tools

Sustainable  
Energy Evaluation





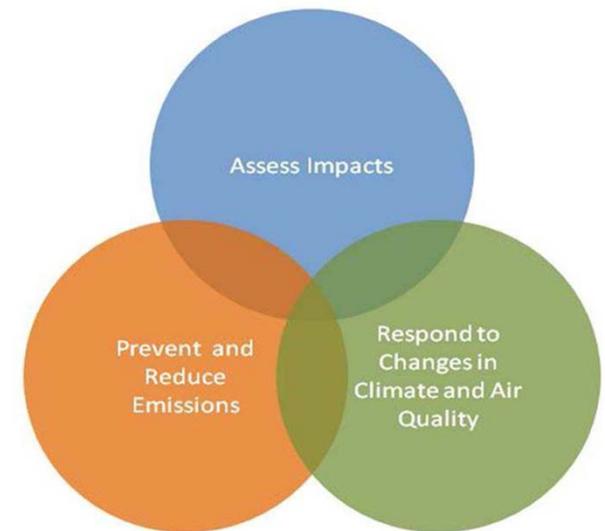
# Key Issues for ACE

- Implementation science – solving problems
- The multipollutant nature of air pollution
- The impacts of climate change and the development and evaluation of sustainable adaptation and mitigation options
- The human health and environmental impacts of current and future energy alternatives
- The expanding and contracting scales of environmental problems that range from global to local
- The social, behavioral, and economic factors that influence the effectiveness of air quality and climate policies

# About ACE: Both intramural and extramural

## Intramural science

- RTP, DC, Cincinnati, and several smaller sites
- Some major topics of research:
  - Health impacts of air pollution
  - Air quality modeling
  - Measurement and characterization (ambient + emissions)
  - Decision analysis
  - Control technologies
  - Life-cycle assessment
  - Climate-ecosystem interactions
  - Climate change impacts



*ACE Research Themes*



# How ACE responds to policy office research needs

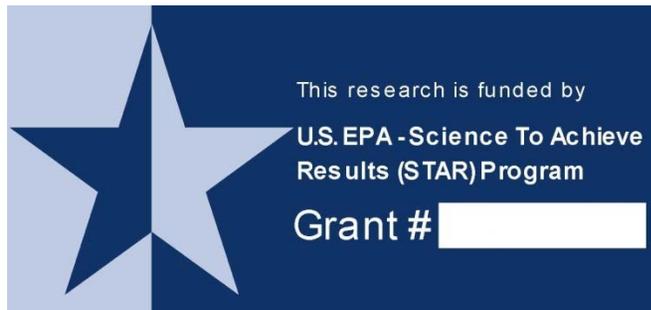
- STAR program
  - Science needs beyond intramural expertise
  - Forward looking science
  - Complimentary expertise
  - Proposal for upcoming solicitations
  - Participation in RFA writing teams
  - Relevancy review of STAR proposals
- STAR program is designed to complement the intramural program



# About ACE: Both intramural and extramural

## Extramural science

- STAR Grants
- Cooperative agreements
- Health Effects Institute



# Information exchange: How ACE gets the results out

- Journal articles
- Scientific conferences
- Newsletters
- Webinars
- Product delivery
- Meetings (with intramural scientists and grantees)
- One-on-one interactions with program office staff

 ENVIRONMENTAL  
Science & Technology

 Science



# Goals

- High-quality science
- Relevant for policy and decision making
- But not in a vacuum: always looking for new ideas
  - Communication
  - Research ideas
  - Partnerships



# ISSUE BENEFIT



# Agenda – Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

- 9:20 am **Christopher Frey**, North Carolina State University  
*Framework for Context-Sensitive Spatially- and Temporally-Resolved Onroad Mobile Source Emissions Inventories*
- 9:45 am **Rich Baldauf**, US EPA  
*Transportation Research in EPA's Air, Climate, & Energy and Sustainable and Health Communities Research Programs*
- 10:15 am **Break**
- 10:40 am **K. Max Zhang**, Cornell University  
*Quantifying the Effects of the Mixing Process in Fabricated Dilution Systems on Particulate Emission Measurements via an Integrated Experimental and Modeling Approach*
- 11:05 am **Lab Tour**
- 12:05 pm **Lunch**
- 12:50 pm **Gunnar Schade**, Texas A & M University  
*Improving Emission Inventories Using Direct Flux Measurements and Modeling*
- 1:15pm **Tami Bond and Yanfeng Ouyang**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
*Global-to-Urban Models for Minimizing Air Quality and Climate Impacts of Freight Choice*
- 1:40pm **Ed Nam**, US EPA  
*MOVES Update*
- 2:05 pm **Jesse Kroll**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
*Investigating the Effects of Atmospheric Aging on the Radiative Properties and Climate Impacts of Black Carbon Aerosol*
- 2:30 pm **Jamie Schauer**, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
*Development of a Quantitative Accounting Framework for Black Carbon and Brown Carbon from Emissions Inventory to Impacts*
- 2:55 pm **Rich Cook**, US EPA, Office of Transportation and Air Quality  
*Concluding Remarks*