Addressing Tribal Exposures to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and Building Tribal Capacity though a Tribal-University Partnership

Superfund Research Program Risk e-Learning Webinar May 23, 2011

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Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Oregon State
University
awarded SRP in
2009 focused on
PAHs: "New
Technologies and
Emerging Health
Risks"

Research Projects:

- 1. PAH mixtures as transplacental & dermal carcinogens
- 2. Transplacental Dosimetry of PAHs
- 3. Mechanisms of PAH-induced dev tox
- 4. Dev of biological response indicator devices
- 5. Nanomaterial PAH--discontinued
- 6. PAHs highly exposed populations (China, AI)

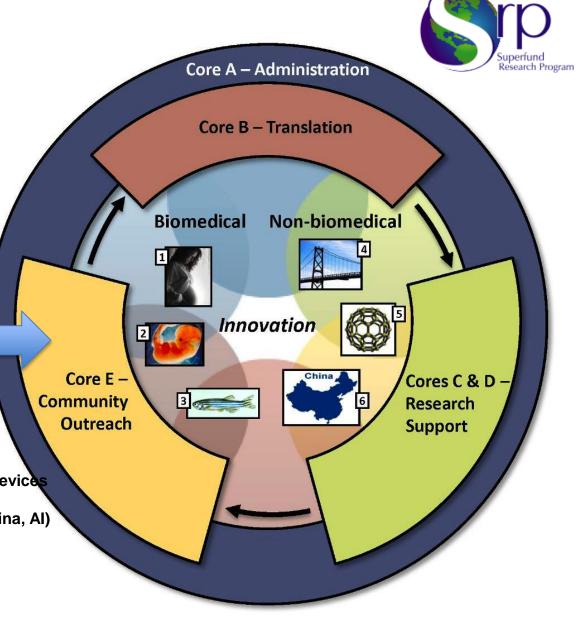
Core A - Administration

Core B - ResearchTranslation

Core C - Analytical Chemistry

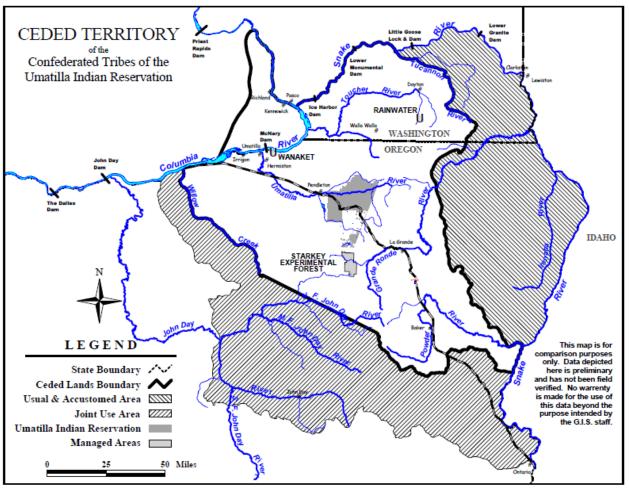
Core D - Biostatistics & Bioinformatics

Core E – Community Engagement



Location of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)





History of Collaboration between OSU and CTUIR

- EPA-STAR-J1-R831046 (2003-2006) "Estimating Environmental Exposures for Tribes Practicing Traditional Subsistence Lifestyles"
- 1) Cross-cultural methods
- 2) Research results for specific exposure pathway parameters

http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/ph/sites/def ault/files/xposure Scenario and Risk Guid ance Manual v2.pdf

- OSU and CTUIR (Department of Science and Engineering--DOSE) have a signed MOU in place
- DOSE and OSU-Public Health have worked on several other pilot projects together

Traditional Tribal Subsistence Exposure Scenario and Risk Assessment Guidance Manual



Three Rivers, Idaho (Courtesy of Barbara Harper)

Principal Investigator:

Barbara L. Harper, Oregon State University Department of Public Health and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Co-investigators:

Anna K. Harding, Oregon State University Department of Public Health Therese Waterhous, Oregon State University Department of Nutrition and Exercise Sciences

Stuart G. Harris, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation



Governance - Securing the Homeland

Governance for the people, by the people:

- Support the infrastructure for commerce
 - Provide services for the population
- Provide for the well-being of the people
- Set bounds, protect rights and resources

Truancy

Voting

Utilities Clothing Language Shelter Workforce



Land Base Cultural Insurance Resources Domestic violence Connectivity, **Offices Communications** Education Investments **Fairness** Religion **Social Services** Water & sewer **Justice** Potholes and stop signs Food **Roads Emergency Preparedness** Clinic **Clean Water Energy Friends** Safety

Securing the Future

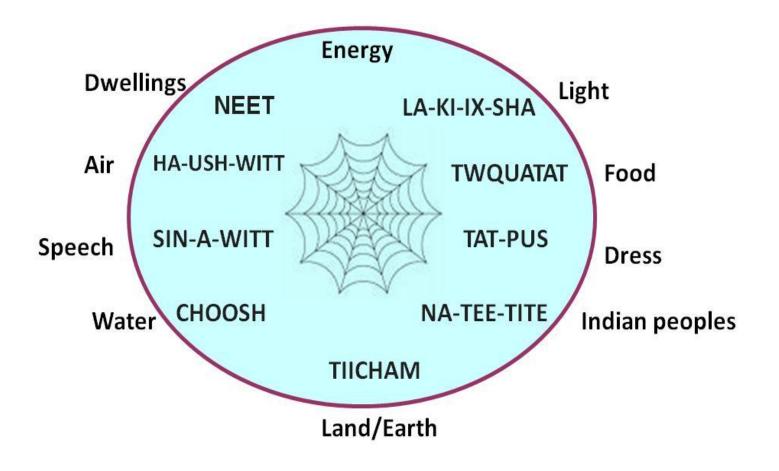


Governmental Context

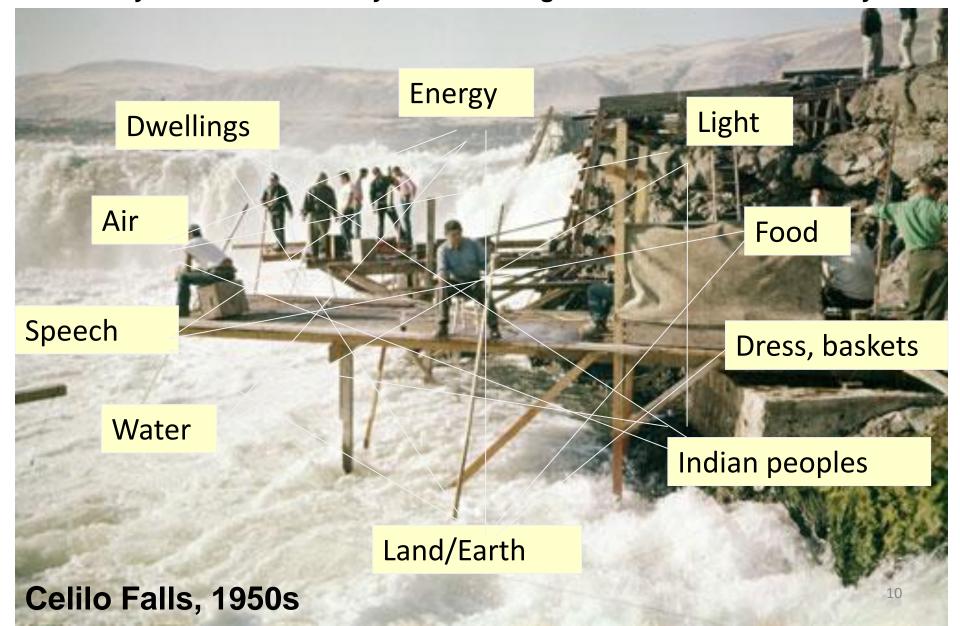
- Not just a "tribal community" but also a sovereign government with laws, Treaty, inter-governmental relations. CBPR/GovBPR.
- Tribes are the only ones with authority to "speak for" the tribe as an entity.
- There may be Tribal policies and plans already in motion.
 The Tribe may not be ready for a particular project.
- The Tribe may have higher priorities for their limited staff.
- The Tribe may simply choose a different path.
- There may be government-to-government regulatory negotiations underway (at contaminated sites).

Tamánwit (natural law - CTUIR)

World View – TEK – Ways of knowing and relating,



Health means healthy people in a healthy environment participating with the community in an eco-cultural system following natural laws in seamless cycles.



Educating OSU Community about Tribal Research Issues

Tribal Research Symposium April 2010

- Engagement Core (with help from NIEHS-funded Environmental Health Sciences Center sponsored symposium at OSU on issues/perspectives related to research in Tribal communities
- Included Tribal legal issues, research ethics, concepts in indigenous and western science, integration of socio-cultural health indicators into Tribal risk research.
- Featured speakers from CTUIR and Swinomish Tribal Community and tribal legal scholar
- Presentation and speaker details: http://oregonstate.edu/superfund/outreachevents

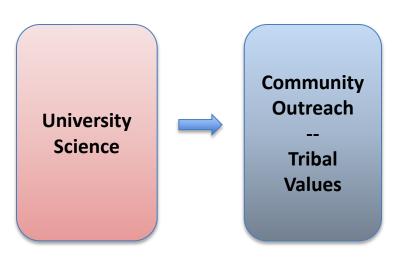
Matching Tribal Goals with SRP Project Goals

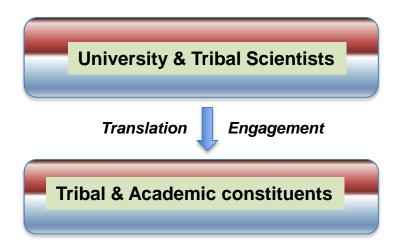
- Challenge was to match up needs and goals of CTUIR with that of other projects in SRP and dealing with reviewer expectations about role of community-based research in Engagement Core.
- CTUIR has research and data needs of its own and capacity of its own; were not at all interested in educational materials or health advice, for example, that might have been prepared by the Research Translation Core and implemented by the Engagement Core.

Community Engagement Models

Information Transmission Model

Dual-Capacity Model





CTUIR Needs for the Collaborative Project

- PAH exposures related to ambient air (field burning, wood burning fireplaces, diesel truck stop, downwind from coal burning power plant)
- Analysis of PAHs from the traditional smoking practices of fish and game to better understand personal exposures during these activities
- Concentration of PAHs in smoked fish
- Archival review at Tamástklict Cultural Institute to determine other food preservation/preparation methods for future studies







Capacity Building



- Getting information the community/nation needs and solutions that fit the cultural and governance situation
- Getting numerical data
- Acquiring analytical and research skills by a department, not just a single individual.
- Getting equipment to use in-house (labs at tribes)
- Getting training and student opportunities, STEM programs
- Continuity of projects, staff, and knowledge
- Funding for projects, set-asides for tribes
- Quality staff willing to accept relatively low salaries
- Experience with federal negotiating (fair treatment, meaningful involvement).
- Building cultural competence in universities and agencies

Engagement Core Project Goals

Establish a collaborative project that includes the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) tribal agencies, tribal and university investigators, and tribal community members to better understand health risks associated with PAH exposure on the Reservation and to assist in human capacity building with tribal partners.

Project aims/activities in a nutshell:

- Meet on annual basis with interdisciplinary advisory group that will provide overall guidance to project
- Assess PAH exposures of concern to the Tribes related to ambient air and traditional and cultural practices
- Measure PAH concentrations in foods prepared using indigenous smoking preservation methods
- Develop culturally appropriate risk reduction approaches and outreach strategies that engage the community and offer the best opportunity for improved health

Aim 1: Tribal Advisory Committee

Establish and convene an interdisciplinary advisory group representing tribal and government agencies, and other members who will add additional expertise in tribal cultural lifestyles and culturally-appropriate risk reduction measures.

- Membership includes representatives from Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic, CTUIR community, OSU, OHSU, Swinomish Tribe
- 2nd annual meeting in October 2010 at OSU—SRP lab tours
- Meeting minutes posted:

http://ehsc.science.oregonstate.edu/files/ehsc/AgendaOct52010_final.pdf





Aim 2: Capacity Building and PAH Exposure Assessment

Engage in human capacity building with the CTUIR tribal partners and assess PAH exposure pathways specific and relevant to their traditional and cultural practices.

Three tasks:

- Ambient air monitoring on the Reservation
- Personal air sampling during smoking of fish
- Measurement of PAHs in smoked fish

Aim 2: Ambient Air Monitoring on the Reservation

OSU researchers helped set up a regional ambient air monitoring station on Umatilla Indian Reservation



OSU installed Hi-Vol air samplers to monitor for daily 24-hr PM size segregated samples during multiple seasons. CTUIR downloads data; sends filters to OSU for chemical analysis.

Adds capacity to existing AQ monitoring:

- Examine differential PAH profiles to determine combustion source (diesel, coal, biomass, etc.)
- Complement current Tribal monitoring and implementation of Federal Air Rules for Reservations (CTUIR has received TAS and partial delegation)
- CTUIR keeps the equipment.

Smoking Salmon

- Exposure of the smokers
- PAHs in foods









Aim 2: Collection and Analysis of Personal Air Samples from Tribal members smoking food

- OSU and CTUIR conducting personal air sampling during food smoking activities in traditional Tribal smokehouses.
- Personal air sampling equipment will be owned by the CTUIR and used by Tribal members to measure exposure during food smoking
- Additional activity: Collection of air samples from smoke structure using Passive Sampling Device (PSD) (Project 4). PSDs have been set up to get background data before the smoking begins
- Food smoking will be conducted in two structures (wood smoke shed and teepee) and using three different woods typically used by the Tribes (alder, ash, apple)

Aim 2: Personal Exposure Monitoring

CTUIR and OSU will collect air samples during smoking of fish using a small Leland personal monitoring system.

Tribal members trained in proper methods of personal air sampling.

Personal air training video: http://oregonstate.edu/superfund/training-using-personal-air-sampling-devices

Example of CTUIR capacity building







Aim 2: Collection & Analysis Urine Samples

- Collection and analysis of urine samples from non-cigarette smoking Tribal members smoking food (before-after activity) using an isotopedilution GC/HRMS method (Core D conducts analysis)
- Survey with participants who are smoking foods who submit urine samples to determine job position, verify non-smoking status, gender, other possible exposures to tobacco smoke (e.g., secondhand smoke)
- Received IRB approvals from OSU, Portland Indian Health Board, and approval from the CTUIR Health Commissions—at least 6 months to complete these approvals
- Food smoking activities to start spring 2011, with spring run of Chinook salmon (mid-May)

Aim 2: Measure PAHs in Smoked Fish

Measure PAH concentrations in foods (fish, game) from indigenous smoking preservation methods.

Collection of Food Samples

Measure PAHs in salmon after they have been preserved using indigenous smoking methods.

Acquire samples in spring 2011 and fall 2011 salmon runs—will purchase from Tribal commercial fisherman

Cores B, C, and D developed sampling matrix for smoked fish samples

PAH Analysis of Food

To be conducted in Core D Laboratory – Core D has developed methods for testing fresh and smoked salmon

Expect to test up to 90 food samples for 9 parent PAH compounds found in CDC Human Exposure Study

Aim 3: Risk Reduction Approaches and Outreach Strategies

Develop culturally appropriate risk reduction approaches and outreach strategies that offer the best opportunity for improved health.

Develop community definition of health and well-being (eco-cultural well-being)

- Focus group survey developed to define individual and community physical, social, cultural, ecological well-being, access to cultural & natural resources.
- Working on best way to recruit participants

Select appropriate public and medical health metrics related to overall cultural and community well-being

 Examine clinic data for suitability of health statistics to develop overall picture of general health conditions for the Tribes-feasibility of this still being discussed with new leadership at Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic

Aim 3: Risk Reduction Approaches and Outreach Strategies

Engage community in designing risk reduction and health promotion strategies that gained from prior tasks and from Center's findings—Year 4

Disseminate Culturally appropriate risk reduction information both locally and more broadly to regional and national Tribal communities—Years 3-4

Examples:

Meet regularly with members of Tribal Health Commission, Yellowhawk Clinic medical staff, and Tribal Board of Trustees throughout project

Develop public service announcements; write articles for confederated Umatilla Journal

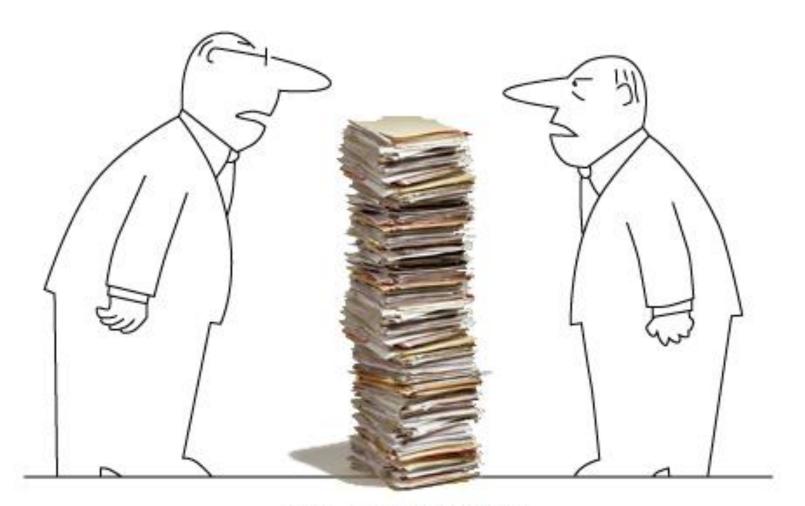
Regional and national forums through which information generated from the Engagement Core will be disseminated to other Tribes

Publications and presentations

Integration with Other SRP Collaborators

- Core B (RTC)—participation in Core meetings, advisory meetings, facilitate technology transfer of air monitoring methods to Tribal partners; interpret data, assessment of exposure and risk, dissemination of information; purchase of personal air monitors
- Project 6--setting up ambient stations, purchasing ambient monitoring equipment, collection of air and urine samples, training tribal air staff
- Core D—processing of air, food, and urine samples
- Will use toxicity findings gained from projects applicable to human health– Projects 1, 2, 3
- Core C for computational support, data storage, and consultative data analysis, statistics
- Project 4 (PSDs) being set up in smokehouse structures
- Co-authorship of publications—Members of CEC, RTC, CTUIR, Projects
 4 & 6

Material and Data Sharing Agreement



"No, it's MY data!"



Material and Data Sharing Agreement

Core developed unique agreement signed by all three parties—CTUIR, OSU, PNNL and is used by all in SRP who are working with CTUIR data. Also been adapted for other Tribal projects

Material and Data supplied by CTUIR to OSU or to PNNL, or collected by OSU on behalf of CTUIR, is and remains the property of CTUIR and shall not be shared with third parties without the written permission of CTUIR. Participant data shall not be sold or used, internally or externally, for any purpose not directly related to the scope of work defined in this agreement without the written permission of CTUIR.

All <u>publications</u> and <u>presentations</u> developed using materials or data collected under this Agreement must be presented to Director of the Department of Science and Engineering, CTUIR for review and approval prior to dissemination.

Material and Data Sharing Agreement

Material and Data Sharing Agreement have the following components:

- General project scope and collaborator.
- Types of material and data collected: States the types of material and data to be collected and the general collection method.
- Constraints on material and data use: Materials and data supplied by the tribe to researchers, or collected by researchers on behalf of the tribe, are and remain tribal property and are not to be shared with third parties without the written permission of tribal authorities. Includes procedures for publication and post-completion return of all materials and data.
- Data access and security: Details the procedures for maintaining the physical security of the data. Restricts data access to approved project researchers who require it for a specific task.
- Risks and benefits of research to the tribal community: Summarizes the
 risks and benefits to be expected from participation in the research project,
 for both the individual and the tribal community.
- Agreed-on mutual review processes: As a two-way document, the CTUIR agreed that it has equal responsibility for timely completion of research tasks and reports.

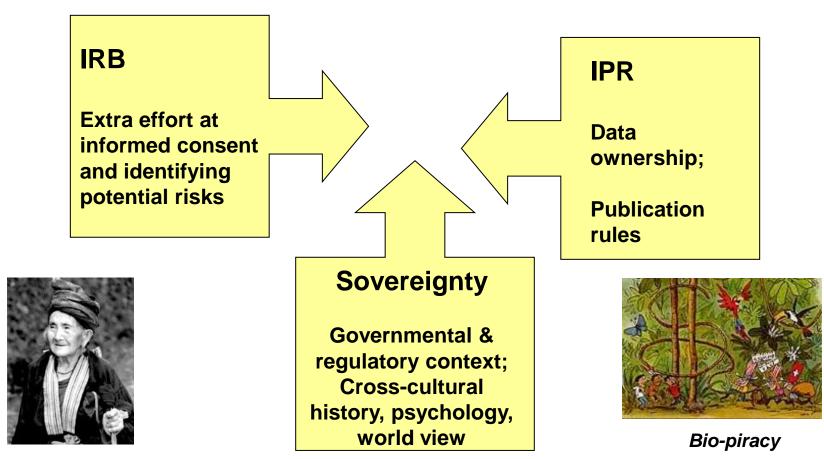
Ethics and Informed Consent

IRB rules arose from abuses and bad outcomes. These are well known. IRB rules for extra effort at informed consent are not quite as clear.

IPR rules from anthropology and indigenous medicinal knowledge of plants are more recent. *Example:*

- Stories and songs may be 'owned' by individuals, yet professors of anthropology make careers of recording and publishing them. Or digging up tribal ancestors. Or 'discovering' tribal ideas/methods/data and publishing them.

Ethics and Informed Consent



Free prior informed consent

Conclusions—Key Points

- Research in tribal communities may need tribal government approval, unlike other American communities.
- Establishment of a trusting relationship between university and tribal researchers is necessary for collaborative research to succeed.
- Tribal staff and schedules and research needs may not match grant goals or funding agency schedules—adjustments may be required.
- University researchers engaged in tribal projects should become familiar with sovereignty, ethics and informed consent, and intellectual property rights.
- Some tribes already have capacity as co-investigators, and do not wish to be just recipients of information from an outreach task.
- NIEHS should consider the broad definition of "community engagement" to allow tribes or communities to do their own research. This may not be glamorous or cutting edge research, but may be an urgent data gap from a tribal perspective.

Acknowledgements

Other Engagement Core key personnel Stuart Harris, CTUIR Dave Stone, OSU RTC Sandra Uesugi, OSU Jack Butler, CTUIR

Other OSU SRP investigators, especially:
Staci Simonich, Yuling Jia, Kim Anderson, Dan Sudakin, Katrina Waters, Andres Cardenas (MPH student)

Tribal Advisory Committee members, especially Michelle Burke, CTUIR

NIEHS funding—Award No. P42ES016465

Justin and Risk e Learning Webinar series