KENT PINKERTON, PH.D.

Professor, Pediatrics · UC Davis School of Medicine · Professor, Anatomy, Physiology and Cell Biology, School of Veterinary Medicine UC Davis

Dr. Pinkerton's research focuses on the health effects of environmental air pollutants on lung structure and function, as well as the interaction of gases and airborne particles in acute and chronic lung injury. He also is interested in the effects of environmental tobacco smoke on lung growth and development.

He teaches cardiovascular and thoracic anatomy, respiratory microanatomy and development, inhalation toxicology, environmental/health interactions and health effects of nanoparticles.

He also serves as Director of the Center for Health and the Environment. Dr. Pinkerton earned his B.S. degree in Microbiology from Brigham Young University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Pathology from Duke University.

LAUREL PLUMMER, PH.D. GRADUATE STUDENT

Pharmacology and Toxicology · University of California, Davis

Laurel Plummer's dissertation research focuses on health effects of ambient particulate matter in the San Joaquin Valley.

She has collaborated with atmospheric engineers and other investigators in the San Joaquin Valley Aerosol Health Effects Center at UC Davis to conduct several air quality field studies in rural and urban locations within the Valley. These investigations have focused on health effects of the pulmonary and systemic systems to inflammatory, oxidative stress and immune responses to inhaled fine/ultrafine ambient particles in a mouse model. Summer/winter and urban/rural differences as well as the role of particle size and chemical composition in particle-induced toxicity have been evaluated.

Ms. Plummer has presented her research findings in platform and poster presentations for the U.S. EPA, the American Thoracic Society and the Society of Toxicology. In 2010, she received the Northern California Society of Toxicology Young Investigator Award and a graduate student travel award from the Society of Toxicology in recognition of her research accomplishments.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies from University of California, Santa Barbara in 2006.