



CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT SEMINAR

Inhalation Toxicity of Dusts from Uranium Mine Sites *plus* Update on Vaping Health Hazards

Dr. Matthew J Campen

**Professor, College of Pharmacy, Health Sciences Center
University of New Mexico**



Hundreds of abandoned uranium mine sites remain on Navajo Nation and nearby communities have expressed concerns related to the uncertainties of long-term respiratory health. We have studied respirable particulate matter toxicity from sediments derived from those sites and found them to be highly potent relative to "background" dusts. However, the actual amount of dusts arising from wind-based resuspension is uncertain. Thus, we are utilizing a mobile exposure

laboratory to examine the composition and toxicity of dusts in the affected regions.

Additionally, we recently published findings related to how vaping may impair the lung immune system, and these findings may help explain the ongoing nationwide vaping-related pulmonary disease crisis.

Aspects of the study and the clinical syndrome will be discussed.



October 4th @ 12 pm – Jones Annex 101