Mary Kay O’Rourke, PhD, is a professor emeritus of public health research at The University of Arizona in the Department of Community, Environment, and Policy at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health where she taught environmental and occupational health.

Dr. O’Rourke has conducted interdisciplinary research relating environmental exposure to human health for more than 30 years. Throughout her career, she has worked on aggregate and cumulative exposure to a variety of agents including pollen, mold, house dust mites, metals (particularly arsenic) and pesticides (particularly organophosphates. These studies include the National Human Exposure Assessment Survey, the Arizona Border Survey, two surveys examining pesticide exposure among children in Yuma Co. Arizona, pesticide exposure in the Gila River Indian Community and arsenic exposure through food. She has extensive experience in designing and implementing exposure assessment field surveys, quality assurance programs and the data processing protocols for large studies. Her current research, in collaboration with Dr. Harris, focuses on multimedia, multipathway exposure to PM$_{2.5}$, arsenic and uranium among the Hopi of Arizona.

This presentation will focus on recent work performed with University and Hopi collaborators. When complete the project will sample indoor and outdoor environments in up to 90 homes on the Hopi reservation. Members of the University team provide technical support to Hopi technicians and CHRs who visit the homes. Recent PRELIMINARY work evaluating housing type and PM$_{2.5}$ exposures (Hadeed), radon found in homes (AlShammari), cancer risks associated with consumption of arsenic in water (Blohm), and dietary evaluation (Fiksel) will be presented. The project will continue for the next 1-2 years.

For more information, please contact Karen O’Shaughnessy @ 520-626-4912 or email: koshaughnessy@email.arizona.edu