

## ZP11 Weekly Notes

**CDC - NASA STRATEGIC MEETING** (email [doug.rickman@nasa.gov](mailto:doug.rickman@nasa.gov) / phone 256/961-7889) R. Clinton/ZP01, J. Smoot, J. Luvall and D. Rickman/ZP11, and S. Estes/Program Associate for the NASA Public Health Program, met with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) personnel in Atlanta Dec. 11, 2014. The meeting was a step in the process of developing a broader and more extensive working relationship between CDC and NASA. New areas of potential collaboration were identified and actions allocated.

**CLIMATE DATA INITIATIVE - ECOSYSTEMS AND WATER THEMES LAUNCHED BY WHITE HOUSE** (email: [rahul.ramachandran@nasa.gov](mailto:rahul.ramachandran@nasa.gov) / phone: 256-961-7620): The White House launched two new themes on Dec 9th, 2014 as part of the President's Climate Data Initiative to address ecosystem and water resilience to climate change through data and innovation. Dr. Ramachandran (ZP11) and his team assisted in this effort as data coordinators. The link to the white house blog is <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/12/09/unleashing-climate-data-and-innovation-more-resilient-ecosystems>.

**JOURNAL PAPER PUBLISHED** (email [mohammad.alhamdan@nasa.gov](mailto:mohammad.alhamdan@nasa.gov) / phone 256-961-7465): A journal paper coauthored by scientists from ZP11 (Mohammad Al-Hamdan, Bill Crosson/USRA, Maury Estes and Sue Estes/UAH) has been published at the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. The title of the paper is "*The Public Health Exposome: A Population-Based, Exposure Science Approach to Health Disparities Research*". This paper is part of a project funded jointly by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entitled "*Environmental Context of Health Disparities*" that is led by Dr. Paul Juarez from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). The paper reports activities that enabled an NIH-funded Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence at UTHSC and Meharry Medical College to study the environmental context of health disparities, improve access to healthy environments by disproportionately impacted communities, and improve health outcomes and eliminate health disparities among communities at greatest risk.

**MSFC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS** (email [george.fletcher@nasa.gov](mailto:george.fletcher@nasa.gov) / phone 256-961-7555): R. Clinton/ZP01, G. Jedlovec (ZP11), and G Fletcher (CS10/ZP11) met with Charles Resnick, Chief Economist for the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS) in Atlanta on December 10, 2014 to discuss the development of the MSFC Center of Excellence (COE) for Remote Sensing Applications. The MSFC COE will be one of two that support CASIS's Project Good Earth, an international initiative to use Earth-observing capabilities on the International Space Station for humanitarian purposes. The other COE will be established in Geneva by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and UNITAR's Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT). A non-reimbursable Space Act Agreement (SAA) between MSFC and CASIS is being developed to formally establish a working relationship between the two parties, with a reimbursable SAA to follow in early 2015.