

University of Colorado Boulder
Chancellor Philip DiStefano
Climate and Health Partnership Workshop w/Anschutz
Opening Remarks
Tues. May 9, 2017
5 min.

Welcome researchers from both Boulder and Anschutz for coming together on this important topic.

Climate and health represents an area of work with tremendous implication for the welfare of people around the world.

The changes we are seeing in the world's climate is already impacting communities, particularly affecting those least equipped to adapt to it.

The research you will define today will lead to greater resiliency for people around the world.

Aside from the implications and importance of this work, as Chancellor, I'm particularly gratified to see us take on research that plays to the strengths of both campuses.

Only by combining our areas of expertise can we be successful at becoming an international leader in this emerging area.

The changing climate is going to have dramatic impacts on our water and air quality, on the spread of infectious diseases, on the ability of workers to work outdoors during the hottest parts of the year without active cooling.

Who is going to be impacted, and to what degree, relies on our ability to marry climate research, particularly climate projections, with water and atmospheric sciences, to paint a reliable picture for the health community. Equally, it relies on health community driving and feeding earth science research with key medical thresholds and providing the human context for this work.

It requires a marriage of Earth science data with medical/health data in a way that allows for emergent work to be done. That's what makes what you do here today so very important.

Thank you for your vitally important work.

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