Memorandum of Understanding for Promotion of Academic Development and Community Involvement on Air Quality and Climate Change Issues Between the California Air Resources Board and the University of California, Riverside

Whereas, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is the agency charged with providing healthful air to all Californians, and is leading the world in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

Whereas, the Board’s aggressive mobile source emission reduction program is the key reason for the significant improvement in air quality that the State has experienced.

Whereas, the success of CARB’s programs depends on well-trained, skilled and experienced staff that represent the diversity of the communities CARB serves.

Whereas, CARB is constructing its Southern California Headquarters in Riverside to be a world-standard center of research, emissions compliance and regulatory development.

Whereas, the University of California, Riverside (UCR) is recognized for its longstanding leadership in basic and applied research on air quality and climate science, air pollution characterization and control, intelligent transportation, robotics and autonomy, smart grids, renewable fuel and power production, agricultural operations, material science, and energy storage.

Whereas, CARB and UCR can leverage their facilities and staffing resources to conduct air quality and climate change research.

Whereas, UCR populates the workforce with approximately 5800 students that graduate each year.

Whereas, UCR is already partnering with local school districts and community colleges to offer training programs for local residents to become scientists and technicians in relevant fields of study, with an emphasis on educating disadvantaged and underrepresented populations, including women and people of color.

Whereas, UCR received a grant from CARB focused on J.W. North High School and the surrounding disadvantaged community to develop community involvement strategies and data collection to gather neighborhood level data on diesel particulate matter levels related to goods movement operations.

Whereas, the new CARB headquarters provides an opportunity for CARB and UCR to create a world-renowned nexus for educational opportunities and research relating to climate change and air quality education and innovation.

Whereas, the new headquarters also provides UCR and CARB with an opportunity to partner to advance their mutual goal of building a strong and diverse workforce with the skills to tackle the air quality and climate change challenges of the Inland Empire and the world.

Whereas, together with other local educational institutions, CARB and UCR, intend to cooperate on development of an educational pathway from primary grades through the university level for the Southern California Inland region to support the CARB facility and related industry jobs.

Therefore, CARB and UCR enter this MOU to confirm their commitment to work in partnership to achieve the purposes of this MOU as stated herein.

Part 1: Areas of Cooperation

The parties may cooperate in the following areas and other related areas as appropriate and for the mutual benefit of both parties:

- Development and delivery of air-quality and climate-change focused training programs and curricula, including policy and medical aspects.
- Promotion of air quality and science career pathways for a diverse student population from K-12 to community colleges to universities.
• Opportunities to obtain grants, industry sponsorship, or other for air quality or climate change research.
• Development of joint research between CARB and UC Riverside.
• Development of student internship and capstone opportunities at CARB.
• Opportunities for CARB staff to interact with UCR faculty, students, and staff through seminars, lectures, and adjunct professorships.
• Coordination on outreach and joint education opportunities.

Part 2: Forms of Cooperation
The forms of cooperation may include the following and any other forms agreed to by the parties:
• CARB participating on committees for the development of training programs, curricula and related educational opportunities.
• CARB providing technical expertise and information to assist in supporting UCR’s training program and curricula.
• CARB providing outreach to UCR for student internship and capstone opportunities, as appropriate.
• CARB providing guest speakers/participants for appropriate air quality and climate change colloquia, seminars and other events.
• CARB providing tours of the CARB Southern California Headquarters.
• CARB consulting with researchers at UCR, as relevant.
• UCR inviting CARB staff to participate in joint research projects when relevant.
• UCR hosting domestic and international visitors wishing to visit CARB and UCR, including providing tours of relevant laboratories and offering short term training programs.
• UCR developing training programs for CARB staff including Society for Automotive Engineer (SAE) course training, new employee “Air Academy” training, mobile emission laboratory training, and leadership training.
• CARB and UCR coordinating on employment opportunities including CARB participation in University career fairs and UCR providing CARB job opportunity information to students.
• CARB and UCR collaborating on opportunities to apply for grants, industry sponsorship, and other funding opportunities related to air quality or climate change research, including research regarding health impacts.
• Collaboration on joint research opportunities.
• CARB staff participating in student projects and lectureships, as appropriate including possible adjunct professor positions at UCR and instructor positions at UCR Extension.

Part 3: Implementation
The parties will consult with each other on a regular basis regarding matters of common interest that represent opportunities for mutual benefit consistent with this MOU.

The parties designate the following individuals as primary contacts for the implementation of this MOU:

Annette Hebert
Assistant Executive Officer
CARB Southern California Headquarters
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, CA 91731
(626) 450-6150

Thomas Smith, Ph.D.
Interim Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor
Professor of Education
4148 Hinderaker Hall
University of California Riverside
(951) 827-1129
Part 4: General Provisions
This MOU will remain in effect from the date of its signature by the parties for two years and may be amended upon agreement of the parties in writing.
This MOU is non-binding and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity.
Nothing in this MOU binds the parties to perform beyond their respective authorities.
Nothing in this MOU is intended to or will be construed to limit or affect in any way the authority or legal responsibilities of the parties.
The mission requirements, funding, personnel, and other priorities of the parties may affect their ability to fully implement all the provisions identified in this MOU.
Nothing in this MOU may be construed to obligate the parties to spend funds on any particular area or form of cooperation.
Specific activities that involve the transfer of money, services, or property between or among the parties will require execution of separate agreements or contracts.
Nothing in this MOU is intended to or will be construed to restrict the parties from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.
All press releases and public statements issued by the parties concerning or characterizing this MOU will be jointly reviewed and agreed to by the parties prior to issuance.

Mary D. Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board

Thomas M. Smith, Interim Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor
University of California Riverside