Jason West, Ph.D., M.Phil., M.S.

Assistant Professor, Environmental Sciences & Engineering at UNC-Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Dr. West is interested broadly in the problems of air pollution and climate change

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Dr. West received a BS in Engineering from Duke University in 1993, an MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in 1994, an M.Phil. in Environment and Development from the University of Cambridge (UK) in 1995, and a PhD from the departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University in 1998. Dr. West has held several appointments since completion of his PhD, including postdoctoral fellowships at Carnegie Mellon and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was selected as an AAAS Environmental Fellow to work at the US Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC on international transport of air pollutants and on climate change. His most recent position was at Princeton University, where he served as associate research scholar working on global atmospheric chemistry modelling. Dr. West is interested broadly in the problems of air pollution and climate change, with the goal of exploring the relationships between these problems and the relevance of these relationships for environmental science and policy. Using computer models of atmospheric chemistry, Dr. West is interested in exploring the effects of changes in emissions on global air quality, the international transport of air pollutants (focusing on ozone and particulate matter), and the radiative forcing of climate. Recently, his research has emphasized methane emissions. Methane is an important greenhouse gas that also reacts in the atmosphere to contribute to ozone air pollution, but abatement of methane is not generally considered for ozone air quality management. Dr. West showed that the global benefits of reduced ozone and avoided premature human mortalities exceed the costs of a 20% reduction in global anthropogenic methane emissions. In the future, he plans to explore how goals of improving air quality and slowing greenhouse warming can be achieved simultaneously. Dr. West will also be active in teaching, beginning with a course on the broad problem of climate change, covering the science, impacts, economics, technology, and policy aspects of this important problem.

Education/Learning, Research

Climate Change, Air Pollution, Environmental Decision Analysis, Global Health, The Environment

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Carnegie Mellon University
Ph.D. Civil and Environmental Engineering / Engineering and Public Policy

University of Cambridge
MPhil Environment and Development

Carnegie Mellon University
MS Civil and Environmental Engineering

Duke University
BSE Civil and Environmental Engineering
