

## SMITH Team Status Report May 2011

During the month of May, tests have begun to determine which filter cartridge will be used in the sampling chamber. Based on the designs of the cartridges, microscope analysis will be necessary to determine homogenous collection on the filter material. Initial observations reveal no distinct pattern for air sampling over the period of one hour. These tests will be repeated to ensure validity. Both sample cartridges were tested for their ability to maintain a seal under a negative pressure. There was no significant difference in either cartridge's ability to maintain a seal.

The SMITH Team presented their CDR report to MARS LIFE personnel at the end of the month. As three members of the team have recently graduated, the group has prepared a task list for the incoming undergraduate Scott Burke.