CLAIMS:

1. An air sampling device for sampling air in a controlled environment comprising:

a housing body having a top and a side;

an opening at the top of said housing body;

a retaining assembly configured to retain a sampling device, said retaining assembly located at the top of said housing body about said opening;

an elongated plenum having a top end and a bottom end, said top and bottom ends defining a longitudinal axis of the plenum therebetween, said top end being coupled to the top of the housing body at said opening such that said longitudinal axis of said plenum is substantially coaxial with said opening, whereby said plenum is in flow communication with said opening;

a mass flow meter located immediately and directly below the plenum, the mass flow meter having an input and an output, said input coupled to the bottom end of said plenum and in flow communication with said plenum; and

a blower inside said plenum and configured to draw air past the sampling device, through the opening, through the plenum, and through the mass flow meter, thereby allowing the air to move down longitudinally in the plenum.

2. The air sampling device of claim 1, said mass flow meter detecting a flow rate of air through the mass flow meter.

3. The air sampling device of claim 2, further comprising a processing device receiving a detected flow rate from said mass flow meter and controlling a speed of said blower in response to the detected flow rate.

4. The air sampling device of claim 3, wherein said processing device increases the speed of said blower if the detected flow rate is lower than a desired flow rate, and decreases the speed of said blower if the detected flow rate is higher than a desired flow rate.

5. The air sampling device of claims 1-4, further comprising an atrium coupled to said housing body to enclose the sampling device.

6. The air sampling device of claim 5, said atrium having a locking mechanism for releasably locking the atrium to said housing body.

7. The air sampling device of claim 5, said atrium having a locking slot and said housing body having a projection releasably engaging the locking slot to releasably lock said atrium to said housing body.

8. The air sampling device of any of claims 1-7, wherein said housing body and said plenum are cylindrical and said opening is circular.

9. A method for sampling air in a controlled environment comprising:

actuating a blower at an inside of a housing to draw air across a media plate located at an outside of the housing, passing the air along a longitudinal axis of said housing body to a mass flow meter located immediately and directly below the blower;

detecting at the mass flow meter, a flow rate of the air; and

controlling at a processing device, a speed of said blower in response to the detected flow rate.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the processing device increases the speed of said blower if the detected flow rate is lower than a desired flow rate, and decreases the speed of said blower if the detected flow rate is higher than a desired flow rate.