



# CaSGC Partnerships with MESA for Community College University Lab Research Experiences

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Photo: CaSGC Student Balloon Launch 12/2008





### **PRESENTATION OVERVIEW**

- California Space Grant Affiliates & Partners
- Goals for Community College Pilot Project
- Program Partners
- MESA Program
- Pilot: "San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy"
- Alignment with Co-STEM, NASA, Research in STEM Retention
- Permanent Program, Growth, Impact







#### Lead Institution:

UCSD: University of California, San Diego

#### Affiliate Members:

APU: Azusa Pacific University

ASP: Astronomical Society of the Pacific

CIT: California Institute of Technology

CPP: California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

CPS: California State Polytechnic University, San Luis

Obispo

CSUF: California State University, Fresno

CSULA: California State University, Los Angeles

CSULB: California State University, Long Beach

CSUS: California State University, Sacramento

CSUSB: California State University, San Bernardino

PC: Pomona College

SCU: Santa Clara University

SDCC: San Diego City College

SDSC: San Diego Supercomputer Center

SDSU: San Diego State University

SJSU: San Jose State University

SSU: Sonoma State University

SU: Stanford University

UCB: University of California, Berkeley

**UCD**: University of California, Davis

UCI: University of California, Irvine

UCLA: University of California, Los Angeles

UCR: University of California, Riverside

<u>UCSB</u>: University of California, Santa Barbara

<u>UCSC</u>: University of California, Santa Cruz

USC: University of Southern California

USD: University of San Diego

### Community College Partners:

CC: Citrus College

CaC: Cabrillo College

CCSF: City College of San Francisco

COD: College of the Desert

CSM: College of San Mateo

ELAC: East Los Angeles College

GC: Gavilan College

HC: Hartnell College

LACC: Los Angeles City College

MSAC: Mt. San Antonio College

NVC: Napa Valley College

PCC: Pasadena City College

RHC: Rio Hondo College

SAC: Santa Ana College

SBCC: Santa Barbara City College

SC: Southwestern College

#### California NASA Center Partners:

AMES: NASA Ames Research Center

ARMSTRONG: NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center

JPL: NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory







Bay Area Affiliate Mtg NASA Ames March 2014



Southern CA
Affiliate Mtg
UC Los Angeles
April 2014





 Programs include graduate and undergraduate research and team projects in: Aeronautics...









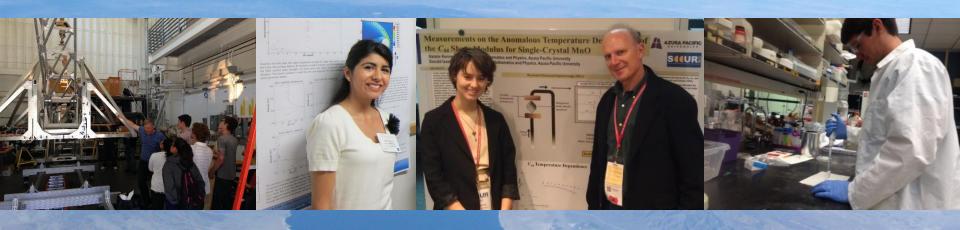








Space & Physical Sciences...







Astronomy & Astrophysics...

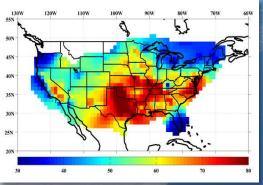






Earth & Environmental Sciences...















Precollege...









...And Public Outreach...







### Reaching:

Program Element	Number of Direct Participants (Funded & Non-Funded Students)	Number of Direct Funded Students
Fellowships & Scholarships	194	159
Higher Education	234	113
Research Infrastructure	23	21
TOTAL OUTCOME 1	451 students	293 students











### **GOALS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE PILOT PROJECT**

- Responding to NASA Office of Education priorities: Working with more community colleges, Minority Serving Institutions
- Increasing diversity & inclusion in our programs
- Providing university research experience to community college students for increased
   STEM retention and advanced STEM degrees





### PROGRAM PARTNERS

## Cooperative program between:

- California Space Grant
  - UC San Diego
- San Diego MESA Alliance
  - San Diego State University
  - San Diego City College
  - Southwestern College





# MESA PROGRAM (MATHEMATICS, ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, ACHIEVEMENT)

- Engages educationally disadvantaged students. Most are:
  - ■First in family to go to college
  - Low-income
  - Attended low-performing schools with few resources
- Three Segments (Together Making A Pipeline):
  - ■MESA Schools Program
  - MESA Community College Program
  - ■MESA Engineering Program
  - Emphasis on rigorous academics, supportive communities for academic success, industry collaboration, preparing students to transfer to university for higher STEM studies.



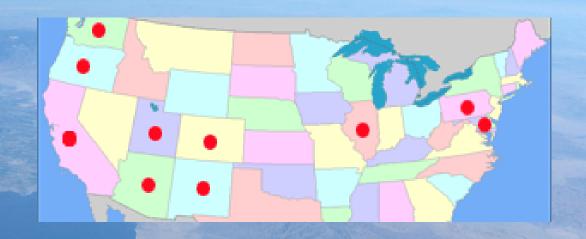
Synergy between MESA and Space Grant





### **MESA PROGRAMS**

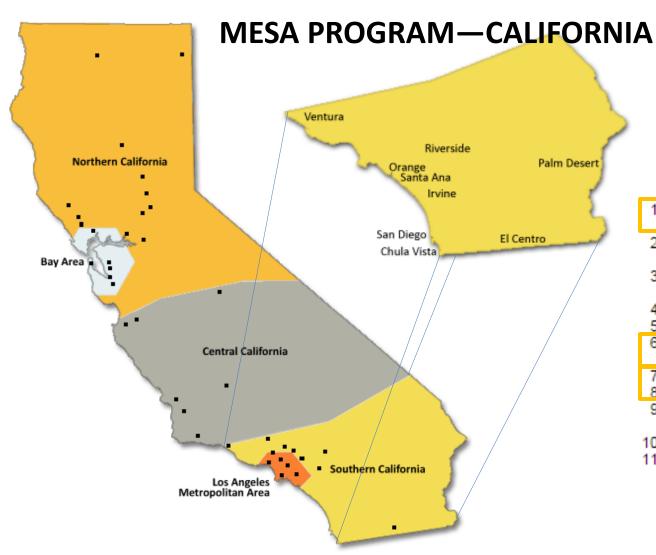
- Arizona
- Colorado
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Maryland
- New Mexico
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Utah
- Washington



mesausa.org







#### San Diego MESA Alliance

- Chula Vista: Southwestern College, Chula Vista (MCCP)
- Orange: Chapman University/UC Irvine (MSP)
- Palm Desert: College of the Desert, Palm Desert (MCCP)
- Riverside: UC Riverside (MEP)
- Riverside: UC Riverside (MSP)
- San Diego: San Diego City College (MCCP)
- San Diego: CSU San Diego (MEP)
- 8. San Diego: CSU San Diego (MSP)
- San Diego: CSU San Diego, Imperial Valley (MSP)
- 10. Santa Ana: Santa Ana College (MCCP)
- 11. Ventura: Ventura College (MCCP)











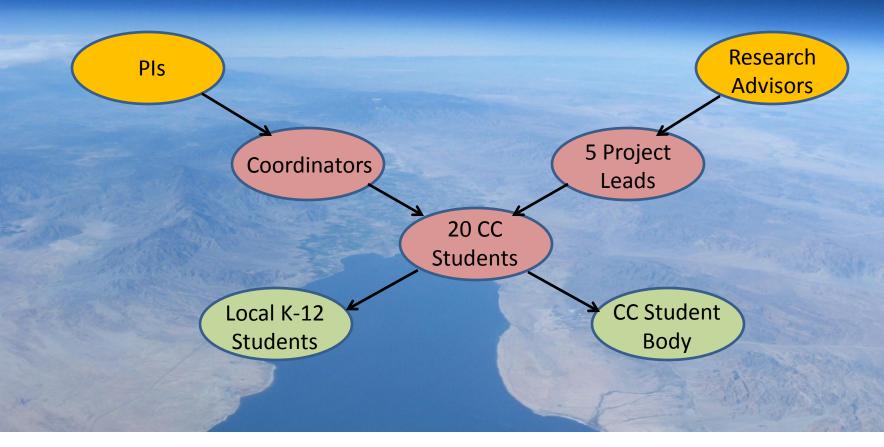
### PILOT PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- •5 research projects
- •5 graduate student mentors
- 2 community colleges
- •10 students per college
- ·Criteria:
  - Academic Achievement
  - Participation in Academic Success Workshops
  - Participation in MESA Center activities
  - Positive Attitude & Hard Working





### RESEARCH MENTORING PIPELINE







### PILOT PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Learning What is Research
- Developing literature survey skills
- Exploring theoretical & experimental methods
- Placed into groups of 4 students per project
- Preparing presentations on their research
- Presenting research in symposium
- Presenting to Community College peers
- Presenting to K-12
- Multiplier Effect
- Subset in year-long REU in Aerospace





### PILOT PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Research Projects:
  - 1. High Altitude Balloon Project



2. Aircraft Wing Structural Dynamics



3. Mixing & Flow Control in High Speed Combustors



4. Sensorimotor Prosthetic Hand (robotics)



5. Dynamics of Flame Spread in Microgravity







# PILOT PROGRAM—HANDS-ON RESEARCH PROJECTS







# PILOT PROGRAM—HANDS-ON RESEARCH PROJECTS















### PILOT PROGRAM—PRESENTATIONS







### **PILOT PROGRAM**



San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy: Summer 2012





### PILOT PROGRAM—IMPACT

Experience Level: 0 = novice, 5 = expert	Pre	Post	Impact
Literature Survey Knowledge - Do you have experience with finding articles in library and using database search?	3.10	3.45	0.35
Scientific Method - Do you have experience with making hypotheses, testing hypotheses, and making conclusions?	2.55	3.60	1.05
Team Work Skills - Do you have experience with working in a group?	3.80	4.30	0.50
Time Management Skills - Do you have experience with planning and meeting deadlines with multiple tasks?	3.80	3.85	0.05
Presentation Skills - Do you have experience with presenting technical information?	3.25	3.90	0.65
Experimental Analysis - Do you have experience with measuring, analyzing, and interpreting data?		3.85	1.30
Design and Manufacturing - Do you have experience with using CAD and/or building things?		2.60	1.30





### PILOT PROGRAM—IMPACT

The opportunity I was given to participate in the 2012 Summer Research Academy at San Diego State University (SDSU) was phenomenal. Prior to taking part in the Research Academy I had no knowledge of the importance of how becoming involved in research opportunities can open doors for the future...Conyers Nelson



The Research Academy introduced me to research and the process and environment it occurs under. I am more directed in my studies because I know what the knowledge will be used for. I am now absolutely certain of my major and feel prepared to undertake the tasks and accomplish the goals that lie ahead...Alejandro Levesque







### **ALIGNMENT WITH:**

- Co-STEM Priority Areas 3 and 4:
  - Enhance the STEM Experience of Undergraduate Students
  - Better Serve Groups Historically Underrepresented in STEM
- NASA Education Lines of Business
  - STEM Engagement
  - NASA Internships, Fellowships, and Scholarships (NIFS)
- NASA Space Grant Objectives:
  - Cooperative Programs
  - Interdisciplinary Training
  - •Recruit & Train U.S. Citizens—Underrepresented Minorities





# ALIGNMENT WITH RESEARCH ON STEM RETENTION FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

- Hands-On Research Experiences
- Academic Success Workshops
- Student Cohort



Decision to continue this program...







San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy: Summer 2013







San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy: Summer 2014







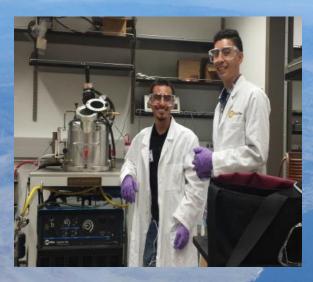




San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy: Summer 2013 (Year 2)









San Diego MESA Alliance Research Academy: Summer 2014 (Year 3)





### **GROWTH**

- RFP Released
- Introduce to other parts of CA
- Selected two proposals
- Ran Spring and Summer 2014





# ORANGE COUNTY: CLIMATE IMPACT ASSESSMENT USING SATELLITE OBSERVATIONS







# LOS ANGELES: SOLAR ENERGY & PLANETARY EXPLORATION







### **SUMMARY**

Program	Dates
Pilot SDMA Program	Summer 2012
Permanent SDMA Program	Summer 2013 & 2014
Spin-Offs	Orange County & Los Angeles 2014

Demographics	
101	Students
86%	Underrepresented
93%	First to Graduate College
66%	Subsidized Lunch





### **SUMMARY**

	Partners	
	<b>Community Colleges:</b>	
	San Diego	San Diego City College (MSI)
	San Diego	Southwestern College (MSI)
	Orange County	Santa Ana College (MSI)
	Los Angeles	Los Angeles City College (MSI)
	Los Angeles	Pasadena City College (MSI)
	Los Angeles	Rio Hondo College (MSI)
	Universities:	
	San Diego	San Diego State University (MSI)
	Orange County	Chapman University
1	Los Angeles	CSU Los Angeles (MSI)





### **IMPACT**

#### **Longitudinal Tracking**

All are still students (too soon to graduate and join workforce)

All are studying STEM

Several have graduated and transferred to university for advanced STEM degrees

Their feedback was extremely positive on how the program benefited them

Students are inspired and prepared to participate in research and continue studying in STEM fields

Students share their experience with the broader community (STEM ambassadors)



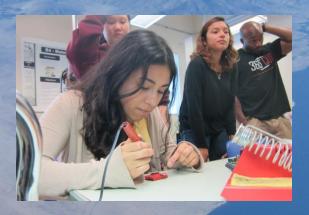


### **RECENT FEEDBACK**

"Doing this program helped me see the bigger picture of why I am learning what I am learning. I was able to apply what I was learning to real life situations and not just reading it in a book. It motivated me to keep going and eventually, I would be able to put my knowledge in use."

"Yes! I am a junior transfer student at UCI and am pursuing a degree in the STEM field and am seeking to obtain a graduate level degree in the field. The experience itself was a great opportunity that enabled me to expand my horizons and that is why I am deeply thankful!"





"Yes, I am using the information I learned on the projects we worked on to use with younger students to inspire them to pursue science as a future profession."

"It has definitely helped my pursuit of an engineering degree. It solidified several ideas regarding electricity, helped me improve my hands on skills, and showed me how to create formal lab reports."





### PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROGRAM

California
Space Grant
HQ:



John Kosmatka



Tehseen Lazzouni



Becky Howard

San Diego MESA Alliance:



Gustaaf Jacobs



Theresa Garcia



Rafael Alvarez



Raga Bakhiet



Daniel Nelson





### **NASA SPACE GRANT WEBSITE**



http://www.nasa.gov/offices/educ ation/programs/national/spacegra nt/SG Arduino/#.VDLXUmddWSp





### **USA TODAY SPACE GRANT ARTICLE**





retention rates in STEM programs. Retention is important, considering that the U.S. workforce will experience a deficit of 1 million college graduates in STEM programs by 2022, according to a 2012 report by the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

#### **FUNDING RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

Exposure, retention and academic advancement are the goals of Space Grant programs involving community colleges. In 2012, the California Space Grant Consortium, housed at the University of California-San Diego, launched a pilot program to expose community college students to university-style research, data acquisition and analysis. The program stemmedfrom California Space Grant Director John Kosmat'as Friendly challenge to Rafael Alvarez of San Diego City College to develop a STEM program for community-college students.

to the control of the

topics as solar vehicle research, microgravity flame research and combustion in a narrow-



channel apparatus simulating microgravity. "All of these projects have a NASA connection," said Tehseen Lazzouni, assistant director of the California Space Grant Consortium. Because many students work while going to school, the California Space Grant provided scholarships so they could take time off to attend program classes and do research, Sudents are

now monitored to determine their progress in STEM fields.

The program also has reached out to minority students in the colleges. The consortium works with nine institutions serving minority populations

CONTINUED »

College students and educators from around the country participate in the RockOn! 2014 summer workshop at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.





### **PLANS**

- Continue San Diego MESA
   Alliance Research Academy and track students' progress
- Solicit additional Community
   College-University Lab Research proposals through the MCCP







