

Community of Practice Program at Western Nevada College



Dr. Tom Herring

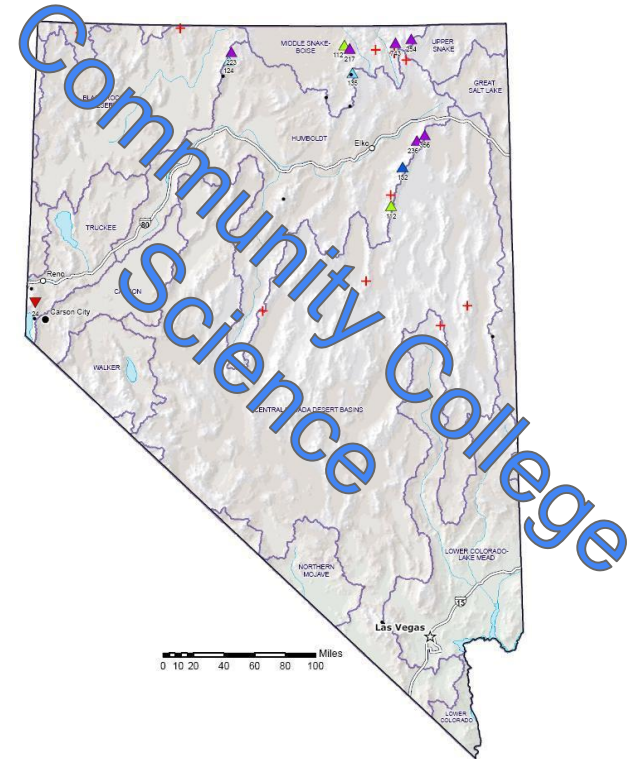
October 2015

National Council of Space Grant Directors Fall Meeting

Tuscon, AZ

The CoP Idea

- Engage community college students with hands on science
- Include students in both campus and statewide communities
- Build skills which aid in academic and career success
- Attract / retain more community college students in STEM fields
- Increase AS degree completion and college transfer / employment in STEM areas
- Provide \$2000 per semester in scholarship support for each student (a participation based award)



A Statewide Program

- Faculty and students from all the community colleges in Nevada.
- Monthly interactive video conference meetings
- Online interactions through CSN's learning management system
- Lots of support from the NV Space Grant Office



WNC CoP

- 2 WNC Campus Co-Leaders
- 5 students per semester
- Budget designed to suit WNC implementation / needs
- Student community focused
- Broad scope of topics
- Focused on student interests



Dr. Elizabeth Tattersall



Dr. Tom Herring

Science Outreach



Field Trips

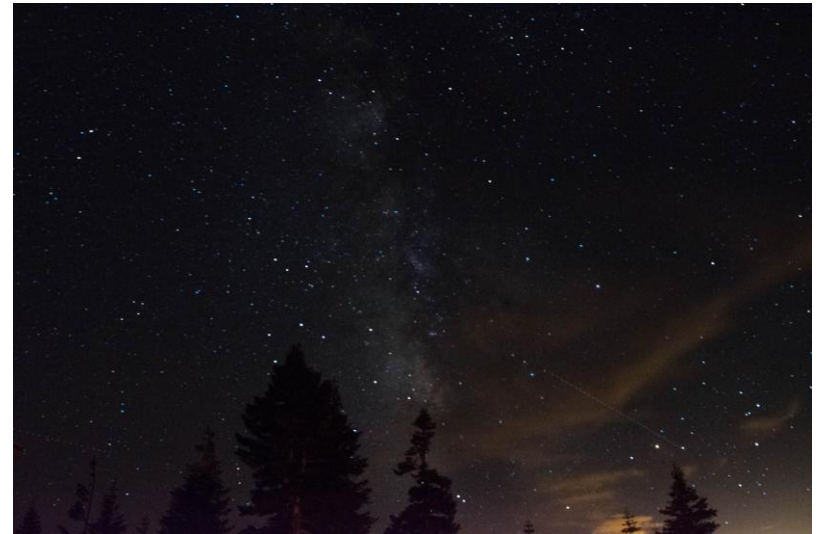


Research / Projects



Challenges

- Lack of Infrastructure
 - No dedicated lab space
 - Long term support for equipment and supplies
 - Confusion in the business office / financial aid
- Involving more faculty
 - Release time unavailable
 - Institutional rewards and recognition are lacking / absent
 - Overall time commitment
- Recruiting students
 - Overall time commitment
 - Non-traditional student schedules
- Better connections between campuses
 - Cross campus mentoring
 - Closing the leaky pipeline to transfer institutions
- Tracking Program Alumni



Future Plans

- Involving students other than scholarship recipients
 - Grow into a supported student club / cohort
- Bring students to NV Space Grant meetings
- Bring back CoP alumni for presentations
- More work at the Jack C. Davis Observatory



Thank You



*National Aeronautics and Space
Administration (NASA)
Nevada Space Grant Consortium
Award NNX14AQ94A*

