

Project ASTRO-Tucson Status Report

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Project Strength

- ✧ Entering 6th year
 - New workshop September 28-29, 2001
- ✧ Fifth Annual Follow-up Workshop – March 24
 - 63 Venus topography boxes created
 - Continued support even through change of NOAO Directors

Staff Changes

- ☆ Ginny Beal left end of January
- ☆ Connie Walker successor
 - Astronomer
 - Active participant in science education including Project ASTRO-Tucson
 - Brings considerable expertise and experience

Coalition

- ☆ Coalition “on retainer”
 - No meeting past year but do interact with individuals often
 - Excellent responses to requests for help
- ☆ Exploring idea of having Educational Outreach coalition that advises and support ASTRO and other Educational Outreach programs

Site Statistics

- ☆ Over 250 astronomer and teacher partners trained at annual workshops
 - 113 partnerships to date – estimate 75 active
 - Some partnerships are more than 2 people
 - 15,000 students have been impacted to date by site partnerships

New Initiatives

☆ 2001-2002 School Year –

- NOAO Education programs benefit from U of A fellowship program called *Collaboration to Advance Teacher of Technology and Science (CATTS)*
 - NSF funded for Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 education
 - Two U of A students (one grad, one undergrad) will assist ASTRO & RBSE by being in the classroom and assisting with gathering and analysis of evaluation data

Fundraising

- ☆ No new ASTRO-Tucson proposals submitted
 - Last year received funding for 3 years
 - Jim Wright at NSF/AST funded half-time Site Coordinator
 - Extended with IDEAS grant – paid for a Moon Journals Project ASTRO workshop

Publicity

- ☆ Quarterly NOAO Newsletter always includes article about Project ASTRO-Tucson and the National Network
- ☆ Circulation over 2100 and growing (mostly professional astronomers)