

NASA WEST VIRGINIA SPACE GRANT CONSORTIUM

December 2021 ~ Happy Holidays ~ Enjoy the Winter Break~



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K-12 SPOTLIGHT

We want to give a shout out to Dr. Laurie Ruberg (pictured left) and the students at Wheeling Middle School in Wheeling, WV for their work and research on the Hydroponics Curriculum for Grades four and five STEM Learning! The Hydroponics project will get kids collecting and sharing data while designing, building, and testing soilless agriculture systems. Potential impact from this project includes: Improved engagement of youth in STEM learning opportunities, improved engagement in school in general, and increased interest in STEM based fields. As a result of this program students have learned and experienced the following at Wheeling Middle School. Figure A. to use metric units for seed size measurements for the Hydroponics Curriculum for STEM Education Figure B. Set up displaying variety of seeds students will use for the seed dissection activity for the Hydroponics Curriculum for STEM.



Figure A

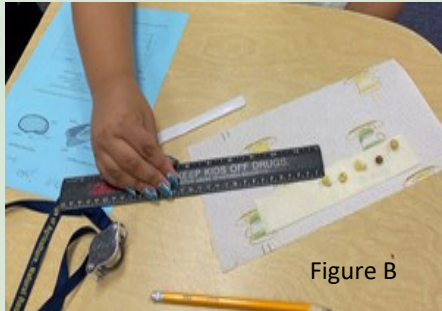


Figure B

STUDENT RESEARCH STRIDES!

Research funded by the NASA WVSGC RIG allowed four undergraduates (Tyler Hill, Peri Hill, Kristen Bogunovich, Lindsey Morais) and one graduate student (Daron Weekly) to experience all aspects of research while working with Dr. Holly Racine on "the Effects of Thyroxine Exposure in an Avian Model of Induced Thyrotoxicosis". As a team they analyzed samples, validated and processed data, and produced scientific posters at various conferences. Here, **West Liberty University undergraduate student, Tyler Hill** presented his research at the SEIDeA conference in Puerto Rico. "Go Tyler!"



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS'

Question: How did participation in these programs impact your education and life?

"It provided the opportunity to get deeply involved in a small part of a large-scale project."

Jonathan Musselwhite, West Virginia State University, 2017 WV Space Grant Affiliate Scholarship, 2018 NASA/WVSG Affiliate Fellow 2020 RockSat X-)



Question: How did participation in these programs impact your education and life?

"The NASA Aeronautics Academy that was offered to me by the WV Space Grant allowed me understand my potential. This unique summer opportunity with NASA and the team has allowed me to take advantage of my most recent opportunities. I have worked with nuclear related programs which help protect our nation against foreign adversaries. My future career specifically in aerospace manufacturing and robotics."

Zachary Preston, Marshall University, 2020 Internship-NASA Academy Langley

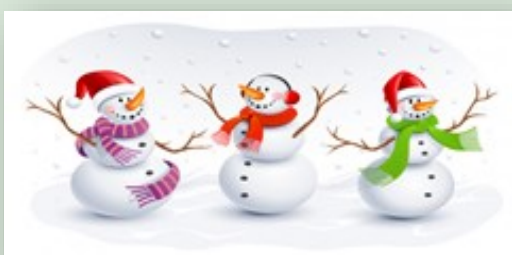
UPCOMING EVENTS

NASA WV Space Grant Consortium Attending WVU Day at the Legislature Info Session 2022

We are excited to be returning to Charleston to the West Virginia State Capital along with WVU & WVU Extension bringing interactive displays, engaging activities and information regarding NASA programs on January 25, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. If you know of any faculty members or students who would like to staff a booth at the event, don't hesitate to contact Ms. Epps. kdepps@mail.wvu.edu



Whatever you plan to do, and wherever you plan to be, we wish each one of you a happy and safe holiday season. Thank you for your hard work and dedication this year. We look forward to collaborating with you in the New Year 2022. Happy Holidays!

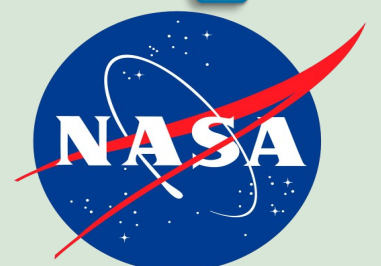


HOLD THAT DATE!

The Spring Board of Directors (BoD) meeting will be held Friday evening, **April 22, 2022**, and Saturday, **April 23rd, 2022** at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, in Charleston, WV. Please hold the date while we make further arrangements.

NASA WVSGC

Melanie Page, Ph.D., Director
Candy Cordwell, Assistant Director
Kisstaman Epps, Outreach Coordinator
West Virginia University
P.O. Box 6070
Morgantown, WV 26506-6070
(304) 293-4099
www.wvspacegrant.org



PLEASE SHARE YOUR STORY!

Contact NASA WVSGC to share your story and keep us updated on events.
We would love to feature you in our next issue!