



NASA Space Grant College and Fellowship Program  
National Council of Space Grant Directors



# Communications Working Group

## Promising Programs & Practices (P<sup>3</sup>)

A monthly info session for, and by, the National Space Grant Community

**August 2024 Session Featuring:**

**Kathryn Williamson**

*Exploring Evaluation Measures for  
Space Grant Behind-the-Scenes Labor*

Hosted by the Space Grant Communications Working Group

Co-Chairs: Colleen H. Fava [colleenf@lsu.edu](mailto:colleenf@lsu.edu) & Michelle Coe [macoe@arizona.edu](mailto:macoe@arizona.edu)

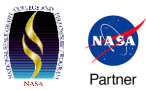
**August 19, 2024**

## Intent

Allow community members a dedicated space and time to share promising programs and practices with the greater space grant community.

## Format

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month (usually) at 3 pm Eastern (60-90 min)
  - Zoom Meeting
  - 3:00 pm: Ice breaker/Announcements
  - 3:10 pm: Featured Presentation with Q&A (*recorded*)
  - 4:00 pm: General Discussion



# P<sup>3</sup>: 2024 in Review

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Date	Presenter	Presentation Title
January 22, 2024	<i>Jobi Cook (NC SGC), Michaela Lucas (NE SGC), Celena Miller (TX SGC)</i>	Professional Development Opportunities for Educators
February 12, 2024	<i>Chris Carter (VA SGC), Keanna Fausto, Jonelle Sayama, Danielle Hagen (Guam Drone Corps)</i>	Implementing Drone Program Programs at your SGC
March 11, 2024	<i>Community Read of the new Multi-Year Solicitation</i>	SG Community
April 2024	<i>No Session</i>	
May 2024	<i>No Session</i>	
June 10, 2024	<i>Todd Ensign, Program Manager, NASA IV&amp;V Education Resource Center; Faculty Fairmont State University (WVSG Affiliate)</i>	NASA Robotics Alliance Grant to Expand the Aerial Drone Competition
July 2024	<i>No Session</i>	
August 19, 2024	<i>Kathryn Williamson (AL SGC)</i>	Exploring Evaluation Measures for Space Grant Behind-the-Scenes Labor
September 2024	<i>Open, TBD?</i>	
October 21, 2024	<i>Terry Shehata (ME SGC), Colleen Fava (LA SGC), Meredith Hecker (MT SGC)</i>	Interacting with your Space Grant Affiliates
November 4, 2024	<i>Gateway Session (last virtual help desk session on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>)</i>	

<https://laspace.lsu.edu/promising-programs-practices-p3/>



## NASA Robotics Alliance Grant to Expand the Aerial Drone Competition

### About the Presenter



Dr. Ensign has over 20 years in professional development serving K-16 educators and is driven by a passion to provide STEM opportunities to historically underrepresented populations across Appalachia. Currently, he manages a team of NASA educational specialists, AmeriCorps volunteers, and college interns out of the NASA Independent Verification and Validation

Facility through a grant administered by Fairmont State University; both organizations are members of the WV Space Grant Consortium. Annually, the ERC team trains up to 1,000 educators, who leverage 60 Loan and Learn classroom kits to engage up to 15,000 K-12 students. He also manages the WV Robotics Alliance that coordinates local, state, regional and international tournaments and championships which serve up to 5,000 students across ten unique robotics programs per year.

**96 minutes total meeting time**

**35 attendees, 23 unique SG states, 4 Robotics Alliance Reps**

## Interacting with your Space Grant Affiliates

Presentations by: Terry Shehata (ME SGC), Colleen Fava (LA SGC), Meredith Hecker (MT SGC)

Followed by a moderated discussion.

**Date: October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 3pm EST**

A short survey will be sent out along with the invite to this meeting. Please let us know what you'd like to learn.



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# P<sup>3</sup>: August Session



## Promising Programs & Practices (P<sup>3</sup>)

A monthly info session for, and by, the National NASA Space Grant Community  
Monday, August 19, 2024 @ 3:00PM Eastern



### *Exploring Evaluation Measures for Space Grant Behind-the-Scenes Labor*

Presented by Kathryn Williamson

#### **Description:**

While extant evaluation data shows that Space Grant impacts on students are meaningful and long-lasting, the valiant "behind-the-scenes" efforts of Space Grant leaders and staff to achieve those student impacts may be unsustainable. To what extent do burdensome reporting requirements, shifting mandated goals and strategies, university- and state-level policies and practices, and reliance on overwork and the intrinsic goodwill of Space Grant leaders and staff create an unstable equilibrium and/or risk to program outcomes over the long-term? This P3 Session will be an exploratory discussion to share ideas and test evaluation strategies to develop an evaluation plan for better understanding this "hidden labor" and mitigate risk long-term.

#### **Goals:**

1. Generate a better understanding of the "behind-the-scenes" challenges of Space Grant leaders and staff
2. Pilot test experimental evaluation questions
3. Crowd-source new evaluation questions for future assessment



**Kathryn Williamson** is an Earth and Space Educational Consultant and Evaluator working with the Alabama Space Grant Consortium (ASGC). Her background is in Physics Education Research (PER) and astronomy teaching and outreach. After conducting a landscape analysis of Alabama's NASA/K-12 opportunities and developing an ASGC K-12 Action Plan, Williamson is contracting with ASGC for the 5th year extension to do a "deep dive" into the identified challenges and opportunities that emerged from that initial groundwork.