

# The Joy of Solar Physicists in Science Education



Cherilynn A. Morrow

Space Science Institute, Boulder, CO

34<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Solar Physics Division

Laurel, MD

June 2003

# High-Level Advocacy

“I now view effective science education partnerships between scientists and precollege education science teachers in a completely different light - as the only hope for lasting systemic change in precollege science education and, therefore, as an important national priority for the United States.”

- Bruce Alberts, 1993

President, National Academy of Sciences



# Modern Science Education Reform

- Students as “scientists” with teachers as facilitators of learning
  - Teacher as “a guide on the side” rather than a “sage on the stage”.
- “Inquiry-based” process of learning
  - “The way scientists *do* science rather than the way they were *taught* science.”

# Standards Contain Fundamental Concepts

Systems

Cycles

Energy Transfer

Forces & Motions

Pattern & Scale

Science as Inquiry

# Goals of Science Education

- Content Knowledge [fundamental concepts]
- Process Skills [skills of inquiry: observing, measuring, collecting data, analyzing data, reasoning, drawing conclusions from evidence]
- Connections to other disciplines, society, life
- Intellectual confidence, enthusiasm for life-long learning, and curiosity about the world.

# Variety of EPO Roles for Scientists

- Presentations in a classroom or a public setting are not the only way to contribute to education and public outreach.
- There are many other roles scientists can play in education and public outreach that are suited to a diversity of talents and interests.

# Types of EPO Support from Scientists

- Advocacy for positive change
- Content advisor/reviewer
- Speaking/presenting/teaching
- Access and use of data/resources/facilities
- Content creation (writing, images, web design, etc)
- Curriculum or course development





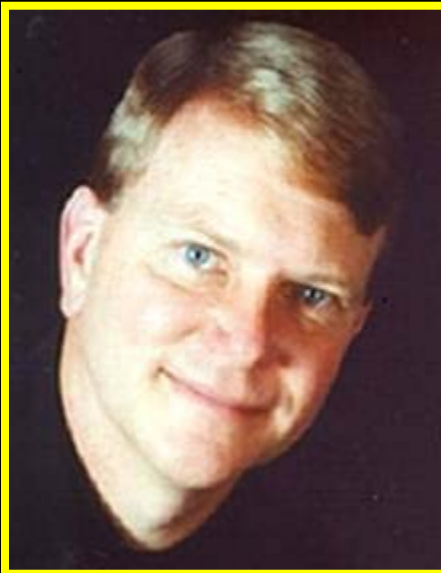
Gary Rottman  
University of Colorado



David Alexander  
Lockheed Martin



Phil Scherrer  
Stanford University



George "Pinky" Nelson  
Western Washington U.



Cheri Morrow  
Space Science Institute





<http://ssibroker.colorado.edu/broker/PROFILES/1.htm>



Gary Rottman

**Tithers** - practicing research scientists who volunteer some of their time to EPO -- less than 10%

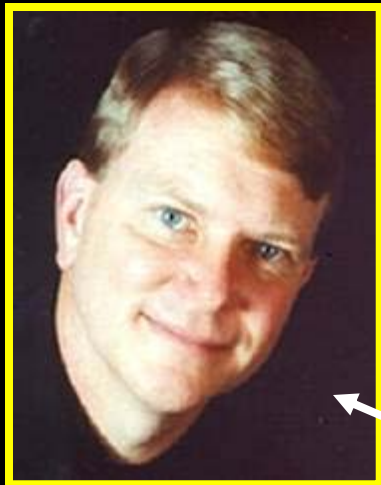


Phil Scherrer



David Alexander

**Part-timers** – scientists who are paid to do part-time research and part-time EPO



"Pinky" Nelson

**Cross-overs** - full time EPO professionals who were trained to do scientific research, and now have "crossed over" to EPO



Cheri Morrow

Adapted from "The Diversity of Roles for Scientists in K-14 Education & Public Outreach" by Cheri Morrow  
camorrow@colorado.edu





Gary Rottman

**Advocates**: inspire, encourage,  
give permission, empower



Phil Scherrer

**Resources**: help when called  
upon; make resources available



David Alexander



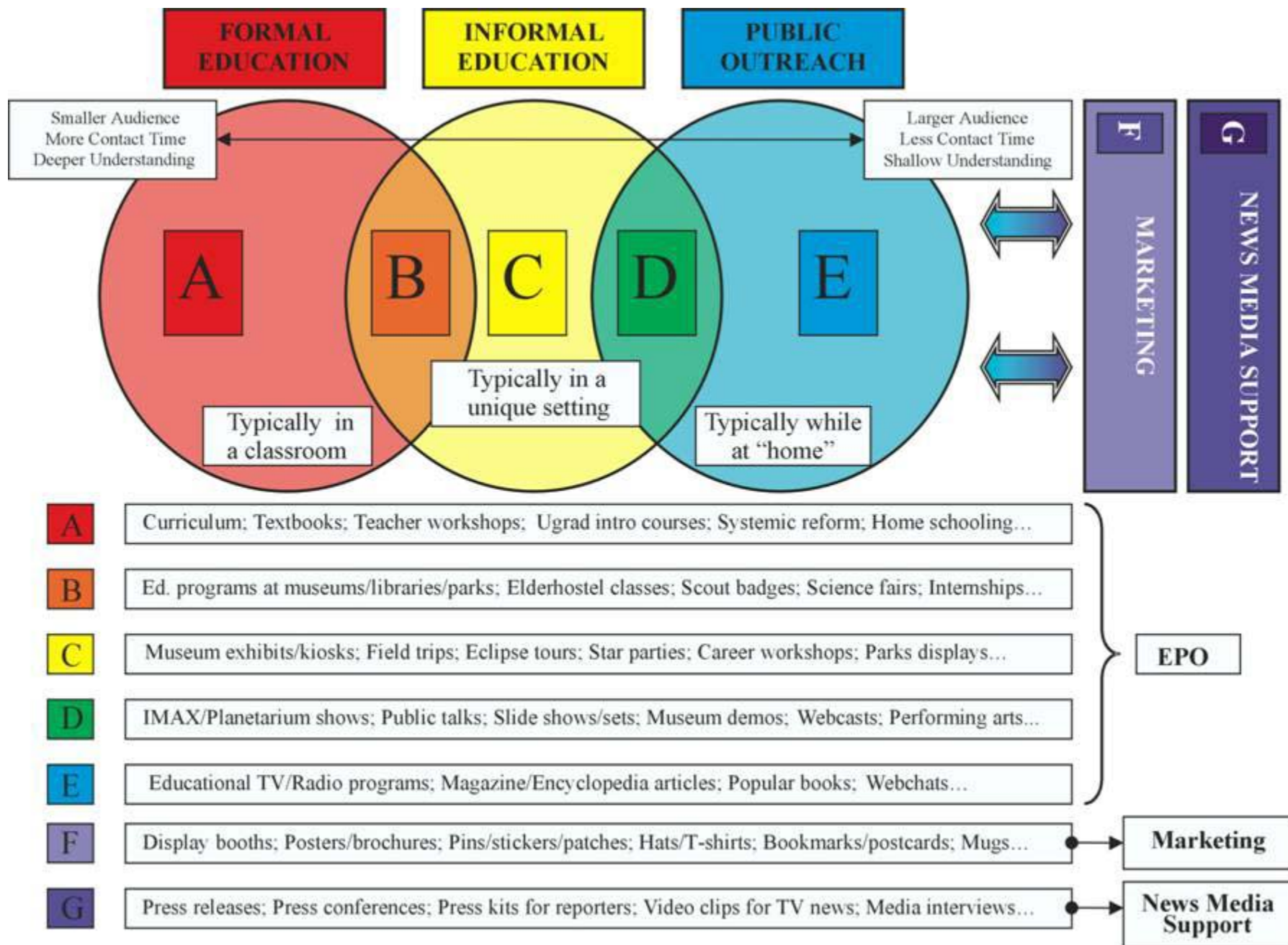
"Pinky" Nelson

**Partners**: work shoulder-to-  
shoulder, "in the trenches," with  
education specialists to create new  
products or opportunities



Cheri Morrow

Adapted from "The Diversity of  
Roles for Scientists in K-14  
Education & Public Outreach"  
by Cheri Morrow  
camorrow@colorado.edu



# What IS E/PO?

## Formal Education

Smaller audience  
More contact time  
Deeper understanding

Teacher Workshops  
Project ASTRO  
Curriculum  
Textbooks  
Astro 101 courses

classroom

## Informal Education

Museum exhibits  
Eclipse tours  
Star parties  
Field trips  
Events

“unique”

## Public Outreach

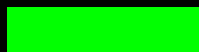
Larger audience  
Less contact time  
Shallower understanding

Encyclopedia entries  
TV/radio programs  
Web chats  
Popular books  
Magazine articles

home



Ed. Programs at museums, science fairs, scout programs



Public lectures, slide shows, IMAX/planetarium shows, performing arts





Gary Rottman

**Public Outreach:** Reaches out to where people may conveniently tune in to hear or see in their everyday lives with information that excites, interest and arouses curiosity (e.g. TV, radio, home computer, magazines).

**Informal Education:** Engaging opportunities in unique environments (e.g. museums, planetariums, clubs) to motivate life-long interest and learning.

David Alexander



Phil Scherrer



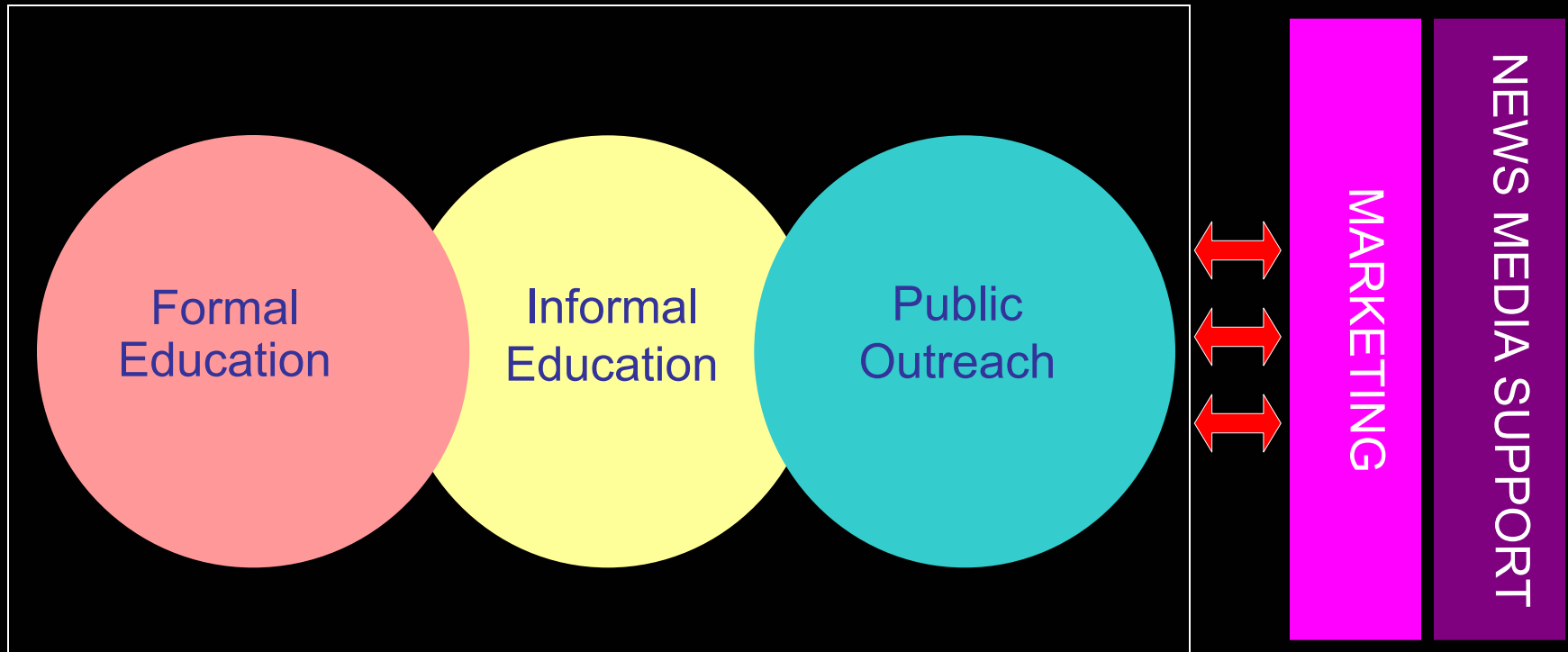
"Pinky" Nelson

**Formal Education:** Provides a sustained opportunity to deepen knowledge and understanding of fundamental ideas and concepts (e.g. degree and certificate programs)



Cheri Morrow

# E/PO Venn Diagram



Display booths, Pins, Stickers, Patches, Mugs, Bookmarks, Postcards, etc...

Press releases, Press conferences, Press kits for reporters, video clips, etc...



# What E/PO is NOT

Coasters Wall paper



Door stops

Tchotchkes



Press releases, press conferences,  
or yet another ... mission poster,  
sunspot exercise ... web site...

# Sample EPO Roles – Examples from the *Roles Matrix*

	<b><u>Advocate</u></b>	<b><u>Resource</u></b>	<b><u>Partner</u></b>
<u>K-12 Students</u>	PTA	Science fair judge	Mentor a student
<u>K-12 Teachers</u>	Teacher mtgs	Present in workshop	Project ASTRO
<u>Intro Ugrad Ed</u>	Faculty mtgs	Guest present	Co-create course
<u>Schools of Ed</u>	College admin	Hire ed student	Co-teach methods
<u>Systemic Change</u>	Prof. Societies	Review standards	Co-write standards
<u>Ed Materials</u>	School board	Review materials	Co-create materials
<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr	Review exhibit	Mentor for scouts
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Help PBS/NPR	Public lecture	Write popular book
<u>E/PO Program Management</u>	Ed sessions at science mtgs	EPO scientist for flight mission	Serve as EPO lead: co-design EPO plan



## Phil Scherrer

- ★ Stanford University
- ★ Research Professor of Physics:
  - PI for MDI on SOHO spacecraft
  - PI for Magnetic Imager on SDO
  - Director of Wilcox Observatory
- ★ ~ 5 % time devoted to EPO:
  - 1 public lecture per year
  - 1 time per month with 4H club
  - Encouraging staff participation
- ★ QUOTE FROM HIS PROFILE:  
“As the PI of a major project, take EPO not simply as a duty, but embrace it as a key part of your activities. With a larger project you actually have an opportunity to make a big impact.”

# Sample EPO Roles – Examples from the *Roles Matrix*

	<u>Advocate</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Partner</u>
<u>K-12 Students</u>	PTA	Science fair judge	Mentor a student
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<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr	R	Co-develop vs
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Help PBS/NPR	P	Write book
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# The Monotillation of Traxoline

It is very important that you learn about traxoline. Traxoline is a new form of zionter. It is monotilled in Ceristanna. The Ceristannians gristerlate large amounts of fevon and then bracter it to quasel traxoline. Traxoline may well be one of our most lukized snezlaus in the future because of our zionter lescelidge.

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What is traxoline?
2. Where is traxoline monotilled?
3. How is traxoline quaselled?
4. Why is it important to know about traxoline?

# Guidelines for Public Speaking –

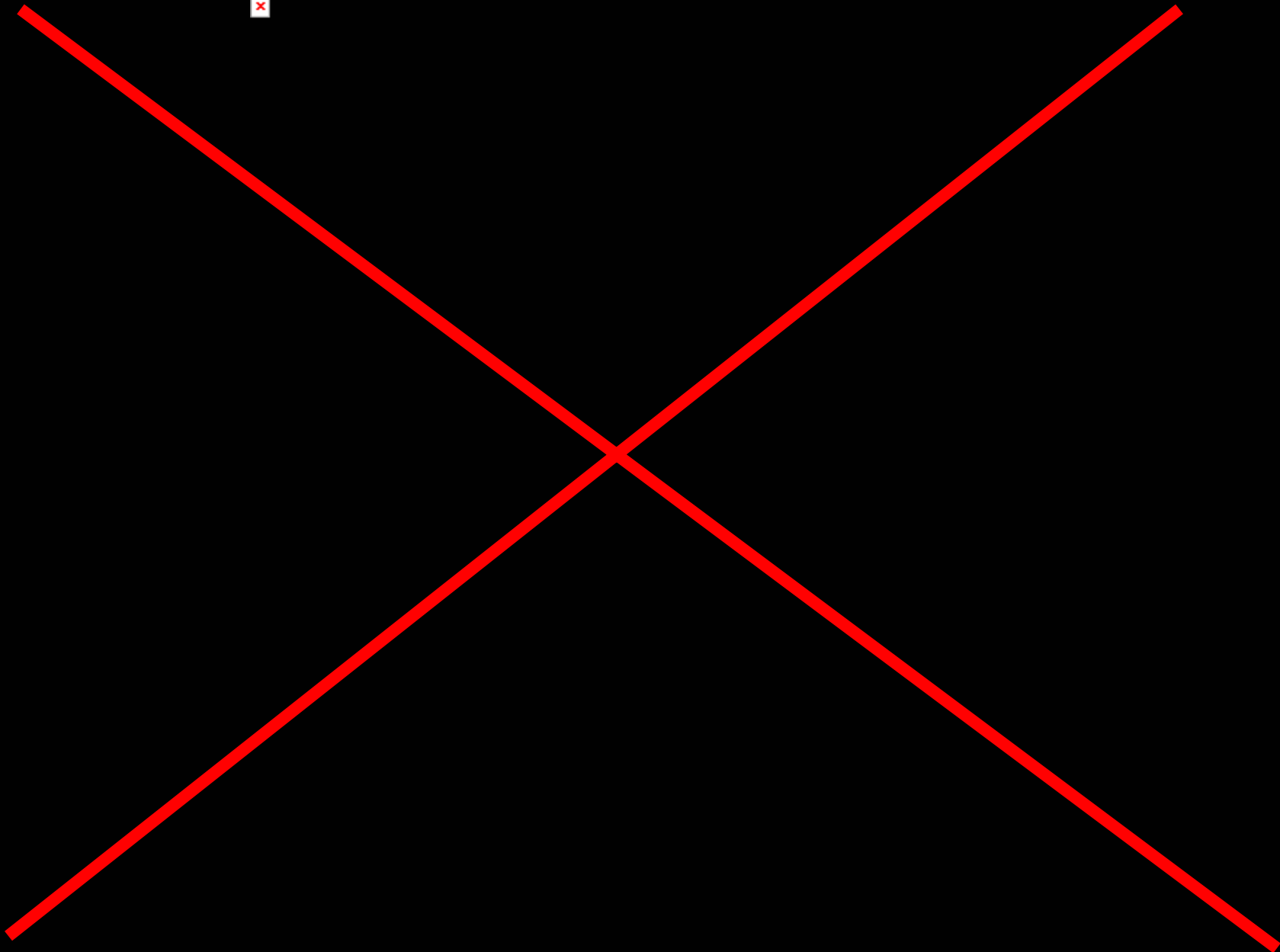
devised by C. A. Morrow

**ABC: LIVE**

- **A = Audience** (Know it, Care about it)
- **B = Big Picture** (Background, Basics, Begin at the Beginning, Relevance, Use Frameworks of Understanding)
- **C = Communication Skills**
  - Language
  - Interactivity
  - Visuals
  - Excitement/Enthusiasm



Excerpt from Morrow, Cherilynn A. "How Scientists Can Become Involved in Education and Public Outreach", Abstracts of the NOAA Postdoctoral Program in Climate and Global Change meeting in Steamboat Springs, CO, June 2002. Contact [camorrow@colorado.edu](mailto:camorrow@colorado.edu) for a copy of this page-long abstract.

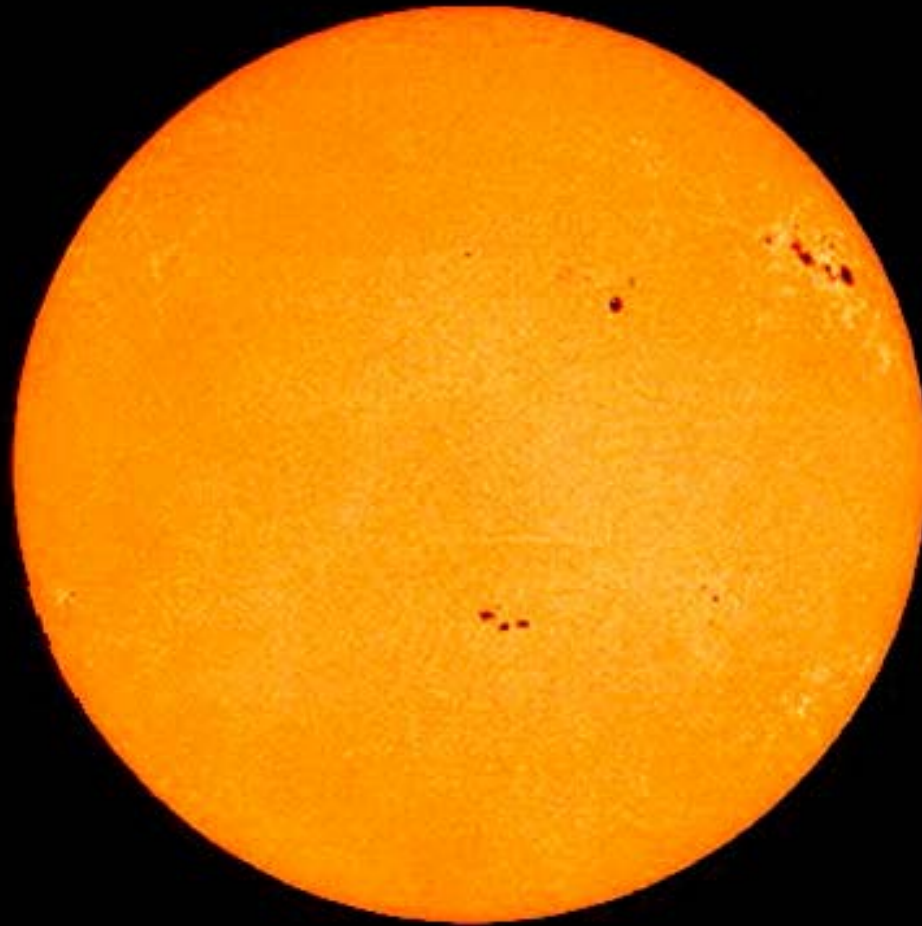




# The Sun in 5 Different Types of Light

1. Visible
2. UV
3. EUV
4. EUV/X-ray
4. X-ray

from the  
SOHO  
Website



6,000 degrees K

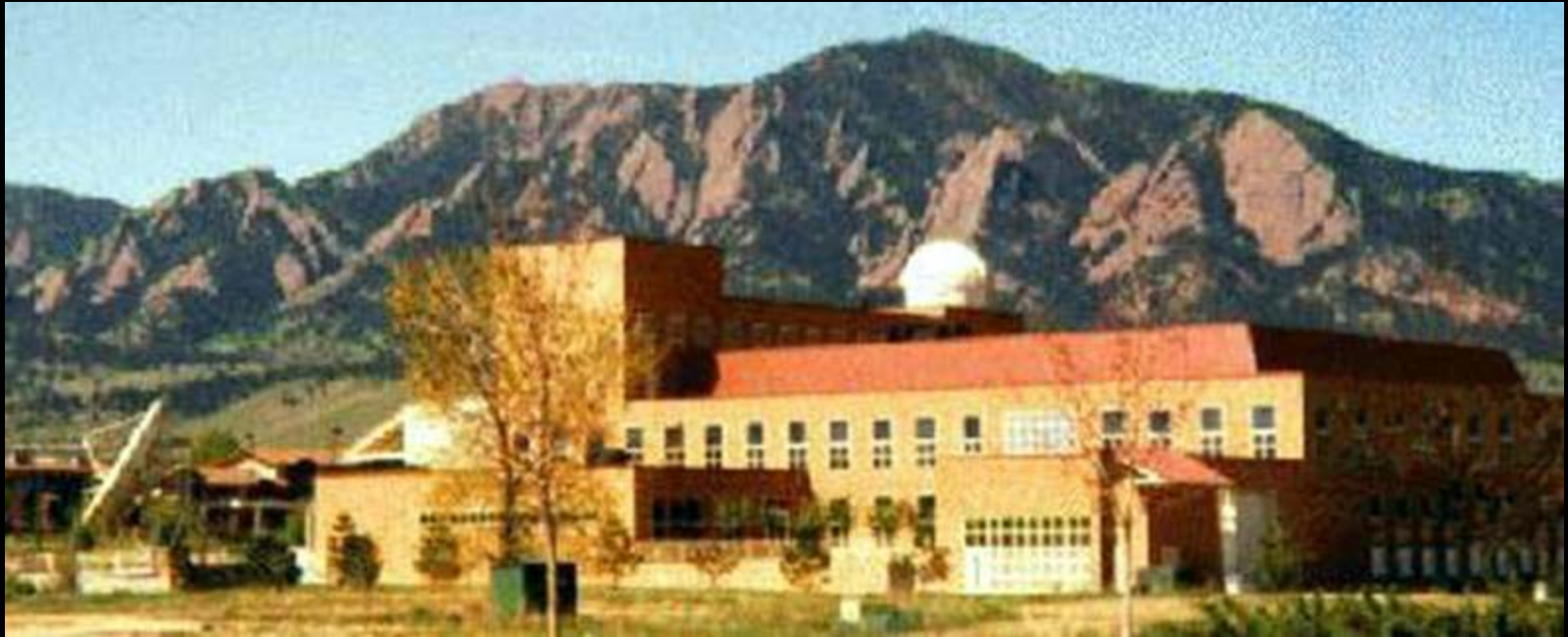






Gary Rottman

- ★ University of Colorado
- ★ Senior Research Scientist:
  - Associate Director of LASP
  - PI for the SORCE mission
  - PI for the SOLSTICE instrument
- ★ No fixed pattern to time on EPO:
  - oversight of EPO partnership to develop school outreach program
  - occasional public lectures/tours
  - writing popular articles
  - advocacy for team doing EPO
- ★ QUOTE FROM HIS PROFILE:  
“EPO is part of the job, and I must say that is it probably one of the more enjoyable pieces of it. When you do it, you find all these people that are bright-eyed, eager and excited about what you do.”



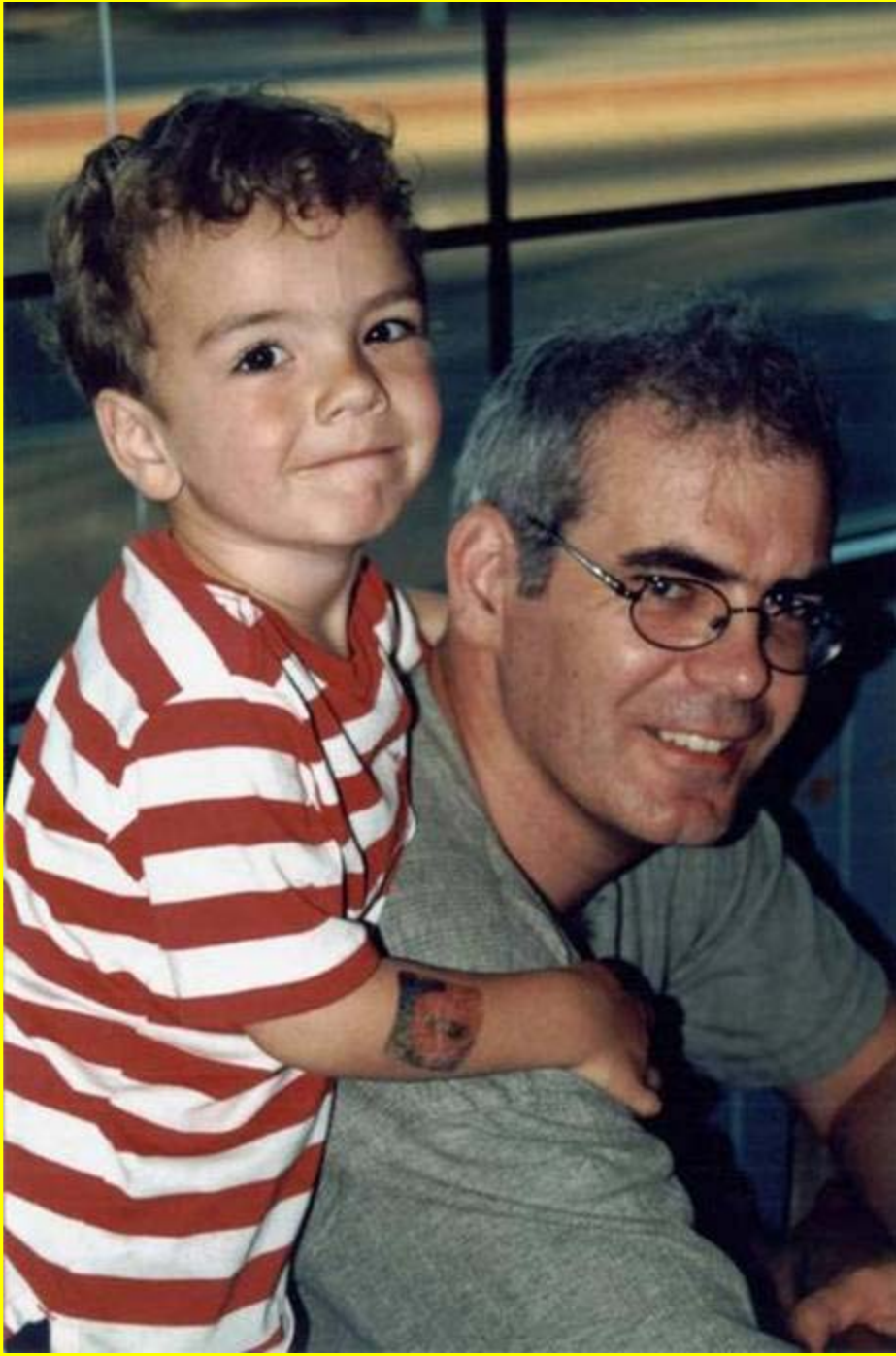
The Laboratory for Atmospheric & Space Physics  
University of Colorado, Boulder



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<u>Ed Materials</u>	School board	Review materials	Co-create materials
<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr	Re  bit	Co-o  ws
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Help PBS/NPR	Pub  e	Write  ook
<u>E/PO Program Management</u>	Ed sessions at science mtgs	EPO scientist for flight mission	Serv  ead: co-design EPO plan






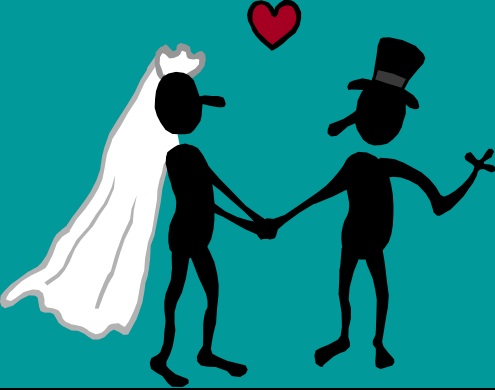


## David Alexander

- ★ Lockheed Martin (soon Rice U.)
- ★ Staff Physicist:  
Working on solar flares, coronal mass ejections, coronal heating, and mission concepts.
- ★ EPO time supported by Lockheed:
  - EPO lead for YOHKOH mission
  - Creator/facilitator of Solar Week
- ★ QUOTE FROM HIS PROFILE:  
“Partnering with teachers or other education professionals tends to be mutually rewarding and often fun. Combining your strengths... is a good recipe for an enjoyable and fruitful collaboration that has a better chance of having a meaningful impact.”

# Common Cultural Differences Between Scientists and Teachers

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| • Intellectually confident/arrogant              |    | • Less intellectually confident             |
| • Competitive                                    |    | • Collaborative                             |
| • Critical                                       |    | • Appreciative                              |
| • Less socially adept                            |    | • Good social skills                        |
| • Confronts problems                             |    | • Works around problems                     |
| • Assigns credit carefully for colleagues' ideas |  | • Borrows good ideas freely from colleagues |



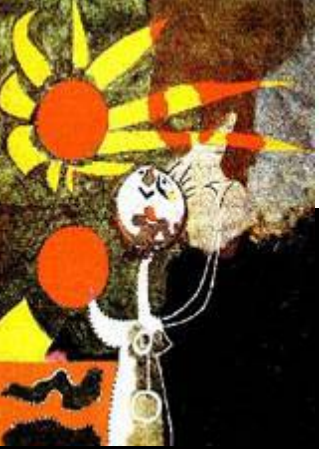
# Defining “PARTNER-ship”

devised by C. A. Morrow

- **P** = Personal & Professional Development\*\*
- **A** = Appreciation – express it!
- **R** = Respect – partners’ expertise, cultural differences
- **T** = Trust – safety to reveal what you know & don’t know
- **N** = Needs –time constraints, meeting education standards
- **E** = Enjoyment – fun and satisfaction
- **R** = Responsibility – to each other and to learners

Excerpt from Morrow, Cherilynn A. “The Role of Scientist-Educator Partnerships in Improving Science Education”, Preprint: Proceedings of the Fulbright Symposium 2002, Science Education in Partnership, Hamilton Island, Australia, July 2002. Contact [camorrow@colorado.edu](mailto:camorrow@colorado.edu) for a copy of this paper.





# Solar Week

**Solar Week is a week-long series of web-based educational activities designed to spark the interest of pre- and early teen girls in science by direct interaction with female scientists at the forefront of solar research.**



<http://www.lmsal.com/YPOP/solarweek/>

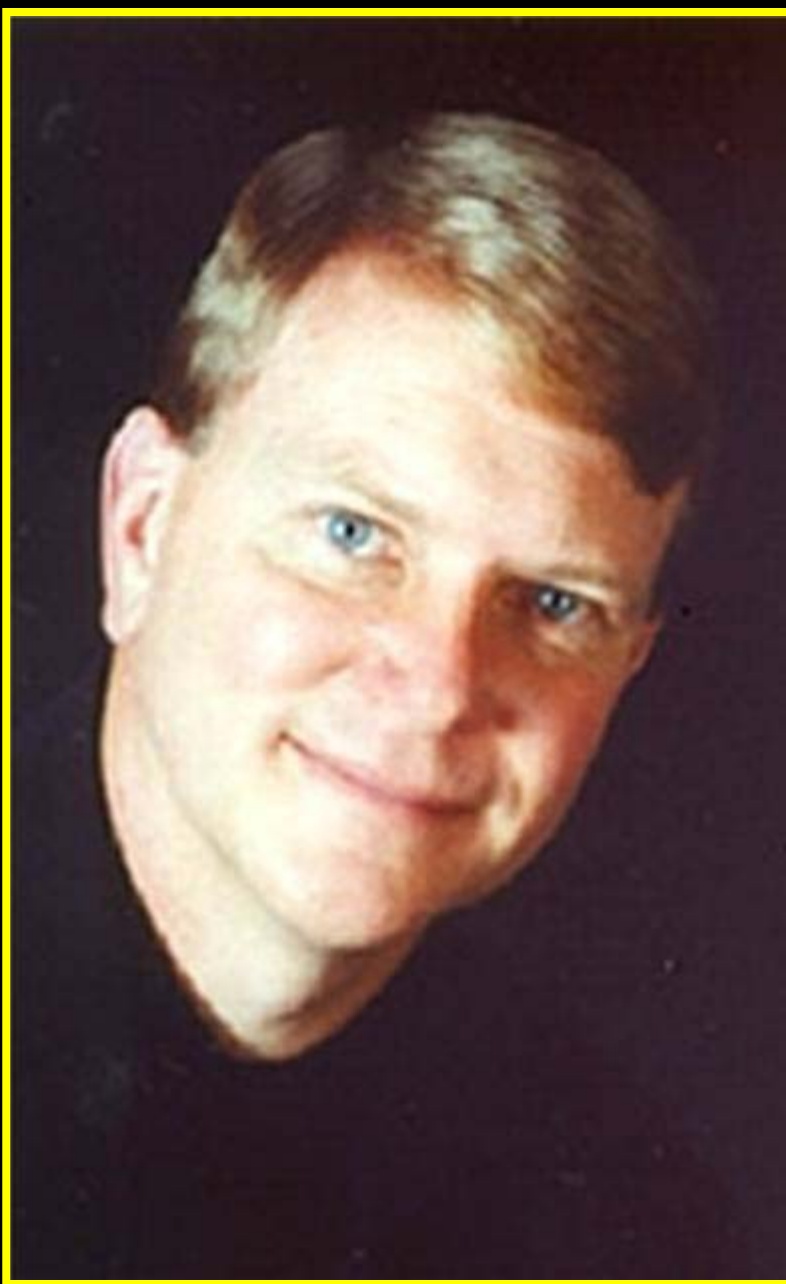


# Sample EPO Roles – Examples from the *Roles Matrix*

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<u>Systemic Change</u>	Prof. Societies	Review standards	Co-write standards
<u>Ed Materials</u>	School board	Review materials	Co-develop materials
<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr	Review exhibit	Co-develop shows
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Help PBS/NPR	Publicize	Write book
<u>E/PO Program Management</u>	Ed sessions at science mtgs	EPO list for session	Serve as EPO lead: co-design EPO plan





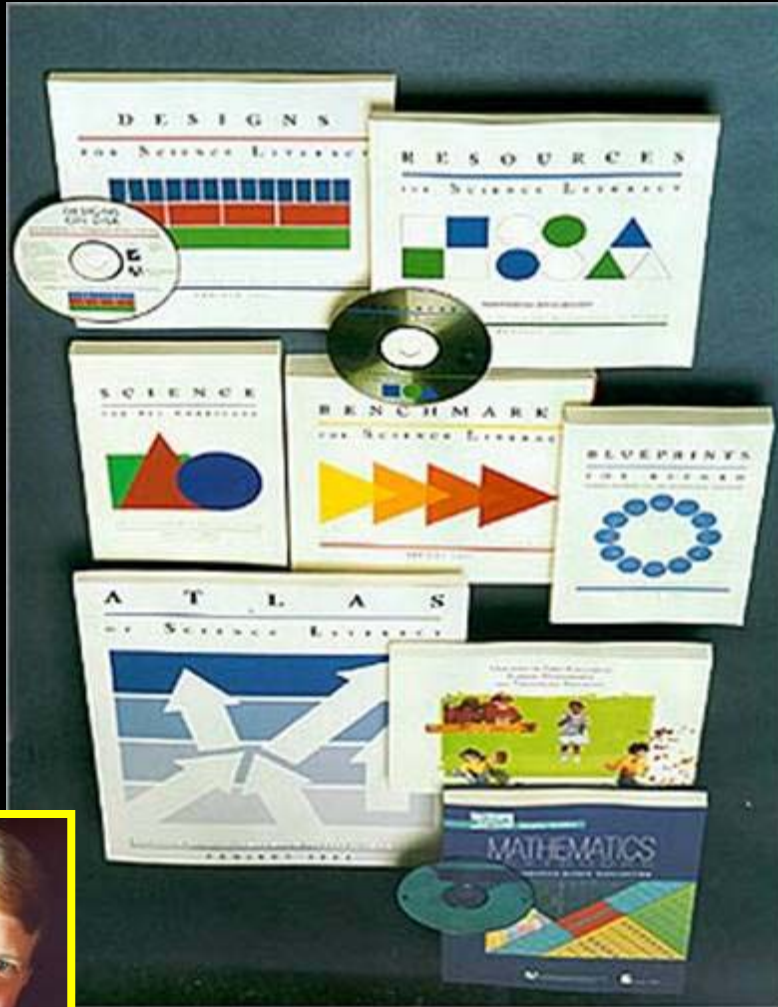


## George "Pinky" Nelson

- ★ Western Washington University
- ★ Director, Sci, Math & Tech Education
  - ex-solar physicist and ex-astronaut
  - ex-Associate Dir. for UW Space Grant
  - ex-director for AAAS Project 2061
- ★ Full time on EPO:
  - coordinating 10 scientists in support of teacher prep program
  - forming an applied research group
  - teaching every quarter
- ★ QUOTE FROM HIS PROFILE:

"Scientists who get involved in EPO should help people learn the science that they themselves know, and their effort must be tempered by knowledge of educational research...Do your homework...Talk to educators...Read the literature...Forget developing materials for teachers. You don't have the time or expertise. Neither do teachers. Leave that job to the professionals."

# AAAS: *PROJECT 2061* RESOURCES



## ***Atlas of Science Literacy:***

*Atlas* is an exciting new resource that presents conceptual connections among the ideas and skills that serve as goals for student learning.

They graphically display how students might develop in their understanding of topics such as gravity, natural selection, and statistical reasoning from kindergarten through grade 12.



<http://www.aaas.org/project2061/>

# Sample EPO Roles – Examples from the *Roles Matrix*

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<u>K-12 Students</u>	PTA	Science fair judge	Mentor a student
<u>K-12 Teachers</u>	Teacher mtgs	Present in workshop	Project ASTRO
<u>Intro Ugrad Ed</u>	Faculty mtgs	Guest present	Co-course
<u>Schools of Ed</u>	Co-mentor in	Hire ed student	Co-methods
<u>Systemic Change</u>	Pro-advocates	Review standards	Co-write standards
<u>Ed Materials</u>	Science ed	Review materials	Co-create materials
<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr	Review exhibit	Co-design shows
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Help PBS/NPR	Public lecture	Write popular book
<u>E/PO Program Management</u>	Ed sessions at science mtgs	EPO scientist for flight mission	Serve as EPO lead: co-design EPO plan



## Cherilynn Morrow



- ★ Space Science Institute, Boulder CO
- ★ Manager for Education & Public Outreach
  - ex-solar physicist [HAO, Cambridge]
  - ex-Associate Dir. for CO Space Grant
  - ex-Visiting Scientist at NASA HQ
- ★ Full time on EPO:
  - EPO workshops/resources for scientists
  - NASA OSS EPO Broker in the West
  - workshops for educators on science
  - development of instructional materials
- ★ QUOTE FROM HER PROFILE:

“I was looking for a career path that would integrate more of my personal interests in music, movement, poetry, and outdoor adventure...The biggest challenge used to be lack of respect from scientific colleagues who thought less of me for “wasting” my PhD in science on envisioning and managing EPO programs. These days this sentiment seems to be less prevalent, but it’s still out there...”

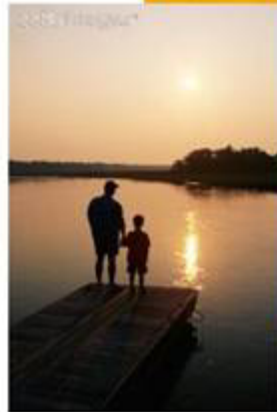




“I have a very strong feeling that science exists to serve human welfare. It’s wonderful to have the opportunity given us by society to do basic research, but in return, we have a very important moral responsibility to apply that research to benefiting humanity.” – Walter Orr Roberts



*Space Science Institute presents  
A Family Guide to the Sun*



*Recommend for kids ages 6-13 (and the adults they play with!)*

A collection of informal education activities and resources  
for kids ages 6-13 developed by Morrow, Dyches, and Wilkerson



# KINESTHETIC ASTRONOMY



For more info about  
*Kinesthetic Astronomy*, click  
on “K-12 Curriculum” at  
<http://www.spacescience.org>

or contact  
[camorrow@colorado.edu](mailto:camorrow@colorado.edu)

# The Space Weather Center



A 700 sq. ft. traveling exhibit developed in collaboration between the Space Science Institute of Boulder, CO and several Sun-Earth Connection missions based at NASA/GSFC.

*Currently at the Challenger Center in Peoria, AZ*





# Stormy Weather - Solar Style

Modified Lyrics by Cheri Morrow

camorrow@colorado.edu

I know why... there's a sun up in the sky...

It's space weather

Since the Sun and Earth been together....

It's solar wind all the time

Sun's a-flare...plumes and prominences everywhere....

Stormy Weather

Sunspots play in pairs, yea together....

And solar wind all the time...the time...Yes, solar wind all the time...

Then a CME (solar storm) burst from the Sun to get me

When it hit the earth magnetic storms, they met me

All I did is pray the lord above will let me

See northern lights once more

Sun shines on... Solar cycles come and gone...It's space weather

Since the Sun and Earth been together...

It's solar wind all the time... Yes, solar wind all the time






Space physicist Robert Hoffman of GSFC participates in a classroom visit as part of the Space Science Institute's annual 4-day education workshop for scientists.

# Sample EPO Roles – Examples from the *Roles Matrix*

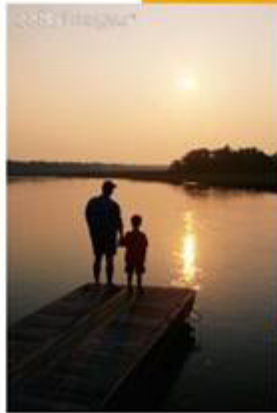
## Advocate

## Resource

## Partner

<u>K-12 Students</u>	PTA		Mentor a student
<u>K-12 Teachers</u>	Teacher mtgs		Project ASTRO
<u>Intro Ugrad Ed</u>	Faculty mtgs		Co-create course
<u>Schools of Ed</u>	College admin		Co-teach methods
<u>Systemic Change</u>	Prof. Societies		Co-write standards
<u>Ed Materials</u>	School board		Co-develop materials
<u>Informal Ed</u>	Board of sci ctr		Co-develop programs
<u>Public Outreach</u>	Honorary PR		Write book
<u>E/PO Program Management</u>	Educational at s		Serve as lead: co-develop plan

*Space Science Institute presents  
A Family Guide to the Sun*



*Recommend for kids ages 6-13 (and the adults they play with!)*

**We're now  
looking for  
a few good  
reviewers  
and field  
testers!**

**A collection of informal education activities and resources  
for kids ages 6-13 developed by Morrow, Dyches, and Wilkerson**



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**Your  
Image  
HERE!**



“If scientists make the right connection, they can do something important and valuable without a huge investment of time. With SECEF, we have the contacts and capabilities to make connections with the education world as we’ve never had before. I find that it’s possible to invest 10% of my time and get a lot out of that 10%.

Although we already often feel over-subscribed, and EPO seems like “yet another thing to do,” much can be done with good arrangements by those who know the EPO business...I hope more people will look into contacting NASA’s EPO organizations to see how they can work together with whatever commitment constraints they have.”

Janet Luhman  
Space physicist, UC Berkeley

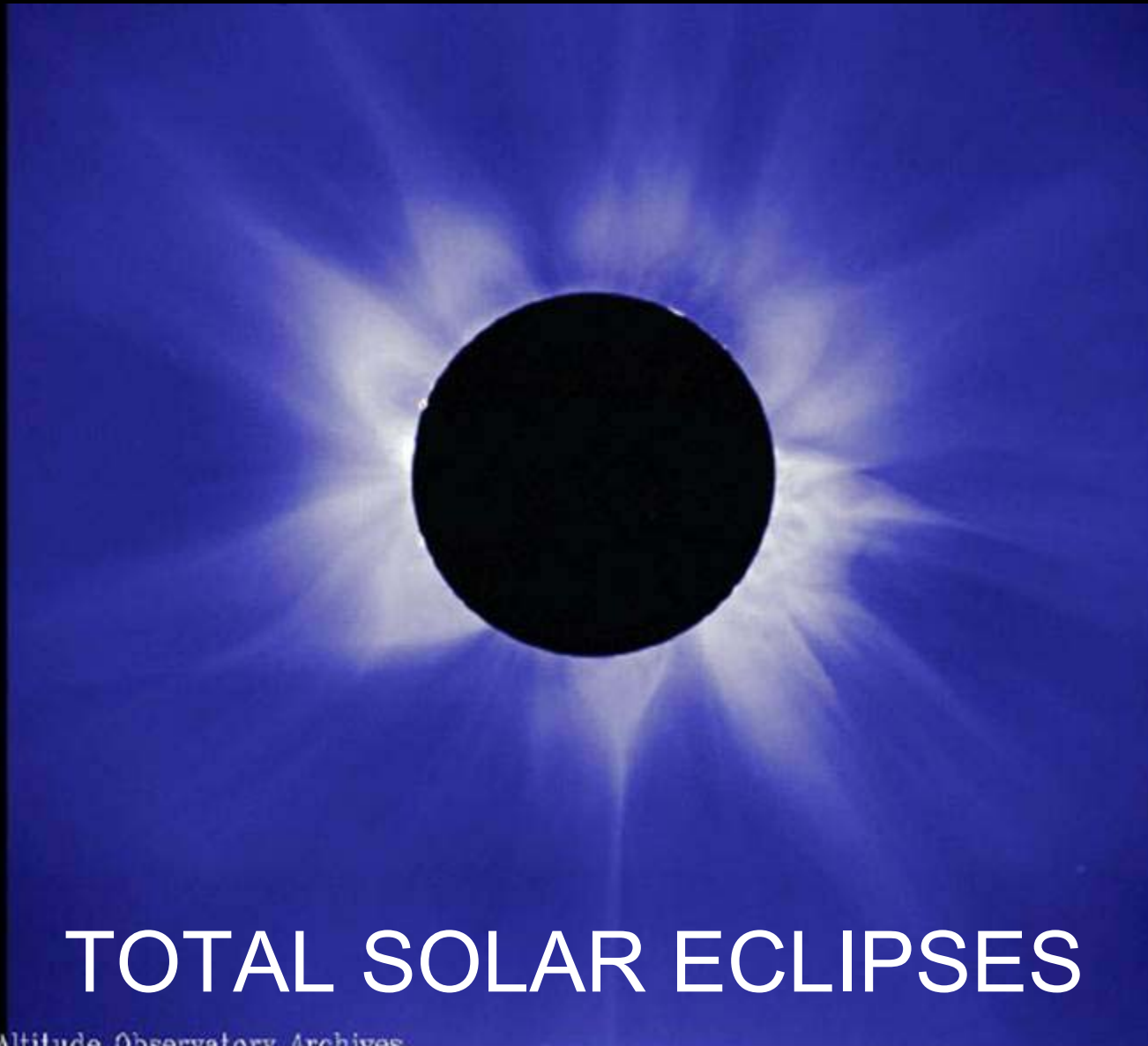




- The *Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum* (SECEF) is one of four NASA OSS Education Forums that coordinate EPO activities between OSS missions.
- SECEF is based both at UC Berkeley and GSFC

<http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

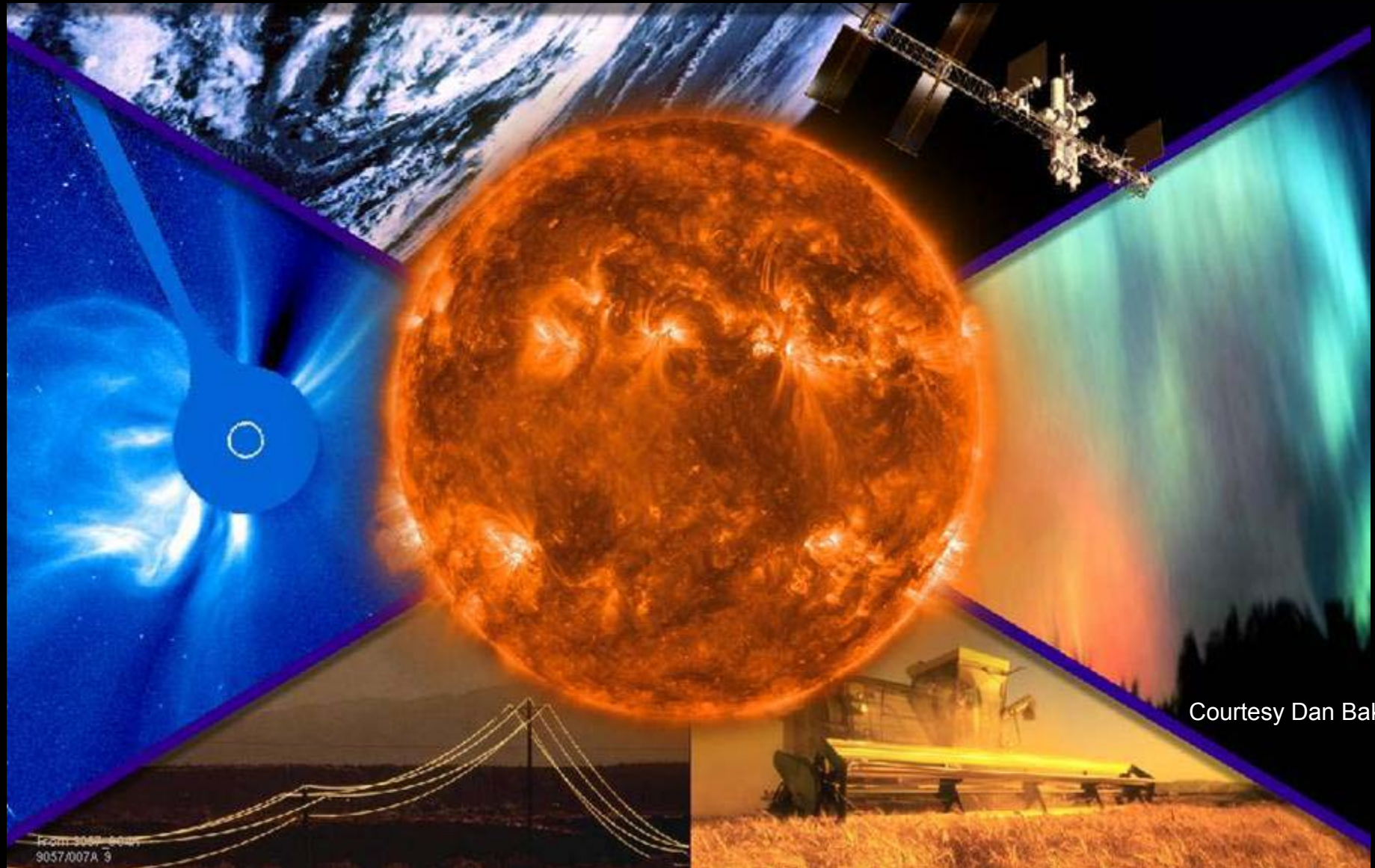
# “HOOKS” for LEARNING ABOUT THE SUN



Source: High Altitude Observatory Archives

HAO A-009

# “HOOKS” for LEARNING ABOUT THE SUN



Courtesy Dan Baker

# SPACE WEATHER EFFECTS ON EARTH



# Sun-Earth Day 2003

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## Live From the Aurora

NASA Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum



**Auroras: Living with a Star**  
**February 11**

**Live web-cast for  
museums from  
Poker Flats  
Feb 21-22 & Mar 1-2**

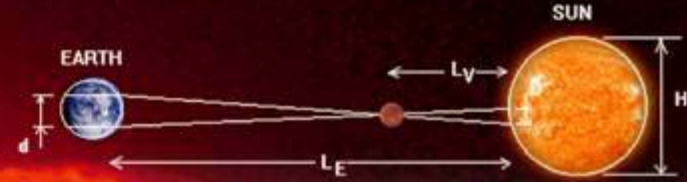
**Sun-Earth Day  
Live From the Aurora  
March 18**

**Scientist's Participation and Registration  
for Sun-Earth Day 2003**

<http://sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov/sunearthday>

# “HOOKS” for LEARNING ABOUT THE SUN

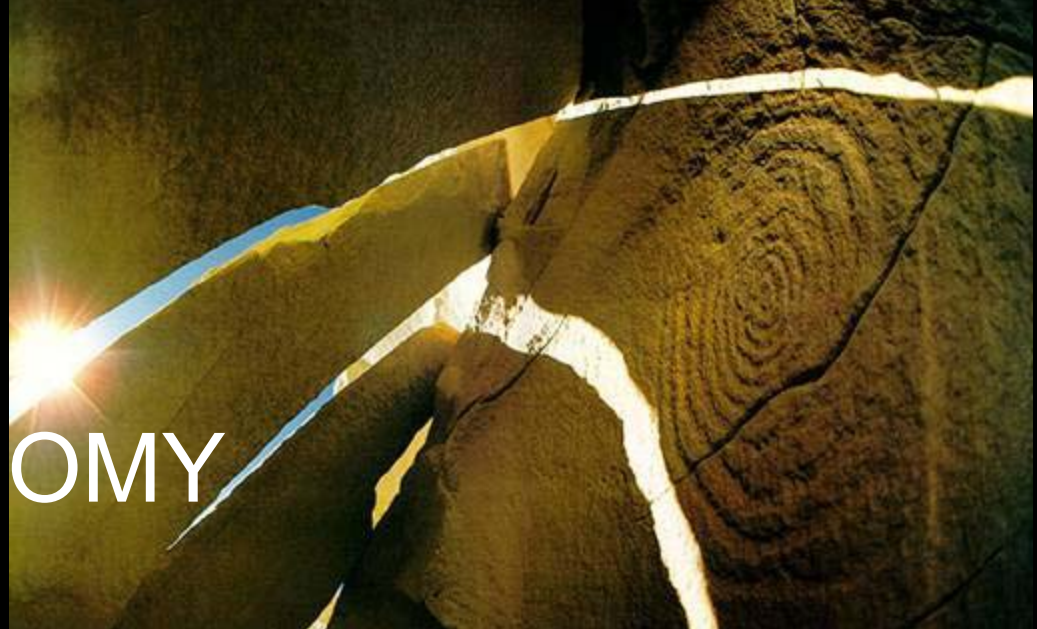
## VENUS Transit 2004



Courtesy SOHO and the NASA  
Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum



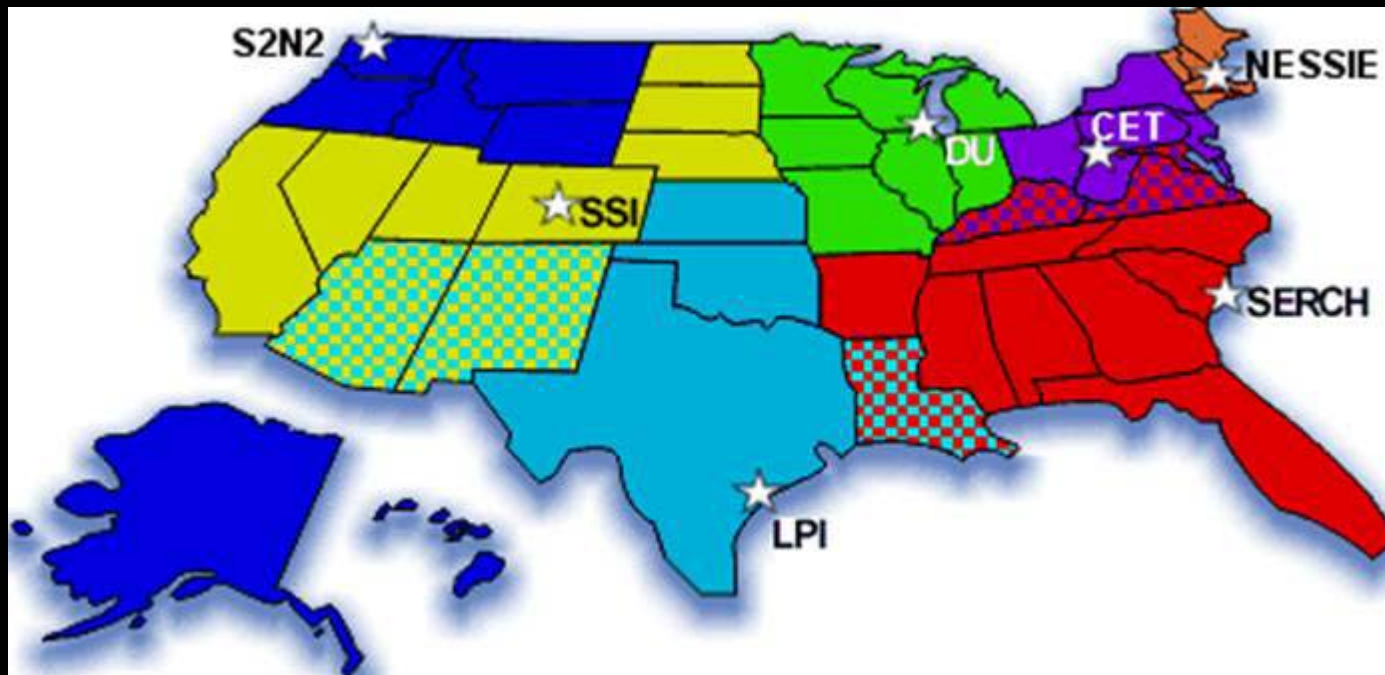
# “HOOKS” for LEARNING ABOUT THE SUN



## ARCHEO-ASTRONOMY

Courtesy SOHO and the  
NASA Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum

# NASA OSS EPO Broker/Facilitators



- **Northeast – Cary Sneider**
- **East – Nitin Naik**
- **Southeast – Cass Runyon**
- **North – Lynn Narasimhan**

- **Southwest – Robbie @ LPI**
- **West – Cheri Morrow**
- **Northwest – Julie Lutz**

<http://ssibroker.colorado.edu/Broker/Brokers/>



## **Resources for Scientists in Education**

**Useful for:**

**Scientists and science managers doing education  
Education managers in scientific research programs  
Educators working in partnership with scientists**

<http://spacescience.org/Education/ResourcesForScientists>





# White Papers on CD/Web

- A Framework for Planning EPO Programs Associated with Scientific Research Programs
- The Diversity of Roles for Scientists in K-14 Education and Public Outreach
- What are the Similarities Between Scientific Research and Science Education Reform?
- Misconceptions Scientists Often Have about the K-12 National Science Education Standards

Published in *Astronomy Education Review*:

<http://www.aer.noao.edu>

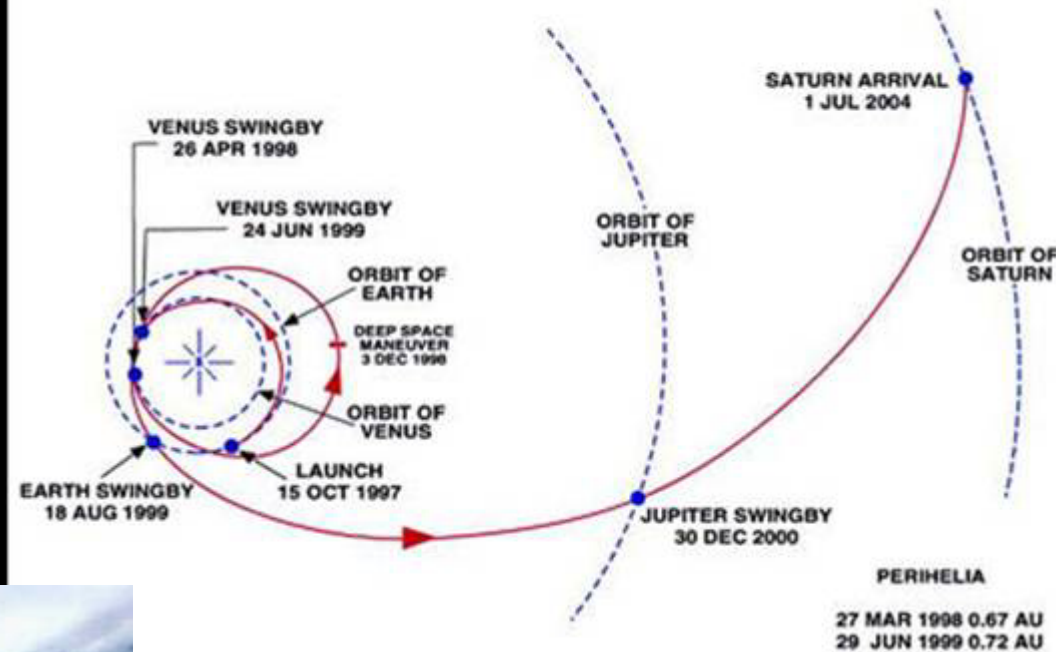
See <http://www.space-science.org>

[See Quick Links menu at bottom of page; Click on “Papers on EPO”]

# LIFE TRAJECTORY\*

- Need a good launch
- Assists & influences needed
- Non-linear paths possible
- Multiple paths are possible
- Multiple destinations of interest
- Own impetus also matters

## CASSINI INTERPLANETARY TRAJECTORY



## EDUCATION “PIPELINE”

If you don’t feed through to a PhD then you “leaked out”.

The idea of “life trajectory” vs. “pipeline” was first introduced to C. Morrow by Richard Shope of JPL. This slide represents Morrow’s interpretation of Shope’s original idea.



# The Joy of Solar Physicists in Science Education

Hats off to these and other  
solar scientists in EPO!



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