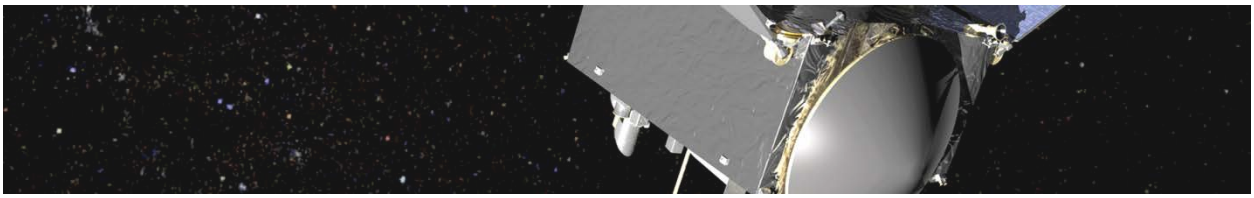


Exploring the Solar System:
A Professional Development Training

Presenter List

Yolanda Ballard
Lunar and Planetary Institute
ballard@lpi.usra.edu

Yolanda has been at the LPI since September 2010. She assists with all the administrative duties for the education team, and serves as one of the primary contacts. I assist with the coordination of meetings, purchasing, and agreements. I also support the team in the preparation of workshops, acquisitions, and shipping of materials, and am the liaison between our team and other departments.

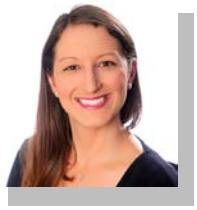
Dr. Sanlyn Buxner
Planetary Science Institute
buxner@psi.edu

Sanlyn Buxner is an education specialist and research scientist at the Planetary Science Institute in Tucson, AZ. She has worked in space science outreach for the past 20 years doing NASA mission outreach, university teaching, informal education, teacher training, museum work, and field programs for teens and adults. She is a co-investigator on NASA Science Mission Directorate's education cooperative agreement CosmoQuest: Engaging Students & the Public through a Virtual Research Facility.

Dolores Hill
Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona
dhill@lpl.arizona.edu

Dolores is a member of NASA's OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission Communication and Public Engagement team, OSIRIS-REx Ambassadors lead, and co-lead of its Target Asteroids! citizen science program (White House Champion of Change for Citizen Science 2013). Since 1981 Dolores has analyzed a wide range of meteorites at the University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory using neutron activation analysis and electron microprobe techniques and provided technical support to space missions. She is a member of the International Meteorite Collectors Association and acting coordinator of the

Meteorite Section of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers. In addition to her work analyzing meteorites, she has a lifelong interest in amateur astronomy. Dolores is a longtime member of the Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association, co-founded the Sunset Astronomical Society in Midland, Michigan and was a member of the Warren Astronomical Society in the Detroit-area. Near-Earth asteroid (164215) Doloreshill is named after her. She looks forward to seeing samples of near-Earth asteroid Bennu in 2023!

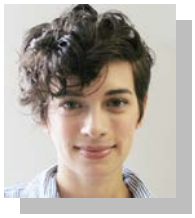


Dr. Kristen John
Astromaterial Research and Exploration Science (ARES)
kristen.k.john@nasa.gov

Kristen John works at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas in the Astromaterials Research & Exploration Science (ARES) group as a NASA Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Her research involves studying the surfaces of asteroids and small planetary bodies, understanding the mechanical properties of meteorites and their parent bodies, mission/instrument concept development for robotic planetary exploration, and low-cost/small-satellite development. She is also the Deputy Project Manager and Project Engineer for two experiments flying on the International Space Station, including the first-ever DNA sequencer in space, and another which studies asteroid regolith stratification in microgravity. She is also involved in mission work which includes supporting the Asteroid Redirect Mission (ARM). She has a Bachelors from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Masters and PhD from Caltech, all in Aerospace Engineering.

Dr. Michelle Kirchoff
Southwest Research Institute
kirchoff@boulder.swri.edu

Michelle is a planetary research scientist at Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. She uses remote sensing data of solar system objects to better understand the evolution of the solid planets and satellites. Her current projects include using impact crater distributions on the Moon to resolve the relatively recent bombardment of the Earth-Moon system, determining if subsurface ice is currently present at Mars' equator and if not when it was removed, and constraining when surfaces of Saturn's satellites were altered by internal geologic processes such as volcanism. Previous work has involved modeling the formation of mountains on Jupiter's moon Io and understanding the properties of very heavily cratered surfaces.



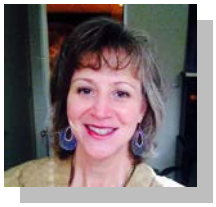
Zoe Landsman
University of Central Florida
zlandsman@knights.ucf.edu

Zoe Landsman is a Ph.D. candidate in Planetary Science at the University of Central Florida's Department of Physics. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the University of Central Florida in 2011. Her research area is the study of asteroid composition and other asteroid surface

properties using visible and infrared spectroscopy. She also regularly participates in astronomy education and public outreach activities in the Central Florida community.

Andy Shaner
Lunar and Planetary Institute
shaner@lpi.usra.edu

Andy is the Public Engagement Lead at the Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI) in Houston, TX. He is the education and public outreach (E/PO) lead for the LPI – JSC NASA SSERVI team and the E/PO lead for the ChemCam instrument onboard the Curiosity rover. Andy actively assists colleagues in the planning and implementation of professional development trainings for formal and informal educators. He also plans and implements programming for the general public. Andy received a B.A. in Secondary Education with teaching licensures in physics and earth & space science from Wichita State University and an M.A. in Teaching and Teacher Education with a minor in planetary science from the University of Arizona.



Christine Shupla
Lunar and Planetary Institute
shupla@lpi.usra.edu

Christine Shupla supervises day-to-day operations for the Education department at the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and coordinates LPI's formal education efforts. She is the principal investigator for the Sustainable Trainer Engagement Program (STEP), and leads a number of teacher professional development programs. Ms. Shupla's bachelor's degree is in Astronomy, and she has a master's in Curriculum and Instruction. Prior to her work at LPI, Ms. Shupla spent approximately 15 years in the planetarium field, managing the planetarium and creating and presenting planetarium shows to approximately a million people.

OSIRIS-REx
ASTEROID SAMPLE RETURN MISSION