

NSF AND NASA EPSCoR

CAPITOL HILL VISIT

On February 2020, representatives from Nevada’s NASA and NSF EPSCoR visited Washington D.C to meet with members of Congress to discuss the ongoing EPSCoR research projects in Nevada. During this visit, each team highlighted the impact of their programs on our state research infrastructure and thanked Nevada senators and representatives for their continued support.

In attendance were Marcie Jackson, Director, System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR Office; Fred Harris, State EPSCoR Director; Jenny Ouyang, Assistant Professor, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR); Jennifer Heppner, Graduate Student, UNR; Lynn Fenstermaker, Project Director, Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium (NVSGC) and NASA EPSCoR; and Gibran Chavez-Gudino, Research Administrator, NVSGC and NASA EPSCoR.



Jennifer Heppner and Jenny Ouyang outside of the U.S. Capitol Building. (Photo credit: Marcie Jackson)



Pictured left to right: Fred Harris, Jenny Ouyang, Senator Cortez Masto, Marcie Jackson, and Jennifer Heppner. (Photo credit: Marcie Jackson)



Senator Cortez Masto (left) and Senator Rosen (right) met with representatives from NV EPSCoR at the Nevada Battle Born Breakfast on February 25, 2020. (Photo credit: Marcie Jackson)

NASA EPSCoR

RRR CAN AWARD RENEWED

Congratulations Dr. Elisabeth Hausrath!



Elisabeth “Libby” Hausrath (UNLV) will receive a renewal award on her Rapid Research Response (RRR) Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN) project entitled “Renewal of Rock, H₂O, and H₂: Energy from Water-rock Interactions on Mars”. This is a one-year project for \$99,881. PI Dr. Elisabeth Hausrath, UNLV, in collaboration with NASA scientist Dr. Elizabeth Rampe (JSC) will address high priority NASA research to examine the interaction of minerals found in Mars and the resources available during these reactions.

NSF EPSCoR

CONGRATULATIONS DR. ABELLA AND DR. MOON

It gives us great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Scott Abella and Dr. Jaeyun Moon who have been awarded tenure effective July 1, 2020. The tenure recommendations were officially approved at the March 5, 2020 Board of Regents meeting. Both, Dr. Abella and Dr. Moon were new hires under the The Solar Energy-Water-Environment Nexus in Nevada project.



Scott Abella is an Assistant Professor in restoration ecology in the School of Life Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His areas of expertise include fire management, ecological restoration, plant ecology, and habitat-wildlife relationships.



Jaeyun Moon is an Assistant Professor at the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her area of expertise is advanced materials for energy applications.

NASA EPSCoR

30TH ANNIVERSARY NASA NATIONAL SPACE GRANT EXHIBITION



Pictured left to right: Fred Harris, Marcie Jackson, Jennifer Heppner, and Jenny Ouyang experienced the Nevada NASA Space Grant interactive exhibit. (Photo credit: Gibran Chavez-Gudino)



Pictured left to right: Lynn Fenstermaker, Craig Rosen, Jeffrey Ryan Kent (AmeriCorps - DRI), and Charmaine Wilcox (AmeriCorps - DRI) at the Nevada Exhibit table. (Photo credit: Lynn Fenstermaker)

Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium (NVSGC) had the opportunity of presenting an interactive exhibit at the 30th anniversary of the NASA National Space Grant program held on February 25, 2020 in the Rayburn Congressional Office Building. The exhibit was about bringing NASA into the classrooms using Virtual Reality (VR) technology. The 3D video was provided by NASA Kennedy Space Center as part of their education outreach program. These 7-8-minute VR experiences introduce students to the various careers and opportunities within NASA tying in STEM concepts and real-world applications. Craig Rosen, Assistant Research Scientist, Desert Research Institute (DRI) and the DRI Science Alive team received a NVSGC sub-award to initiate this effort. Currently, Nevada is the primary beta tester for the NASA VR experience.



Craig Rosen and Gibran Chavez-Gudino outside the exhibition room. (Photo credit: Lynn Fenstermaker)

COVID-19 RESOURCES

In these challenging and unprecedented times for our country and the world, we are all navigating through uncertainty for ourselves, our loved ones and our community. We hope you are staying healthy and safe. Below are some resources that offer local, state, and federal guidance and information about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) that might be of interest to our readers.

- [Nevada's Response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)
- [NSF Coronavirus Information](#)
- [NASA Response to Coronavirus](#)

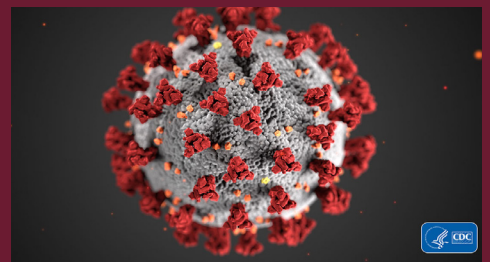


Image credit: Alissa Eckert, MS; Dan Higgins, MAM



epscorspo.nevada.edu | 702.522.7070
Nevada System of Higher Education
4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89119