

NASA/HEAT Rice U Status Report – September 2022

Patricia H. Reiff, Rice University

- **60th Anniversary of JFK speech**

September 12, was the 60th anniversary of the John Kennedy “We Choose to Go to the Moon” speech. Rice University, NASA / JSC and NASA Headquarters collaborated on a major event in the Rice University stadium, plus the NASA exhibit trailer plus an exhibit of Rice activities in the football practice field. The exhibits were open Saturday, Sunday and Monday and reached over 4000, mostly families. We had one of our Dish planetariums on display with our show “We Choose Space” and “Apollo and Beyond” running. We gave out over 1000 eclipse glasses with an information sheet.



(view of the Rice exhibit in the football practice dome. The Discovery Dish is at the far right.)

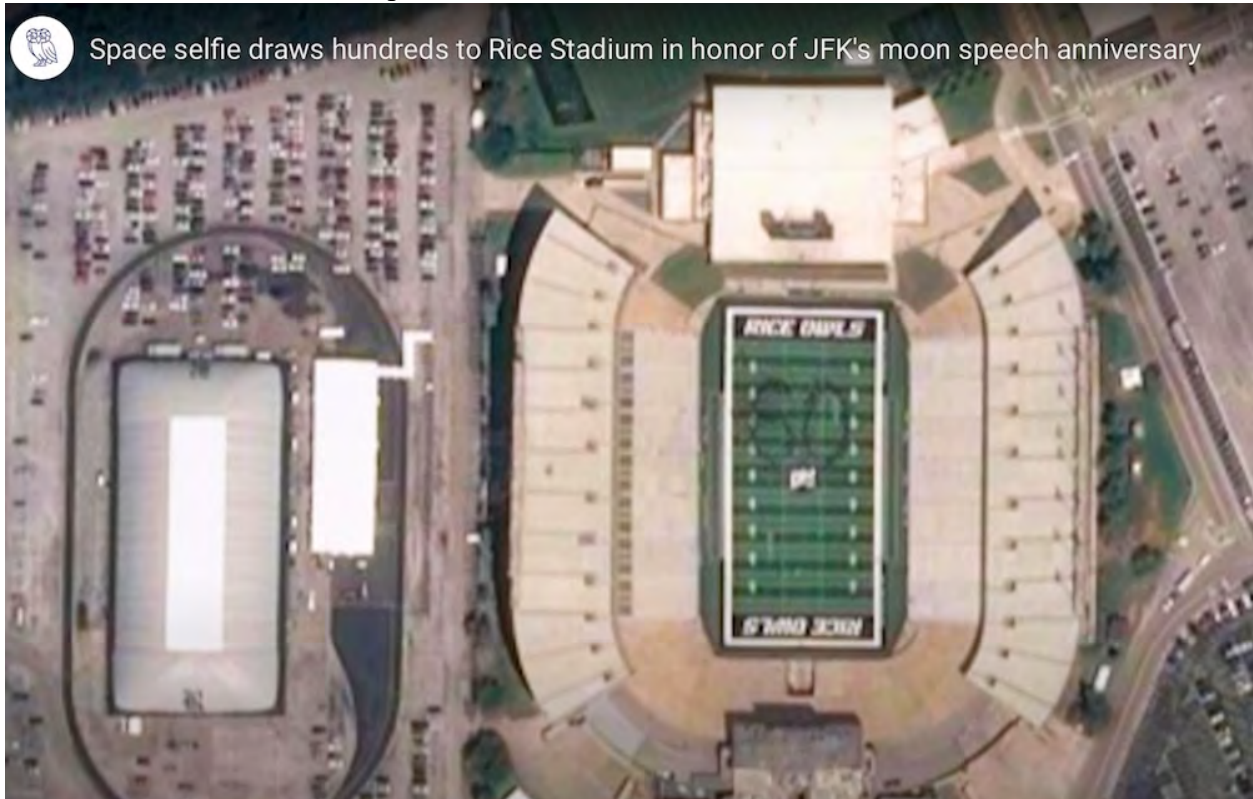
On September 11, Roughly 1000 people formed a large “60” on the Rice stadium field, which was taken as a “space selfie” or “Spelfie”:

<https://news.rice.edu/news/2022/thine-own-spelf-be-true>

This version was taken by a drone flying over the stadium:



This version was taken from space:



On September 12, 5000 HISD students and over 2000 VIPs, students and general public came to the celebration of the event. The NASA Administrator, JSC Director, Mayor, Senators, and many congressional representatives came in person or via video.

<https://news.rice.edu/news/2022/jfk-we-will-go-moon-nasa-we-will-go-farther>



JSC director Vanessa Wyche speaking to the crowd. (the students were in the bleachers).

The events were widely mentioned in the media.

- ***Eclipse Planning***

Prof. Reiff and Dr. Carolyn Sumners participate on several of the AAS eclipse working groups. We continue to update the Rice eclipse page <http://space.rice.edu/eclipse> with links to resources and safety information.

- ***Annular Eclipse and Artemis Animations Additional Distribution***

The annular and total eclipse animations, plus the Artemis animations, are continuing to be distributed. We added descriptive scripts to the Artemis animations, so they could be used as closed-captioned. We already had scripts for the other eclipse animations.

We sent out a notice to the “small planetariums” list this month and have provided digital copies to 67 planetariums so far.

September requests from: Germany.

Planetariums can sign up to get any of our animations for free here:

<https://forms.gle/sS8q31qFSDRnhnbX7>

Annular eclipse animation info and links:

https://space.rice.edu/eclipse/eclipse_animations.html **Note** the descriptions and links to the individual pieces are given in October 2021 report.

Our eclipse sign up is here: <http://eepurl.com/cv68Qj> (for educators and the public)

Present number of subscribers on our eclipse mailing list: (some are in more than one group)

General Public: 281

Planetarium educators: 215

Higher Education Educators: 130

Informal Educators: 161

K-12 Educators: 588

Media: 45

Want to be eclipse ambassadors: 17

Can host an eclipse event: 9