NSSEC Rice U Status Report – October 2020
Patricia H. Reiff, Rice University

• Communication: next iClip underway

HMNS is creating a new planetarium show on exoplanets and the possibility for life on other planets. Interns this summer used “Open Space” to create Mars paths both for the Perseverance rover and the “Ingenuity” helicopter. These are being used in the HMNS planetarium.


Dr. Reiff gave the keynote for Solar Week (its 20th anniversary) on Thursday, October 15. She highlighted what space weather is, and contrasted with the PBS miniseries “COBRA”, which had good science but “worst case” effects. She then discussed the MMS mission and how we are forecasting space weather. Number online: 22 students and teachers, plus 23 online views so far.

Direct link to the YouTube rebroadcast: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4saYpQIet0g.

• Education: “Training Astronauts”, Talk for SWISE meeting

Dr. Reiff is the faculty sponsor for the SWISE group (Society of Women in Space Exploration). Their October 16 meeting featured Astronaut Trainer Eryn Andrews. In-person attendees at the talk were limited to 20 for social distancing; and addition 35 people watched live over YouTube and another 68 views since: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuV0kUNMFtk&feature=youtu.be
• **Education: “Space Weather, COBRA, and Rice”, Talk for Rice Homecoming “Owl Together”.**
Dr. Reiff gave a talk on Space Weather for the “Owl Together” virtual homecoming week on October 26. She highlighted what space weather is, and again contrasted with the PBS miniseries “COBRA”, which had good science but “worst case” effects. She then discussed the MMS mission and how we study space weather at Rice. Number online: 45 alumni and colleagues.

![](image1)

• **Education: “The Sun and Space Weather”, Keynote Talk for Rice Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium (GCURS)**
Dr. Reiff gave the keynote talk October 31 on Space Weather for the GCURS virtual Undergraduate Research Symposium. She highlighted what space weather is, and again contrasted with the PBS miniseries “COBRA”, which had good science but “worst case” effects. She then discussed the MMS mission and how we study the sun and space weather at Rice, including the magnetospheres of Exoplanets. Number online: 29 undergraduates and colleagues.

![](image2)